Instructions for Political Cartoon on "Life and Limb"

Each group is to create a political cartoon that describe experiences and treatments of wounded and disabled Civil War soldiers. Use your knowledge gained from the Life and Limb exhibition and other materials—excerpts of Alfred Bellard’s memoir, Senate Bill 173, “The Invalid Corps” poem, and the two poems by Walt Whitman.

1. Complete the “Division of Labor Form”—i.e., select a group name, assign a group member to each of the jobs listed, etc. Each group member must perform the job assigned, which should be verified by signing the form that the jobs were carried out.

2. Brainstorm concepts for the cartoon. Choose a concept that reflects a specific issue or event described in the exhibition or the other reading materials. The cartoon should communicate a message verbally and visually and use some of the recognized cartoonists’ techniques such as caricature, stereotyping, symbols, satire, labels and exaggeration. The cartoon must be large to be seen easily from anywhere in the classroom.

3. Prepare the cartoon and a presentation for 5-10 minutes.

4. Refer to the “Evaluation Rubric” handout to ensure that the cartoon and presentation address all criteria listed.

5. After your presentation, turn in an outline of your talking points, the completed Division of Labor form, and your cartoon.