



VA Level 2-3–Tuesday 9/13

- Agenda:
 - Trading Card Share out and partner introduction
 - Learn about Tibetan Prayer Flag tradition and begin your own 'wish flag' collage (to be used in a collaborative installation with other VA classes in the peace garden)
 - Make name design and claim a cubby
 - Fill out VA questionnaire
- Reminders:
 - Syllabus Due Thursday!



Tibetan Prayer Flag Tradition

- **Prayer flags** are not just pretty pieces of colored cloth with funny writing on them. The ancient Buddhist prayers, mantras and powerful symbols displayed on them are believed to produce a spiritual vibration that is activated and carried by the wind across the countryside. All beings that are touched by the wind are uplifted and a little happier.

The silent prayers are blessings spoken on the breath of nature. Just as a drop of water can permeate the ocean, prayers dissolved in the wind extend to fill all of space.



© Tom Dempsey / Photoseek.com

- The prayer flag tradition has a long continuous history dating back to ancient Tibet, China, Persia and India. The tradition has now reached the West and is rapidly gaining popularity. The meanings behind prayer flag texts and symbols are based on the most profound concepts of Tibetan Buddhist philosophy.
- The Tibetan word for prayer flag is Dar Cho. "Dar" means to increase life, fortune, health and wealth. "Cho" means all sentient beings. Prayer flags are simple devices that, coupled with the natural energy of the wind, are believed to quietly harmonize the environment, impartially increasing happiness and good fortune among all living beings.

How are these flags Ephemeral?





What wishes of 'well-being' do you have for yourself and your community this year?

Write a journal response to the following question:

- Envisioning a positive future:
 - What concerns and wishes do you have for yourself, your communities, the nation, and/or the world to help create a positive future?

Designing your own 'prayer/ wish' flag:

- Select a variety of collage papers you are drawn to. Consider their color and texture. Select a variety of colors within a **monochromatic** design scheme. Consider the expressive effect of warm vs. cool colors.
- Use watercolor washes as a background.
- Consider the expressive effect of organic vs. geometric lines and shapes... which fit with your intent?
- Use **repetition** and variety in your design to create **unity** and **visual interest**.
- Consider how you will design the font/ type of your words into your collage. Does it matter to you if it is legible? Consider the layout of how shapes and type work together.....
- Time Frame: You will have **one full studio day** (today) to try to finish your collage.



Designing your Name:

- Fill the page with your design
- Incorporate a variety of lines:
 - Organic, geometric, thin, thick, broken
- Incorporate a variety of shapes:
 - Organic, geometric, etc.
- Use no more than 3 colors (and values of those colors) Using watercolor and sharpie
- Express something about your personality in your design!



Name design reflection:
Write on the back of your design:

- What lines, shapes and colors did you use?
- What is your design expressing about your personality?
- What is most successful about your design?
- What would you change or improve?