



Bio Story Worksheet

Tips for writing this statement:

- Three to five paragraphs long (unless you're a long-time professional, in which case it may be longer)
- Cover all of the facts that are pertinent to your story/career as an artist, but nothing that's not
- Try to include a few quotes or comments that suggest or hint at elements of your brand and what's important to you (personality, characteristics, values)
- Show some emotion; readers will relate more to emotions than facts
- Don't necessarily write in chronological order; start with an exciting moment in your story or perhaps start with a short synopsis of your style/subjects/whatever you're known for
- Write in the third person, as if someone else is talking about you
- Sprinkle in a few quotes that you've supposedly said, if you wish
- Use plain English and write as if you're writing to non-artists; if you use any art "jargon" terms or talk about unusual techniques or materials, look for a way to define them
- Don't reveal anything you're not comfortable revealing; it's okay to be vague about the details of your family, your place of residence, and your contact info as long as you provide a website that has some means of contacting you

Some topics you might want to cover in your bio story:

- your earliest recollections of art and art making
- any art education you had in school or college
- any art education you've had since then
- the point when you decided to become an artist
- how you developed your style or found your preferred subject matter
- any important influences on your work
- when you first started showing and selling your work
- any professional art organizations you've joined and why
- a few of the more meaningful awards or moments of recognition from your career thus far

- where people can see your work in person (galleries that represent you)
- any pertinent personal details like where you live, and whether you have a family or any pets
- your website address and any other contact info you feel comfortable sharing

Bio Story Example (fictitious)

About Annie Artist

Viewing a collection of Annie Artist's artwork, it's clear that she enjoys painting a wide range of subjects, from flowers and other still life subjects to animals and people in landscape settings. A common theme is nature, which has always played an important role in her life and art. Growing up on a farm in Iowa, Annie recalls spending a lot of time drawing, especially the plants and trees around her home. "It was a way of life that allowed for a lot of free time to simply observe and appreciate nature," she reflects. "That's where I learned to notice the details and the beauty in everything, from the sunlight slipping through the leaves of a tree to the fascinating patterns and textures in a field of corn."

Annie continued practicing her art in college, Iowa State University, where she studied graphic design. However, she admits, "watercolor was definitely my first love. In college my favorite classes were the drawing and rendering classes, and I still love to do pen and ink with watercolor." About 10 years ago, Annie decided to devote herself to studying the medium in earnest, learning to master what many artists consider to be the most challenging of all painting media. She signed on for some classes at the Iowa City Art Center, where she studied with noted watercolorist Paul Pigment, who soon became Annie's mentor.

As she continues to evolve artistically, Annie draws inspiration from a surprisingly diverse range of influences. From architect Mies Van der Rohe. Annie has adopted the concept of "less is more," which has continuously inspired her to seek simple elegance in her approach to design. In fine art painting, Annie has felt a kinship with the French Impressionists, due to their shared love of beauty and their use of vibrant layers of color, as well as 20th century artist Georgia O'Keefe, known for her oversized, close-up floral paintings. Recently, while on a trip to Spain with her husband, Annie says she developed a new interest in graffiti and street art. "I feel that it can have a very powerful influence politically, and I love the loose, creative, and colorful style that many of the better artists can have with their public art." Given her broad range of interests, it's not surprising that Annie has branched out into a new a medium in recent years: acrylics. In this realm, she practices many of the same techniques used for her watercolors, but feels free to add more textural qualities and be a bit looser in her paint application.

Now living in Iowa City, Iowa, with her husband and two pugs, Bernie and Harold, Annie is an active participant in the local art community. With paintings represented in many private collections across the Midwest, this award-winning artist is currently represented by Walton Gallery in Iowa City and by Z. Remy Fine Art in Indianapolis. She has earned Signature

Membership in the prestigious American Watercolor Society, and has participated in several group exhibitions sponsored by that organization as well as other watercolor groups.

“I think most of my works are an homage to beauty, both in nature and in people,” the artist adds. “What I strive to evoke in my images is whatever I felt was most beautiful about the subject, be it the light, the atmosphere, or the love in someone’s eyes.” For more information about Annie Artist and her artwork, please visit her website at aartist.com.