

# Portfolio Honors Summer Work

Due: The first full day of class

## Reminder of Course Description:

*PORTFOLIO HONORS weighted course 2 CREDITS GRADE: 12 1 YEAR Prerequisite: Successful completion of Art Foundations 2D or Art Foundations 3D and at least 3 other Art classes (one of which is in the medium the student plans to study in more depth). This course is intended for the seriously committed art student capable of independent work. Students who enroll in this course will be completing coursework similar to work that would be required of them in college courses, and therefore will earn a weighted grade for this course. Students will pursue a deeper study of one particular process. That process must be the focus of a previous MCHS Art class that the student has successfully completed. Each quarter has a different emphasis designed to bring the student beyond the basics to producing his/her unique, complex compositions. AP option: Students also have the option of submitting their work to the College Board for credit in AP Studio: Drawing.*

## So what do you need to do this summer to prepare for H. Portfolio?

Decide what artistic process you will pursue. Remember, it must be a process that you have already studied in an MCHS course, beyond Art Foundations. So, your process choices are:

|                                 |                |              |
|---------------------------------|----------------|--------------|
| Drawing- black and white,       | Drawing- color | Photography  |
| Painting- acrylic or watercolor | Sculpture/Clay | Computer Art |
| Painting- acrylic or watercolor |                |              |

However, you must have already taken the MCHS course that covers that process before going into more depth with it in Honors Portfolio. Even if you are choosing to do the AP Studio Art: Drawing option, you need to do the summer assignments listed below.

## I. Product Assignments (3 total):

You are to complete **three** drawing assignments over the summer for Portfolio Honors. In addition, you are encouraged to do work in a personal sketchbook/visual journal/altered book.

Drawing from observation is a key language for communication. I understand that you all have different experience levels with drawing and different skill sets. However, you all **must do these assignments**, even if Drawing is not your process of choice for the course.

*Each of the pieces needs to be done on a surface that is at least a 8x10 but not bigger than 18x24. You may choose the type of surface to work on—paper, cardboard, canvas board, plywood, mat board, etc. and the medium you prefer to work in. Concept/idea, craftsmanship, and the creation of a visually successful composition will all be components of every grade. You can use whatever drawing medium you would like to or that you think would work best.*

1. **Drapery:** (*working from direct observation*) Place a cloth (sheet, tablecloth, blanket) over a chair so that it drapes over it. There should be at least 2 support places. Make sure you set this up somewhere that has consistent lighting and can be undisturbed until you finish. Do a representational drawing of the cloth showing the variety of values created as it falls into folds and piles.
2. **Figure:** (*working from a photo reference*) Create a composition where the main subject and focus of the composition is a person. The person can be posed in any way, but the full person must be in the image. You must use a photo reference and turn it in with your drawing. It is often more interesting and helpful to take and use your own photos.
3. **Landscape:** (*working from direct observation- outside*) Create a composition with features (bushes, trees, flowers, fences, small structures) in at least 5 layers of depth – within the background, middle ground and foreground. Gather your materials and find a location where you can work for an extended period of time. Your goal is to find a setting/scene that allows you to create a sense of deep, pictorial space. The focus is the landscape- any buildings or structures that are not plant material should be minimal. Pay careful attention to the lighting, sizes, colors/values and textures you see. You must start this on location. If you cannot finish the drawing in one sitting and cannot return to the location, you may take a photo of the scene and use the photo to help you finish the drawing.

## **II. Process Assignment (1 total- 6 questions):**

Spend some time thinking about and writing about what inspires you as an artist. *Think about:* What kind of artwork do you like to do? What color palettes interest you? What images do you notice repeatedly in your life? Which of these do you feel have an impact on your day-to-day life? How do they affect you? Do they make you think? Do they make you feel? Do they make you do something?

1. **Type your answers to the following questions.** The format should be “question- response.” In other words, retype the question in your paper and type your answer below it.

- What process you plan to explore further in Portfolio Honors?
- What classes have you taken to prepare you for this? (please list when you took the classes, as well.)
- Why have you chosen this process? What is it about the process and media used in this process that appeals to you?
- What artists and/or Art periods influence or inspire you? What about that artwork appeals to you?
- As an artist, yourself, what kind of image-making you like to do?
- How do you like to do your work? (i.e. working conditions: space, sound, planning, time, lighting, etc.)
- Optional: Include sketches if you'd like.

**If you have questions throughout the summer, please email me, and I will do my best to help.**

**Ms. Listello**

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