As a participant in Triton Transfer Storytellers, we want to set you up for success. Below are creative and writing coaches who have volunteered their time to support you in your design process. As the goal of the Storytellers contest is to build connection, we will consider your outreach to a coach as part of the judging process. Reach out to coaches to share your story, to brainstorm ways to bring it to life within art, to review your design concept, or to receive support as you write your synopsis.

**YOUR CREATIVE COACHES**

- **Specialty/Passion:** Classically trained Print Maker (intaglio, lithography, etching, Wood, Block, Gel, Digital), digital, traditional painting, and mixed media. Co-Founder and Curator, 3rd Coast Collective. My focus is to bring the community together through art and to support the creative process. My work is from the heart, with the intent of sharing my experiences and creating a space that is unique and allows others to feel the experience rather than just view it. I believe that art allows students to communicate in a different way, in a way that is visible. Teaching and sharing my experiences is a way to bring learning to the table, and I think the whole community should learn from them.

- **Specialty/Passion:** Painting, woodworking & DIY projects (i.e. upcycling furniture, home decor, etc.). Ultimately, I love all forms of art, working with my hands and learning new techniques. I participated as a coach in this initiative last year and was blown away by the creativity and talent of our talented students displayed. Transfer students bring such unique experiences to the table, and I think the whole college community should learn from them and enjoy seeing college life from a transfer perspective.

- **Specialty/Passion:** Restorative community building circles, photography, abstract art. Storytelling is empowering - it creates an opportunity to express our feelings, share our experiences, be heard, build community and perspective-taking. My name is an artist and art therapist - I've grown up learning how to express my life experiences and emotions through various forms of art.

- **Specialty/Passion:** My specialty and passion is music. I studied music in college and worked as a professional musician for over 30 years performing jazz, rock, pop, country, and classical. My primary instruments are drums and percussion. I also worked for a regional theater for 10 years performing musical theater. Working as a professional in Career Services and also previously as a private music instructor, I have always been passionate about mentoring and helping students as they pursue their education. There are many things I enjoy about coaching that resonated with me and my background seemed to align with the program, so I felt compelled to participate.

- **Specialty/Passion:** Scrapbooking, photography, painting, poetry/short stories, pottery, painting, and costume/clothing design. I think art is not only a beautiful form of self-expression but incredibly therapeutic. Transfer students are an important part of our campus community. Their stories of resilience are invaluable and should be shared and heard. Being able to express those experiences through art may help others relate or better understand the unique and sometimes challenging journey of transfer students.

- **Specialty/Passion:** I am passionate about all forms of art! My daughter goes to elementary school with a focus on arts integration and I am very supportive of it all! As a transfer student myself, I understand the unique and often under-sharpened stories these students have. And I think what better way to share than through our creativity?

- **Specialty/Passion:** I am inspired to be of support in lifting our transfer student's voices to help others better understand the complexity of being a transfer student.

- **Specialty/Passion:** I work with a lot of art mediums, including acrylic and watercolor painting, hand lettering, writing poetry and reflective storytelling, and started textile sewing to upcycle old Comic-con bags. I love all arts and crafts as forms of self-expression and storytelling!

- **My word for this year is BECOME** and in reflecting about this history and meaning of this word, I came across an excerpt from Michelle Obama’s book BECOMING and I think that her words encapsulate why I chose this word this year and why I support transfer students. “It’s not about who you get yourself in the end. There’s power in allowing yourself to be known and heard, in owning your unique story, in using your authentic voice. And there’s grace in being willing to know and hear others. This, for me, is how we become.”

**YOUR WRITING COACHES**

OASIS Language Arts Tutorial Services will provide you with personalized support as you map out your story and work on your synopsis. Reach out to OASIS Humanities Lead, Maggie Thach, to get linked with a writing coach based on where you’re at in your process: mathach@ucsd.edu