Dear Student and Parents:

Welcome to AP Art & Design! I am so glad you have chosen to make this journey with all of the meaningful challenges and rewards that it offers. I feel extremely fortunate to be your teacher in this endeavor. AP Art & Design is a college-level course and will require serious work and dedication as an artist.

In May, students will submit a portfolio containing fifteen (15) art works for evaluation by the College Board. This is a large portfolio and students must be willing to create approximately one work every other week. To help alleviate the pressure during the school year, there will be summer assignments for the course that students must complete to ensure their enrollment. The attached documents further explain the course, portfolio and summer assignments.

The AP Art & Design course will be taught at a faster pace than the normal high school art course, with higher-level skills, outside projects, readings, and gallery visits expected. Due to the nature of the course, it is important that the teacher, student, and parents, agree to commit the time and energy that are needed to complete it successfully. There are set criteria for this course that must be met in order to receive AP credit. Students are encouraged to explore individual style and are expected to create a large body of work that shows clear personal vision.

Throughout the course, I will engage in ongoing dialogue or instructional conversations with each of my students in order to assess the strengths and weaknesses in their works and to provide feedback on how they can develop their works further. This occurs through scheduled meetings but also as the students are in the studio producing their own artworks. At any time, please email me if you have any questions or comments.

I look forward to beginning this artistic journey with you this fall. Have an enjoyable and productive summer.

Sincerely,

Mr. Christopher Marcin
cmarcin@clarkschools.org
To complete an AP Studio Art portfolio will require a great deal of your time both in and outside of class. It is imperative that you understand this commitment and be willing to perform to the best of your ability. Working over the summer gives the student a head start and allows time to research and plan. It is very easy to procrastinate (especially during the summer months) but please make sure you complete the summer requirements before the second week of school. Use the “to do list” below to help you stay organized and please read the following pages for detailed information. Any questions, please contact me.
Summer Assignments

Some suggested areas for artwork. Artwork should not exceed 18"x22" (minimum size is 8"x10"). EACH STUDENT MUST BRING THREE COMPLETED ART PIECES TO CLASS IN SEPTEMBER.

A. A composition incorporating two objects viewed from two unusual vantage points.

B. An interior space in your home describing the view from one room into another.

C. A sequence or series of separate images depicting emergence.

D. A kinetic relationship (observed or imagined).

E. Design a monument meant to commemorate an event that has been significant in your life (specify size and place).

F. Do a portrait, self-portrait, landscape, or still life:
   - In the style of another artist – for example, Monet/Impressionism, Matisse/Fauvism, Picasso/Cubism, Warhol/Pop, Dali/Surrealism, etc. (research in order to fully understand their stylistic difference).
   - In which you use three different media. For example, a wet medium, a dry medium, collage elements, actual objects.

G. Do a self-portrait that expresses a specific mood. Think about the effects of color and how its use can help to convey the individual mood. You might want to do several studies, reflecting different moods.

H. Do a drawing of your hands arranged in a variety of poses. You must carefully plan your composition in order for the separate units to work together visually.

I. Do a color rendering of a still-life arrangement consisting of your family members’ shoes – try to convey some “sense” of each of your individual family members’ distinct personalities in your piece.

J. Do a drawing of a futuristic cityscape. For example: Dallas in the year 2050. (Keep in mind the rules of one, two, and even three-point perspective.)

K. Use a graphics software program and/or photography as a medium for an art piece.

*Note: Some of you may have the opportunity to attend virtual classes or a summer program at an art school - you may submit work from those programs in place of your summer assignments.
Sketchbook / Visual Journal

Each student is required to have a sketchbook. Your sketchbook will not only help to reinforce your drawing skills but also assist you in developing as a better artist for future lessons. Sketchbooks should contain thumbnail sketches and rough sketches for all of your assignments. In addition, use your sketchbook as a visual journal! Write notes, explore media, jot down concentration ideas, paste pictures, etc. throughout the sketchbook. Sketchbooks should travel between class and home. Begin using your sketchbook this summer based on the information listed above.

AP Portfolio Overview

AP offers three different portfolios. The portfolio we create is the 2D design portfolio. Each portfolio contains two sections, Sustained Investigation (SI) and Selected Works (SW). For the SI section, you will be required to create 15 pieces, those will be photographed and submitted digitally in May. For the SW section, you will submit 5 physical artworks to CollegeBoard.

Portfolio Introductions

AP 2-D Art and Design Portfolio

- This portfolio is designated for work that focuses on the use of two-dimensional (2-D) elements and principles of art and design, including point, line, shape, plane, layer, form, space, texture, color, value, opacity, transparency, time, unity, variety, rhythm, movement, proportion, scale, balance, emphasis, contrast, repetition, figure/group relationship, connection, juxtaposition, and hierarchy.

- Consider how materials, processes, and ideas can be used to make work that exists on a flat surface.

- There’s no preferred or unacceptable content or style.

- Graphic design, digital imaging, photography, collage, fabric design, weaving, fashion design, illustration, painting, and printmaking are among the possibilities for submission.

- Video clips should not be submitted. Still images from videos or film and composite images may be submitted.
**Explore the AP website**

Visit the AP website to explore information about the course and portfolio requirements for AP Art & Design. Additional information about scoring, and deadlines will be available for you to view. While you are there, take a look at examples of student work on the website.

**Portfolio Requirements**

In addition to visiting the AP website, please review the attached document and familiarize yourself with the portfolio requirements. We will discuss this in greater detail at the start of the school year.

**Sustained Investigation ideas**

A sustained investigation is an inquiry based and in-depth study of materials, processes, and ideas over time. Students are encouraged to explore a personal, central interest as intensively as possible; they are free to work with any idea in any medium. In this section, the evaluators are interested not only in the work presented, but also in visual evidence of the student’s thinking, selected method of working, and development of the work over time.

*Inquiry:* process of asking questions to seek, to search, and to discover. *Questions can be as simple as who, what, where, when, why, how, what if, why not.*

**Examples** of Sustained Investigations:
- A series of hands in various positions
- Design and execution of pages for a book or graphic novel
- Development of a series of identity products (logos, letterhead, signage, and so on) for businesses
- Diagrammatic overlays of mathematical principles on photographs of local architectural structures.

We will discuss Sustained Investigations during class. Please begin to research ideas and develop a list of ideas you may have interest in pursuing. Bring this list to class.
Throughout the school year you will be required to create 15 pieces around your idea.

**Artistic Integrity and Plagiarism**

Any work that makes use of (appropriates) photographs, published images and/or other artists’ work must show substantial and significant development beyond duplication. This is demonstrated through manipulation of the formal qualities, design and/or concept of the source. The student’s individual “voice” should be clearly evident. **It is unethical, constitutes plagiarism, and often violates copyright law simply to copy another artists’ work or imagery (even in another medium) and represent it as one’s own.**

The College Board reserves the right to decline to score an AP Portfolio Exam or cancel an AP Portfolio Exam when misconduct occurs, such as copying another artist’s work. Universities, colleges, and professional schools of art have rigorous policies regarding plagiarism. The AP Studio Art Program endorses these policies.

**Art Appreciation**

Surround yourself with art this summer! Visit an art museum, gallery, or art studio. Start making lists of things around you that may inspire you (use your sketchbook). You can also keep your art skills up to date by taking a summer class or workshop at a college.

❗ *This summer brings new challenges due to social distancing guidelines. Instead of actual visits, consider virtual visits to museums or attend an online art class.*

**Beyond AP**

I am happy to help students with portfolio development, scholarship opportunities, and letters of recommendations. Please let me know how I can help. Any questions, comments, or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me. Visit the ALJ AP Studio Art class webpage for more information and resources. I look forward to a great year in AP Studio Art!

**Course Resources**

[ALJ AP Art and Design Website](#)

Google Classroom 2020-21 Classroom Code: vamzthj
## Art Terminology and Definitions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Elements of art</th>
<th>Line, color, texture, contrast, shape/form</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Principles of design</td>
<td>Harmony, center of interest (focal pt.), balance, unity, movement</td>
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<tr>
<td>Value/shading</td>
<td>Blend shadows and highlights in a convincingly realistic manner. Hatching, cross hatching and/or stippling. Do not smudge!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perspective</td>
<td>Use one and two point perspective.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Line sensitivity</td>
<td>Use line in an expressive manner, vary the thickness and type of line to describe the object or feeling.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contrast</td>
<td>Experiment with a variety of textures, lines, values, colors, patterns, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Composition</td>
<td>How do you arrange your work in the space provided? Don’t forget about foreground, midground, and background. Think about cropping and the edges of the page.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Explore</td>
<td>Do not be afraid to explore new art materials, size, or subject matter (themes).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Have fun!</td>
<td>Creating art work should not be a chore. Choose topics and materials that interest you. Don’t be afraid to make mistakes and learn from them.</td>
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The Elements (line, shape, form, space, color, value, tone, pattern and texture) are used to create the Principles of Design:

*Rhythm* – The principle that indicates movement by the repetition of the elements. Visual rhythm is created by repeating positive spaces separated by negative spaces. There are five types: random, regular, alternating, flowing, and progressive.

*Visual Movement* – The principle used to guide the viewer’s eye through the image, usually using leading line, curved organic line, and contrast.

*Balance* – The principle concerned with equalizing visual forces, or elements, in a work of art. Two types: formal (symmetrical) and informal (asymmetrical – rule of thirds).

*Emphasis* – The principle that makes one part of a work dominant over the other parts. The element noticed first is called dominant; the elements noticed later are called subordinate.

*Contrast* – Technique for creating focal point by using differences in elements (all elements can be contrasted in photographs).

*Harmony* – The principle of art that creates unity by stressing similarities of separate but related parts.

*Unity* – The quality of wholeness or oneness that is achieved through the effective use of the elements and principles of design. Unity is created by simplicity, repetition, and proximity.

*Variety* – The principle of art concerned with difference or contrast.

*Proportion* – The principle of art concerned with the size relationships of one part to another within the whole.

*Figure/Ground Relationships* – Elements are perceived as either figures (distinct elements of focus) or ground (the background or landscape on which the figures rest).

*Scale* – The principle of art which pertains to the relative size of things. (ex.: making something small look large, by placing it next to something way smaller than it is itself.)
Suggested Materials

Materials
A variety of materials, supplies, and equipment will be used to allow students to develop their knowledge base and skills. Instruction will be in line with the AP Portfolio guidelines.

Pencils (charcoal, colored, and drawing)
Conte crayons, charcoal, and pastels
Watercolors
Pen or brush and ink
Oil pastels and oil paint sticks
Acrylic paint and stretched canvas
Photography
Graphic design software
Collage
Metal
Clay

Art Websites & Resources

Gardner’s Art Through The Ages
http://www.metmuseum.org/home.asp
http://www.icp.org/
http://www.guggenheim.org
http://www.frick.org
http://www.newmuseum.org
Student and Parent
AP Studio Art Contract

I have reviewed the information provided and understand that the completion of the summer assignment is important to the successful completion of the AP Studio Art program. I agree, therefore, to complete the work on the summer assignments by the start of the second week of school. I also understand that students will be reading and exploring college-level materials and dealing with issues and visual materials that may be controversial or mature in nature. Finally, I fully understand the statement on artistic integrity and plagiarism. Failure to comply can result in a failing grade and possible loss of AP Studio Art credit. The College Board reserves the right to decline to score an AP Portfolio Exam or cancel an AP Portfolio Exam when misconduct occurs.

If you have any questions, please email me at cmarcin@clarkschools.org

❗ Please click on the link below to access the contract and electronically sign:

AP Contract
The AP Art and Design program includes three different courses and portfolio exams: AP 2-D Art and Design, AP 3-D Art and Design, and AP Drawing. Your goal is to create a portfolio of college-level work and submit it for evaluation. A qualifying portfolio score can earn you college credit and/or advanced placement.

All three AP Art and Design Portfolio Exams contain two sections. The Sustained Investigation section requires you to conduct an inquiry-guided investigation through practice, experimentation, and revision. For the Selected Works section, work is expected to demonstrate skillful synthesis of materials, processes, and ideas. For both sections of the portfolio, you are expected to share information in writing about your work.

You’ll submit digital images and information about your work. If you submit an AP 2-D Art and Design or AP Drawing Portfolio Exam, you’ll also send in physical works or high-quality printed reproductions of physical works.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sustained Investigation</th>
<th>Selected Works</th>
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<tr>
<td>60% of total score</td>
<td>40% of total score</td>
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**AP 2-D Art and Design Portfolio**

- 15 digital images and responses to prompts: some may be detail and process images
- Works demonstrate sustained investigation through practice, experimentation, and revision.

**5 physical works or high-quality printed reproductions of physical works and responses to prompts** (These 5 works will also be submitted digitally as a backup.)

Works each demonstrate synthesis of materials, processes, and ideas using 2-D art and design skills.

Work may come from the Sustained Investigation section, but it does not have to.