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**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

**Lecture Series/ ECG Talk/ Workshops Reflections**

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| **Reflections** |
| Title of Lecture Series Attended: Art So Far…  Artist/ Designer/ Creative: Claudia Koh  Date Attended (F2F): 23 August 2023    To be completely honest, I only signed up for the FOAD for the sake of wanting to know on the path of going to States after graduated from NAFA. But…. the whole time of the talk, I was really amazed on her expression on painting, and her journey in pursuing her passion.  **What’s so special about me?** Is the one question that leads her to a whole journey of exploration onto creating arts based on her culture that always be with her wherever she is, when she may not really aware of. Growing up and studying in different country than your homeland is very hard for her, as she thinks that the local/ people that already there may know about *what they want/ willing to do* or as simply as already know *who they are.* I get it, I also faced the same obstacles the first time I got here. I always feel that people here know a lot than me, or simply put, I’m the dumbest one here since I’m the youngest. I know, I tend to blame my age when things get hard/ when there is no easy solution in front of me. But the sad truth is, it may be true… I have not experience much and being exposed to what an *actual world is,* which then holding me back to survive my studies at NAFA (especially when I do my assignment for ideation/reflection).  However, I think I should see it from a different perspective this time, just like what Claudia did.  When she was also trying to discover her style, interest/ what makes her different, she realizes that it is the thing that she maybe hated to this whole time (ex; stereotypes of how a woman should behave that is taught by her grandma, generation per generation). So, what if, instead of mourning of not knowing anything, giving so much hatred and pressure to myself for being *too young,* I put myself out there and discover more? Becoming the youngest may not be the best, as you know so little. But why not see it as an advantage and take it as a reward/gift to be able to *realize* that there are more opportunity and still more things available to explore out there?  **Okay, other than the very much deep reflection and sentimental thoughts due to the similarity struggles that we faced,** I was astonished by how determined she is to be always curious, maintain consistency and keep on *trying* to figure out on things that she interested to after many failed attempts. Talking about her curiosity for instance, she always tries to do some sort of forced connection between an idea and the things that she already *knew* that she likes. Seriously, it is such an eye opening… All this time I was too busy to think about a concept inside my head, when the whole list of inspiration is probably out there, surrounding me. Maybe I was just too bothered to see it and be aware of it. I guess, I’ll try to be more present, take out my Airpods, interact with people, and turning on my senses at all times… |

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