



2025-2026 MIDDLE SCHOOL ART SYLLABUS

Course Description

This year's Middle School Art course is designed to introduce students to the foundations of visual art while cultivating their ability to observe, interpret, and create. This course will progress through the building blocks of art- color, line, value, texture, form, still life, perspective, and lettering- while connecting each concept to significant artworks and artifacts from the historical eras students are studying. Through hands-on projects, guided observation, and thoughtful reflection, students will grow in both technical skill and appreciation for the cultural role of art throughout history.

Course Vision, Purpose& Classical Integration:

The goal of this course is to train students to see and create with greater awareness. In the classical tradition, we will connect our projects to the historical periods they are studying, using art to broaden their understanding of culture and society. By examining and reflecting on artworks from history—such as American landscapes, portraits, folk art, and classical influences—students will learn how art has always expressed the values and stories of its time. My prayer is that this class will inspire students to appreciate beauty, think deeply, and create joyfully.

Units of Study:

1. Color Wheel & Color Theory
2. Line, Shape & Composition
3. Value & Shading
4. Texture & Pattern
5. Form & Figure
6. Still Life & Observation
7. Perspective Drawing
8. Typography & Letter Design

Monthly Unit Flow:

1. **Week 1:** Topic Introduction & Master Artwork Narration
2. **Week 2/3:** Project Work (hands-on practice and development)
3. **Final Week:** Project Presentation & Reflection

Unit Take-Home Worksheet

At the end of each unit, students will receive a worksheet featuring a historical artwork. This will encourage observation, written reflection, and independent analysis to reinforce the skill studied in class.

Portfolio

In May, students will assemble their year's work into a personal portfolio. This collection will serve as a tangible record of growth and achievement across all units studied.

Assessment Approach & Philosophy:

Assessment in this class is rooted in growth, effort, and engagement rather than rigid grading. Because art is both skill and expression, students will not be judged against one another, but rather against their own progress over time. Presentations, discussions, and portfolios will allow students to reflect on what they have learned and identify areas of strength and areas to improve. My role as teacher is to guide, encourage, and equip- to guide each student in discovering the joy of creating with excellence while cultivating habits of diligence and perseverance.

I will never expect perfection- only my students to be present, engaged, willing and growing.

Required Materials:

Students are asked to bring the following personal supplies:

- 9x12 Sketchbook
- Graphite Drawing Pencil Set (HB, 2B, 4B recommended)
- Drawing Eraser

Students are expected to treat their tools with respect. An artist depends on the care of their instruments just as much as their imagination.

In addition, our classroom often makes use of **recycled materials** for projects. Families are welcome to send in clean, repurposed containers such as yogurt, sour cream, or cottage cheese cups to use as paint water cups, as well as other recyclable items that could be given a second life as art supplies. **These contributions are always appreciated and help cultivate both resourcefulness and creativity in our art room.** Thank you in advance!

It is my joy and privilege to teach your students. My goal is to create a classroom that is uplifting, encouraging, and engaging—a place where students grow in skill, appreciation, and confidence as artists. By year's end, I hope each student will see their portfolio not only as a record of progress, but as a reflection of the joy and creativity God has placed within them.

Thank you so much & cheers to a wonderful new school year!

-Mrs. Micek

****PARENTAL NOTICE:** This course will not include study of artworks containing nudity, nor will students create artwork with nudity as a subject matter. While such works are historically significant and may be studied in other academic contexts, they will not be presented in this classroom. Parents may, if they wish, introduce their students to these works at home, but they will not appear in our class or take-home materials.