

A.P. STUDIO ART -- Summer Assignment

Please feel free to contact me over the summer if you need help, advice, art supplies, encouragement, etc. I may be out of town for weeks at a time, (especially June 26 – July 10) but I will contact you when I return.

Mrs. Michelle Spielman -- E-mail: mbspielman122@gmail.com (I will check this email more often in the summer...) or my school email: Michelle.Spielman@sweetwaterschools.net

TO DO OVER THE SUMMER:

1. Draw in your **sketchbook**.
2. Go online to “**AP Central**” and **READ** all of the info listed on the A.P. Studio Art pages and **LOOK** at all of the **examples of portfolios** from previous years.
3. **Decide which portfolio** you want to address: **2-D or Drawing**.
4. **Decide on a concentration. (Thumbnail sketches of 20 ideas for artworks)**
5. **Create 4 - 5 Completed artworks.**

1. **Draw a lot in your sketchbook** and gather ideas for compositions in the fall. If you see a photo in a magazine that inspires you, clip it and paste it into your sketchbook. Try to **draw in your sketchbook for at least 1 hour a day** to get in the habit and to practice your skills.
2. **READ all of the info listed on the A.P. Studio Art website from the College Board.** Google “A.P. Central” , click on course home pages, then “Studio Art” and read the info and LOOK at EXAMPLES of student work posted on the websites for both Drawing and 2-D Design. This will help you to understand the # and quality of the work that is going to be required, as well as give you possible ideas for your own artwork and concentration theme.
3. **There are 2 possible portfolios to choose from: “2-Dimensional Design” or “Drawing”.** The major differences between 2-D and Drawing are:

Drawing means showing how you make marks on your paper/canvas, and addressing a wide variety of drawing issues, such as: Light & shade (value), line quality, rendering of form (so things look 3-dimensional), composition (how you use the whole space of the paper/canvas), surface manipulation (texture), illusion of depth (perspective), etc. (NO Photos or digital art.) Do you consider yourself a really good drawer/painter? If so, Drawing is your portfolio.

2-Dimensional Design means showing an investigation of the ELEMENTS & PRINCIPLES of Design (E’s: Line, Shape, Form, Value, Space, Color; P’s: Unity, Contrast, Emphasis, Pattern, Movement, Rhythm, Balance, Proportion, etc.). This CAN include graphic design, Digitally created art, and photography. If you think you are more of a “designer”, really good with composition, patterns, color theory, etc, and like doing Graphic Design (logos, posters, etc.), then 2-D Design is your portfolio.

If you have the \$ and time, try to take “life-drawing” (nude models) classes at a community college (such as SouthWestern) or other art school. The Athenaeum in La Jolla and in San Diego (on Park Blvd.) and the Art Academy in Downtown San Diego offers life-drawing classes.

4. **Decide on a concentration!** You will (during the school year) create at least 15 artworks based on this theme, subject or area of emphasis. Remember – this cannot be an ABSTRACT idea. It must be very obvious to the judges. Some previous examples are: Self-portraits; Portraits; The Aging Process; Time; Landscapes; Still-life; it really can be ANY subject matter. **You need to choose something that is very interesting to you**, something you won’t get “burnt out” on, and something that will afford you VARIETY – in style, medium, and self-expression.

EVIDENCE of completion of this step is

****Draw thumbnail sketches of IDEAS for at least 20 different artworks.**

5. You MUST CREATE 4 - 5 ARTWORKS over the summer!!!!!!

- **4 “SUSTAINED INVESTIGATION” artworks. (formerly known as- CONCENTRATION)**
- May be ANY subject matter and style of your choice, but it should be related to what you think you may want to choose for the theme/subject of your **“SUSTAINED INVESTIGATION”**

IDEAS:

Figure drawing (person’s body)

OR

Still-life (Set up some objects on a table and draw them from looking at them. Ex: Fruit, Bottles. Etc.)

Self-portrait (Drawing/painting of your own face from observation)

OR

Portrait (Drawing/painting of someone else’s face from observation)

Landscape (Some scenery, such as the beach, mountains, etc.)

OR

Perspective drawing (using 1, 2, or 3-point Linear Perspective) **OR**

CONTEST/Scholarship-bound artwork, such as:

- **“Landmarks of the 51st Congressional District**
- **Super-Realistic Portrait of yourself or family members/friends**
- **If you’re thinking of applying to professional art schools and/or prestigious art major schools, you may need to create very specific artworks to apply—please google your favorite schools and search their “portfolio requirements.” -**

TIPS for creating high QUALITY artwork:

*Try to work in a variety of different mediums.

***At least 10” x 13”, NO LARGER THAN 18” X 24”!!!!** (if you really want to work larger, you can submit it to your portfolio in slide form, but it can’t be used for the “quality” section.)

***Try to draw/paint from looking at something in real-life (from “observation”), as opposed to working from photographs.** The only way you can copy a photograph and call it an “original” artwork is if YOU are the one who took the photo!!

* **Try to spend at least 4 – 6 hours on each artwork.** TIME spent on an artwork is often the most important indicator of good quality.

* Do NOT sign your name on the FRONT of the artworks, only on the back.

I expect you to come back to school in the fall with at least 4 completed artworks from the summer-time! This will be your first major grade for the class!