

Standing Up! – Making Vertical Sculptures and Working from the Base

By Sheila Ceccarelli

This exercise is part of a series of exercises developed to help students gain an understanding of how to make successful and articulate sculptures and understand sculptural properties, both aesthetic and physical.

In previous exercises, we'd worked with the 'horizontal' and the exploration of sculpture in relation to themes of landscape **Working Through Sculptural Ideas of Landscape in Wire and Mixed Media**. We'd explored the relationship of the object to the ground. How does the sculpture touch the ground? Does it have an exciting relationship with the ground? How many points of contact with the ground does it have and how many does it need to stand and be supported by the ground?

This time, I wanted to further demonstrate notions of 'sculptural tension' and balance and encourage teenagers to explore building a 'vertical' sculpture, from the base up, exploring the relationship of a structure to its base and gravity.



Student working up from the base

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