

GRAY

In Black and White

Role of the Journalist

Summary: In this activity, students will write a newspaper article to accompany one of the photographs from the Gray in Black and White exhibit.

Maryland College and Career Readiness

This activity connects to Maryland Common Core State Standards: Disciplinary Literacy Writing History/Social Studies 9-12.

CCR Anchor Standard 5

WHST.9-10.5 & WHST.11-12.5 Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience.

Introduction

At the time of the Baltimore Uprising, Giordano was a photo editor at the Baltimore City Paper and covered the protests relentlessly. Giordano was part of a team publishing articles for the public on the events as they unfolded.

Step 1: Ask students to imagine that they were a journalist working with Giordano. Have each student select one photograph from the **exhibit**. Ask students:

- What components of the photograph stand out?
- Are there details in the image that tell more of the story?
- Are there details in the photograph that bring up new questions?

Step 2: Have students conduct research. Encourage them to look up newspaper articles that were written at the time of Baltimore Uprising. Have them look for events being described, quotes from a variety of people, and examine the voice the articles are written in (passive or active). Ask students to be aware of facts versus opinions (what is the difference?).

Step 3: Introduce the style of journalistic writing to students. Ask each student to write a headline for a newspaper story about what is depicted in their selected image. Follow the headline with a two-paragraph story summarizing (a) what is happening in the photo (b) what actions might have transpired after the event. Have students think about what impact that action had on the person in the photograph. Have them think about what impact that action had on the community in which the person lives.



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