

APPLICATION AND PORTFOLIO OF WORK DUE BY MARCH 2010

Friday, May 8, 2009

Congratulations!

You have been recommended for or are already enrolled in Advanced Placement Studio Art for the 2009-2010 school year. The AP program is set up to offer students college level courses 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. AP Studio Art will be offered year round seventh period, but it is also advised that you set aside extra time for some of your studio projects to help fulfill your concentration.

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

Drawing

Two Dimensional Design

Three Dimensional Design

More specific information can be found at [www.apcentral](http://www.apcentral.com) .com. You will probably have to register, but it is free. There is a gallery of work, which gives details to the work on the yearly posters given out to each Studio Art student. In addition, you will find example works listed under exams and you will have several ways to enter the site. If you go directly to:

http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/exam/exam_questions?course=all, then you will be able to click on the three different portfolios at the bottom of the page. Select one and then you can proceed through all three sections:

Section I-QUALITY

Section II-CONCENTRATION, and

Section III-BREADTH

An update will occur shortly. The QUALITY section 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. Do not be discouraged by the work, but inspired to be creative and really express yourself.

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

The course is set up with Legacy High School requirements in addition to AP standards. It is offered for anyone possibly planning to attend college, whether as an art major or not. Students will send their portfolios to be "read" (graded) by a committee of college and high school 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 the class assignments. They have a larger body of work completed by the end of the second semester of the school year, which make the selection of the 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.

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. In addition, you will have twice monthly Scholastic Art readings. We will start off the school year developing BREADTH of work and you will have to select your CONCENTRATION or area of individual study by the end of September. You should select a course of study during the second trimester from these two sections. In addition, we will develop personal resumes, and work on college selections and scholarships based on career study in the fall.

Now, for your summer homework. These five pieces are **due the first day of school, August 19**, and we will have 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 design. The work can be two-dimensional, three dimensional or relief.

FIVE FINISHED WORKS:

- 2 pieces in black and white.....any two different media of your choice
- 1 piece in color.....any dry media of choice
- 1 piece in color.....any wet media of choice
- 1 mixed media piece.....at least two media should be used, collage is not
.....allowed in this work.

At least two of your summer works must deal with VALUE. You may produce more than five works as long as all the work is quality and considered "finished." No studies allowed. Backgrounds need to be fully resolved if working two-dimensionally. Size should be a minimum of 8" by 10" and no larger than 18" by 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 drawing everyday objects from around your house and move into figurative work.

For anyone interested, there are classes and workshops at the Art Student League of Denver (303-778-6690), Rocky Mountain College of Art and Design (303-225-8570), Denver Art Museum, Art Institute of Colorado (AiSummerStudio.com/Colorado) and the Arvada Art Center. The annual Portfolio Review Day at Rocky Mountain College of Art and Design will be held October of 2009, actual date to be determined. It is a great way to have your work critiqued and to look at post secondary options in the visual arts. It is free and over 20 schools of art will be represented.

Supplies you will need include drawing materials, a sketchbook (14" by 17" to 16" by 20") is good and an open mind. If you have any questions, I will be working on and off this summer. I will check my email frequently throughout the summer. Enjoy your free time, but don't forget about art.

Good luck!

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