

6TH + 7TH GRADE ART HANDBOOK



Miss St. John

P.S./I.S. 128Q

ART: 2018-2019

6th & 7th Grade Art: 2018-19
Miss St.John

Hello, and welcome to ART! This year, you will have the opportunity to explore art through its production and creativity, history and culture, aesthetics, and criticism! This class is designed to teach you basic skills and techniques, while helping you discover your individual style and talent.

This art class is an important bridge between elementary and middle school level child development in the visual arts. Following the New York State Visual Arts Standards and the Blueprint for Teaching and Learning in the Visual Arts Curriculum, we will learn about the Elements of Art and Principles of Design and how to successfully implement them into our projects. Art production, art criticism, art history, and aesthetics are the four Art Disciplines we will explore this school year. Content and mediums are organized for students to be a part of the learning process, promoting their critical thinking and creative problem-solving skills.

THE ART OBJECTIVES:

- Learn how to effectively understand and implement the Elements of Art: color, line, shape, form, space, texture, and value
- Learn how to effectively understand and implement the Principles of Design: emphasis, unity, balance, movement, rhythm, scale, and proportion
- Learn about art techniques and how to apply various art mediums, such as watercolors, clay, acrylic paints, markers, colored pencils, oil pastels, etc.
- Create 2D and 3D works of art
- Learn about and work in various art styles of the past through modern times: Impressionism, Abstract Expressionism, Surrealism, Pop Art, Realism, etc.
- Learn about and work in various art styles from cultures around the world
- Learn how to analyze and critique artworks based on concepts taught in class

THE ART PROGRAM:

This course supports the following four Art Disciplines of Art Education (Discipline Based Art Education: DBAE):

1. **Art Production:** Creating is an essential human experience that provides expression for our thoughts and feelings. As we grow from elementary to middle school learning, we begin to make more complex and intent decisions to create our artwork and develop our own style.

Art production can include: graphic design, architecture, crafts, photography, film/video, cartooning, fashion design/illustration, drawing, painting, sculpture, printmaking, etc.

2. **Art History:** Art is a form of communication unique to human beings. Learning about different cultures and art movements is important for understanding the human experience. Learning about the past gives us a better understanding of the times we live in. We also learn the importance of valuing all people and their unique contributions.

Art History Answers: The who?, what?, where?, when?, and why?

- 3. Art Criticism:** Art criticism involves learning other criteria for judgment, beyond our personal likes and dislikes. Often people look at art and make an immediate judgment without knowing why. Art criticism helps us slow down our judgment process to understand why we respond the way we do and look at art in an intellectual way. We can still appreciate art that we may not like because we learn to understand what the art is communicating.

Art Critique Steps:

- (1) Describe Art - acknowledging what you see
 - (2) Analyze Art - looking at the relationships between what you saw
 - (3) Interpret Art - finding the meaning of the work
 - (4) Judge Art – sharing your opinion about the quality of the art
- 4. Aesthetics:** People often wonder what makes “art” art! This continuous puzzle warrants an aesthetic discussion about the nature of art. Aesthetics helps us gain insight into the artist’s response to the world. Some people may attempt to tell or write about the artist’s experience, while others have a deep, emotional response to an artwork. Teaching aesthetics brings more meaning to the artwork and the artist’s expressions.

Aesthetics often asks the “big questions,” such as:

- What is art?
- Are all people artists/creative?
- Does all art deserve praise?

Throughout the school year, you will have several responsibilities that will each be included in your final grade:

- Daily “Do Now”
- Project work
- Class participation
- Classwork/homework
- Quizzes

Art Room Rules

- Always be respectful to your teacher, your classmates, and yourself in our classroom. The art room is a creative and safe environment for all students, and any behavior less than respectful will not be tolerated.
- Classroom safety is our number one concern. Always follow the teacher’s directions, use art materials appropriately, and keep a well-maintained work environment to keep yourself and your classmates safe at all times.
- When a lesson is being taught, always respect your teacher and other students in class by staying quiet and raising your hand when you have a question or a contribution. All ideas are welcome and all voices will be heard!
- Always use a quiet voice during work time.

- Respect all art materials and technical equipment.
- Always come to class prepared (with your sketchbook, pencil, and eraser), on time, and ready to learn.
- Follow directions when they are given.
- Always clean up materials before leaving the art room.
- No cell phones/other electronic devices are permitted in class
- Always be creative and try your best!

Art Room Procedures

We will discuss the following art room procedures routinely in class. Understanding and demonstrating each of the following procedures is your responsibility and will allow our class to run as smoothly and effectively as possible.

- Daily “Do Now” begins promptly at the first bell. Students are expected to read the “Learning Objective” and complete the “Do Now” within the first 3 minutes of class.
- Demonstration procedure – On several occasions throughout a project, I will demonstrate a new technique or skill. At this time, all students will gather in one area to observe quietly and ask questions when needed.
- Working procedure – Students are expected to work consistently and quietly in their assigned seats.
- Clean-up procedure – Each student is responsible for returning all materials and projects at the end of each class period.
- Dismissal procedure – At the bell, each table will be dismissed by Miss St. John when tables and floors are clean and students are quiet.

Art Grading Policy

Middle school students will receive a quarterly numerical grade. Grades will be based on the following criteria:

- Studio/project work - to be graded with an objective rubric (65%)
- Classwork, homework, and quizzes (15%)
- Class participation & class critiques (20%)

*Work that is turned in late will have 10 points subtracted from the final grade. Students have one week to turn in late classwork and projects. Families will be notified when work is not completed on time. If work is not completed within one week’s time, the student’s grade will reflect the percentage of work that was completed. For example, if only 75% of the project was finished, then the grade becomes a 75%.

Accommodations will be made for students with an excused absence

Other details you need to know...

- Keep an art smock in a plastic bag, in your locker/classroom at all times. The plastic bag will protect your belongings from getting ruined by wet paint/other messy art materials. This can be a large button down/long-sleeved shirt or an apron.
- I will be available for extra help every by appointment. Please let me know when you would like to attend so that I can plan accordingly. This is a great way to catch up on any late assignments or to better understand new, complex topics.

- The Art Show! Every student that takes art class will have work shown in the annual Art Show. Approach **each and every** project with the idea that you will be showing it to your family and friends!
- You must bring this agreement home to your families, read it again with them, and sign together so the rules, expectations, and details of the art room are clear. Your first homework grade will be a 100% when the bottom of this sheet is signed and returned by **Friday, September 28th, 2018.**

I am looking forward to a wonderful and creative school year with you!

Sincerely,
Miss St.John
sstjohn2@schools.nyc.gov



I, _____ (Student's Name), understand the above criteria.

Student Signature & Date

Parent/Guardian Signature & Date