Pick either an author or character of a work you read in class this year, as a class novel, IRP or SSR book. This author or character should be one who has influenced you in some way—big or small. Your choice does not need to be someone who could be seen as a role model; he or she can be anyone who has led you to think more deeply about an idea or to feel more strongly about a subject. You will need to be able to explain your choice coherently for your project write-up. Be ready to tell me your choice next class. Only three people will be able to do the same character for variety sake.

Pre-Party

- Now comes the part where you get to create. Working as the artist Judy Chicago did in her multimedia piece The Dinner Party, you will create a place setting to represent the person you chose. You should create a place mat and a dinner plate that symbolically give insight into your choice. Paper plates and place mates cut from paper may be used, but you can also get fancy and use real plates and place mats that you decorate in your own unique way. These place settings should be your very best work and will be graded on creativity and originality.

- Next, you should determine what dessert you will bring to the party. Your dessert should also be representative or symbolic of your chosen person—the food could be an authentic dessert from that person’s time period or country, the food could be symbolic in color and layer for that person—the sky is the limit. You must justify your dessert item in your reflection.

Project Presentation Day

- Bring your dinner plate and setting to class and present. The “best of” will be on display the next day at the party!

- Write a reflection over your choice of character, food, the design of your place setting and what reading has meant to you this year (how have you grown or improved as a reader). This reflection is a minimum of 800 words and should be turned in with your dinner place setting.

Dessert Party Day

- You will dress up as your chosen character or author and come “in character” to the party. Be prepared for conversation and discussion with all characters. The grade for this project comes in part from your ability to behave and perform as the character.

- Bring your food to the location of the party. Please bring ONLY ENOUGH FOR SAMPLING by all students. For example, bring no more than one dozen of anything!!!