Kasey Liehr

Professor Alex Robinson

Visual Studies

6 September 2014

Where does creativity hide?

Tan says that people can bring out creativity when different things happen like a childhood trauma. I feel that this is somewhat true. Yes by having an accident/trauma you are more open about things or start to think in different ways but sometimes the trauma can make us more scared to be creative. For me, I’ve never had a trauma like event. No one I’m close with has died and I’ve never been in a terrifying event like 9-11. Even so, for me I find that my creativity isn’t any less impressive. Instead of taking an event and letting it effect what I create, I look at the beauty in nature and the people around me.

Tan then goes on to talking about quantum mechanics as a metaphor and then about string theory as how there are different levels of anxiety. Honestly when she was using these science metaphors to explain I was very lost. I had to go watch it again several times and even now I’m still a little confused because I never understood the idea of quantum mechanics and string theory.

She starts talking about “signs” that we see in the universe. Some signs we see and others we don’t but once we start to see them we notice that they were always there. An example of a sign for me would be when I was getting ready for a photo competition I could not find the right picture I wanted to present for the theme (A Special Moment). The week before the submission was due happen to be thanksgiving break which is when all of my family travels up to Missouri for family dinner. While we were there, my little cousins decided to go outside and play. I followed them with my camera only to find the idea that I wanted for the theme. It was the tiny moments with family where you’re jumping in leaves and laughing in each other’s arms. The picture I summited ended up winning an honorable mention but I never would have thought of the idea if I hadn’t gotten the sign from the universe through my family.

Tan ends her talk by saying that we create by questions ourselves. I think that she makes a very good point when she says “there is no complete answers”. I feel that mankind creates things to try to answer these questions that we ask fully. Even so, we never really have a complete answer.