

STUDENT NAME

Class of 20__

Essay:

My name is _____ and I am a senior communication studies major here at Randolph College. For my senior project I would like to put up an art installation in the Red Door. My academic career here at Randolph has always centered itself around ideas of representation, specifically representations of Black women. The goal of this project is meant to examine how the portrayal of Black women in the American south has changed based on the socio-political history of the region in conjunction with media representations of Black women. My research is centered around the analysis of post-colonial political theory and human geographies as it applies to the American South. Adjacently, I will be examining popular media texts, and the discourses that surrounds them. Works like: Solange Knowles' *When I Get Home*, Beyonce Knowles-Carter's *Lemonade*, Julie Dash's *Daughters of the Dust*, and Kasi Lemmons' *Eve's Bayou* will be the focus of my scrutiny. In addition to these media texts, I will also be doing close analysis of Zora Neal Hurston's *Their Eyes Were Watching God* and *Jonah's Gourd Vine*. Ultimately, this research will culminate into the aforementioned art installation titled, "Southern Belles: Representations of Black Womanhood". This installation will have two components: photographs and other mixed media art representations to be put onto the walls as well as "zines", or chapbooks, for public distribution at the show.

This project is the ultimate culmination of my entire Randolph College academic career as well as being deeply personal. As I said before, my focus has always been centered on the ideological production and analysis of representation politics, especially when it comes to the

subjugated knowledge of Black women. Not only will this project be an amazing showcase for myself, but also for the liberal arts education that this school provides. This project will be useful for future job placement as all of my content; the art and research will eventually be showcased as part of my professional portfolio. I thank you for your consideration and look forward to hearing from you.