

# DIGITAL STORIES AS A CREATIVE ASSIGNMENT FOR STUDYING WORLD RELIGIONS

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- **REA Annual Meeting 2021**
- **Catholic Community of Practice**
- July 05, 2021, 03:00 PM - 04:00 PM EDT(-04:00)
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We think we tell stories, but stories often tell us, tell us to love or to hate, to see or to be blind. Often, too often, stories saddle us, ride us, whip us onward, tell us what to do, and we do it without questioning. The task of learning to be free requires learning to hear them, to question them, to pause and hear silence, to name them, and then to become the storyteller.

*The Faraway Nearby*  
by Rebecca Solnit

# DIGITAL STORY COOKBOOK

- Story is learning, celebrating, healing, and remembering.
- Each part of the life process necessitates it.

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- Failure to make story honor these passages threatens the consciousness of communal identity.
- Honoring a life event with the sacrament of story is a profound spiritual value for these cultures.
- It enriches the individual, emotional and cultural development, and perhaps ultimately, the more mysterious development of their soul (Lambert 2010, p. v).



# DIGITAL STORY IDEAS/TEMPLATES

- ▶ Background: Mercy College, New York fully supports Digital Stories with faculty workshops, ongoing working groups, a library research and tutorial section, and Digi Awards for the Digital Stories students create
- ▶ Getting Started: Pick a theme, pick 5-6 pictures or videos that fit the theme, add script to match the pictures using voiceover, script or both and add musical background. Pick a platform to create the digital story.
- ▶ Students get ideas from a World Religions theme sheet that covers specific and universal events found in the world religions that include: birth (Jesus and other figures), life, death (Jesus and other figures), resurrection, new life, sickness and suffering, inspirational figures, holidays/holydays (Christmas/Ramadan/Passover/Holi).
- ▶ Poetry Templates
- ▶ Image/Object Templates: Picking an image (Via Google images/video, Pexels)
- ▶ World Religion Themes
- ▶ Personal Stories
- ▶ Other Ideas?







DIGITAL STORY LINKS

# SAMPLE DIGITAL STORY BASED ON IMAGE OF MIRROR

## 6 IMAGES WERE USED WITH SCRIPT, VOICEOVER, AND MUSICAL BACKGROUND: CHUCK CHESNAVAGE (CLICK TWICE)

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- [https://content.googleapis.com/drive/v2/files/1CXG61FHh1LNO-6PeAqM4f7T6q7kTqBV7?alt=media&source=downloadUrl&access\\_token=ya29.a0ARrdaM8GT3tsYp4WLOH4qrAECa8xHBQmxF5PoMYst4vOPk9LDz8P780TjJYTB6dgLhZcLU7ZX2qvSW7W1IYwvmJGkeh26423XPFYMe\\_hDYgqGSXO9icsewdD8afNuGdee9uXsQbexMzcyjlgTDWogfFJRbVs](https://content.googleapis.com/drive/v2/files/1CXG61FHh1LNO-6PeAqM4f7T6q7kTqBV7?alt=media&source=downloadUrl&access_token=ya29.a0ARrdaM8GT3tsYp4WLOH4qrAECa8xHBQmxF5PoMYst4vOPk9LDz8P780TjJYTB6dgLhZcLU7ZX2qvSW7W1IYwvmJGkeh26423XPFYMe_hDYgqGSXO9icsewdD8afNuGdee9uXsQbexMzcyjlgTDWogfFJRbVs)

# HOPE: GEORDI AGRONT MERCY DIGI AWARD WINNER PRIMARY RELIGION: CHRISTIANITY AND SYMBOL THE CROSS

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- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-KtO5jIbAhE>
- <https://youtu.be/-KtO5jIbAhE>
- (Click Ok when it says “Application not found.”)

# SECURING OUR FUTURE: CARLOS NOVA PEREZ (DIGI WINNER)

## PRIMARY THEMES: ISLAM/ISLAMOPHOBIA

(CLICK ON LINK TWICE)

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- [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1qpTSCCViR9msfmeOdaY94D-INY-2p\\_Qk/view?usp=drive\\_web](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1qpTSCCViR9msfmeOdaY94D-INY-2p_Qk/view?usp=drive_web)
- [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1qpTSCCViR9msfmeOdaY94D-INY-2p\\_Qk/view?usp=drive\\_web](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1qpTSCCViR9msfmeOdaY94D-INY-2p_Qk/view?usp=drive_web)



# PENNIES FROM HEAVEN: LAUREN GREGORIO (DIGI WINNER)

## PRIMARY THEME: DEATH AND COMMUNICATION FROM THE OTHER SIDE (CLICK ON BOX TWICE)

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- [https://drive.google.com/file/d/19KI22-7ojRXmZDp46akHtRShWMRcevtk/view?usp=drive\\_web](https://drive.google.com/file/d/19KI22-7ojRXmZDp46akHtRShWMRcevtk/view?usp=drive_web)



# HOPE: BEEARTHUR SMITH (DIGI AWARD WINNER)

## PRIMARY THEMES: BIRTH/DEATH/HOPE

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- [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1-kOh3yeDG\\_3cAM9ltDKPBhcGtijkMaM4/view?usp=drive\\_web](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1-kOh3yeDG_3cAM9ltDKPBhcGtijkMaM4/view?usp=drive_web)

# ENDLESS LOVE: DAISY HUITZEL DANIEL (DIGI AWARD WINNER)

## PRIMARY THEMES: FAMILY/LOVE/SUFFERING/HEALING

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- [https://drive.google.com/file/d/14kfQFaP59iqrpSievBkRLWgs5N\\_aGRGV/view?usp=drive\\_web](https://drive.google.com/file/d/14kfQFaP59iqrpSievBkRLWgs5N_aGRGV/view?usp=drive_web)

# GOD LIVES IN US: ROELINE WEE RAMIREZ

## GRADUATE STUDENT UNIFICATION THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

### PRIMARY THEMES: WORLD RELIGIONS HOUSES OF WORSHIP/FAMILY

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- [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1aip4N592QK5KWTZQvYm3gJLI tKEXLUZI/view?usp=drive\\_web](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1aip4N592QK5KWTZQvYm3gJLI tKEXLUZI/view?usp=drive_web)



# COLORISM: REBECCA AGYEMANG

## PRIMARY THEMES: CASTE SYSTEM FROM INDIA/SOCIAL JUSTICE/RACISM/WHITE-WASHING CHRISTIANITY AND JESUS

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- <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1qehmMYMiQpgu7QfxQyeslOsXDvHotbLb/view?usp=sharing>

# WHERE I FIND GOD: DIANA BENCZE

## PRIMARY THEMES: SBNR

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- [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1BImCp-UFMON6xHwvXtj0v4wJnRLidiAe/view?usp=drive\\_web](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1BImCp-UFMON6xHwvXtj0v4wJnRLidiAe/view?usp=drive_web)

# DIGITAL STORIES AS A METHODOLOGY OF TEACHING/RE

- Adds a multi-cultural/interreligious/worldview dimension
- Students are invited to express their personal truth (Ontological Narratives)
- Students connect their Life to World Religions Themes to Life (Groome)
- Stories are part of three forms of RE: Learning Religion; About Religion; and From Religion by Michael Grimmitt.
- Creative DS/Artistic Assignments are the highest levels of learning in Bloom's Revised Taxonomy.
- Creative DS/Artistic Assignments are crucial to the educational process and promote the aesthetic quality of RE found in the work of Maria Harris.
- The relationship of art and the brain promotes mental health, healing and activities that destress the mind, body, and soul.



# RESOURCES AND PLATFORMS FOR CREATING DIGITAL STORIES

▶ [StoryCenter](#)

▶ Adobe Spark. 2021. <https://www.adobe.com/express/create>

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▶ Animoto. 2021. <https://animoto.com/>

▶ Pexels. 2021. <https://www.pexels.com/> (The best free stock photos/videos)

▶ Canva. 2021. <https://www.canva.com/>

▶ iMovie. 2021. <https://www.apple.com/imovie/>

▶ Movavi. 2021. <https://www.movavi.com/>

▶ Special Report on Art and the Brain. 2017. *Art and Creativity for Healing.*

<https://art4healing.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/Special-Report-on-Art-and-the-Brain.pdf>

▶ Multimodal Discourse Analysis

<https://www.diggitmagazine.com/wiki/multimodal-discourse-analysis>





# RELATED MEDIUM FORMS OF DIGITAL STORIES

- TED Talks: Homework for Life by Matthew Dicks
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x7p329Z8MD0>
- IZ.travel <https://izi.travel/en>
- Music Videos: (Example of same title different interpretations/meanings)
- Louis Tomlinson Lyric Video “Just Like You” (Also Twitter hashtag #justlikeyou )
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qvXXMsiQBDg>
- Alec Baldwin Lyric Video “Just Like You”
- [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kTm-\\_OI8ang](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kTm-_OI8ang)
- NF Lyrics “Just Like You”
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QAm3EqfsUSI>
- YouTube videos <https://www.youtube.com/>

# RESOURCES (CLICK OK AFTER APPLICATIONS NOT FOUND)

- ▶ Narrative Theory (Baker 2006) (Ontological, Public, Counter Narratives)
- ▶ Multimodal Discourse Analysis (Kress 2010)
- ▶ “Impossible is Nothing”: Expressing Difficult Knowledge Through Digital Storytelling, (Johnson, Kendrick 2016 ) Journal of Adolescent and Adult Literacy
- ▶ The Professor’s Guide to Using Bloom’s Taxonomy. Top-Hat.com (Preville 2021)
- ▶ <http://offers.tophatlecture.com/rs/566-JGI-821/images/TopHat-BloomsTaxonomy.pdf>
- ▶ Digital Story Cookbook. Center for Digital Storytelling. Digital Diner Press (Lambert 2010)
- ▶ <https://wrd.as.uky.edu/sites/default/files/cookbook.pdf>



# RESOURCES (CLICK OK AFTER APPLICATIONS NOT FOUND)

▶ Reflecting on the Life of Maria Harris (2015 REA Annual Meeting)

▶ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y28ZUlaXhCY>

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▶ For further questions and Digital Story examples contact Chuck via the information in the opening slide.