

June 2017

Congratulations!

You have been recommended for or are already enrolled in **Advanced Placement Studio Art** for the 2017-2018 school year. The AP program is set up to offer college level courses to high school students while still enrolled in high school. You will spend the school year compiling a portfolio of work through class and homework assignments that will be submitted to The College Board in May of next year.

Each of you will have a choice on the type of portfolio to be submitted. There are two choices of portfolio, but each one has the same number of works and criteria for assessment. Your choices of portfolio are:

Drawing or Two-Dimensional Design

More specific information can be found at www.apcentral.collegeboard.com, where you will also find a gallery of work. In addition, you will find example works listed under exams, and you will have several ways to enter the site. You may go directly to one of the following:

http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/apc/members/exam/exam_information/2134.html

http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/apc/members/exam/exam_information/2182.html

The top website is for Two-Dimensional Design, and the bottom website is for Drawing.

Section I-QUALITY (selected works);
Section II-CONCENTRATION (a sustained investigation); and
Section III-BREADTH (a range of approaches)

The QUALITY will list the scores given, the CONCENTRATION will include the written commentary and the BREADTH will be compiled from different people's works. You will be able to go through the site in several ways, but do not be discouraged by the work. Rather, be inspired to be creative and really express yourself.

THIS IS NOT A COURSE WHERE YOU GET TO DO WHAT YOU WANT!!!

Students will send their portfolios to be "read" (graded) by a committee of college and high school art instructors who assess it **as if it had been completed by the end of the freshman year of college**. The students who have scored the highest have been the ones that made every deadline, both in and out of class assignments. They have a larger body of work completed by the end of the third quarter, which makes the selection of pieces to be sent an easier decision.

DON'T PANIC!

The class is diverse, and each of you should end the year with a different portfolio. The requirements will be tough, but you would expect that in a college setting, and you would not have been selected if I did not feel you had the ability to handle the workload successfully.

The requirements are clearly defined and will include in-class assignments, out-of-class production assignments, regular critiques, matting works, written papers and self-evaluations. Work completed prior to this year is acceptable in the portfolio. We will start off the school year developing a **BREADTH** of work, and you will have to select your **CONCENTRATION** or area-sustained investigation. Your **QUALITY** work will be selected from these two sections.

Now, for your summer homework. These four pieces are **due the first day of school in August**, and we will be having our first graded critique and self-assessment based on these works. The work should demonstrate quality, strong technical skills and a clear understanding of the elements and principles of art. The subject matter may be anything of your choosing.

FOUR FINISHED WORKS:

- 2 pieces in black and white.....any two different media of your choice
- 1 piece in color.....any wet or dry media of your choice
- 1 mixed media piece.....at least two media should be used; collage is allowed in this work
- 2 CONCENTRATION ideas.....give your concentration statement with a paragraph explaining your work process and ideas

At least two of your summer works must deal with **VALUE**. You may produce more than four works as long as all of the work is quality and considered “finished.” No studies allowed. Backgrounds need to be fully resolved. Size should be a minimum of 8” x 10” and no larger than 18” x 24”. **The goal of the summer assignments is to keep you visually thinking and to get you to experiment and try stretching your range of experiences and expressions.** If you feel rusty, I would suggest you start by drawing everyday objects from around your house and move into figurative work.

For anyone interested, there are classes and open figure drawing studio time available at Zoll Studio in Timonium (410-296-0233). The annual Portfolio Review Day at MICA will take place in early November. This is a great way to have your work critiqued and to look at post secondary options in the Visual Arts. It is free, and more than forty schools of Art will be represented.

If you have any questions, feel free to email me any time. Enjoy your free time, but don’t forget about art!

Good luck,

Mrs. Kozak