

VISUAL ARTS

Visual Arts Program

Mission

Visual Arts provides all students the opportunity to explore their creative potential using a variety of media for diverse purposes and audiences.

Vision

Our Consortium districts will provide visual arts experiences for every student to become well-rounded contributing members of our global community. Through the visual arts, students will actively engage in the artistic processes of creating, presenting, connecting, and responding which promote innovation, critical thinking, visual literacy, self-expression, accomplishment, and joy.

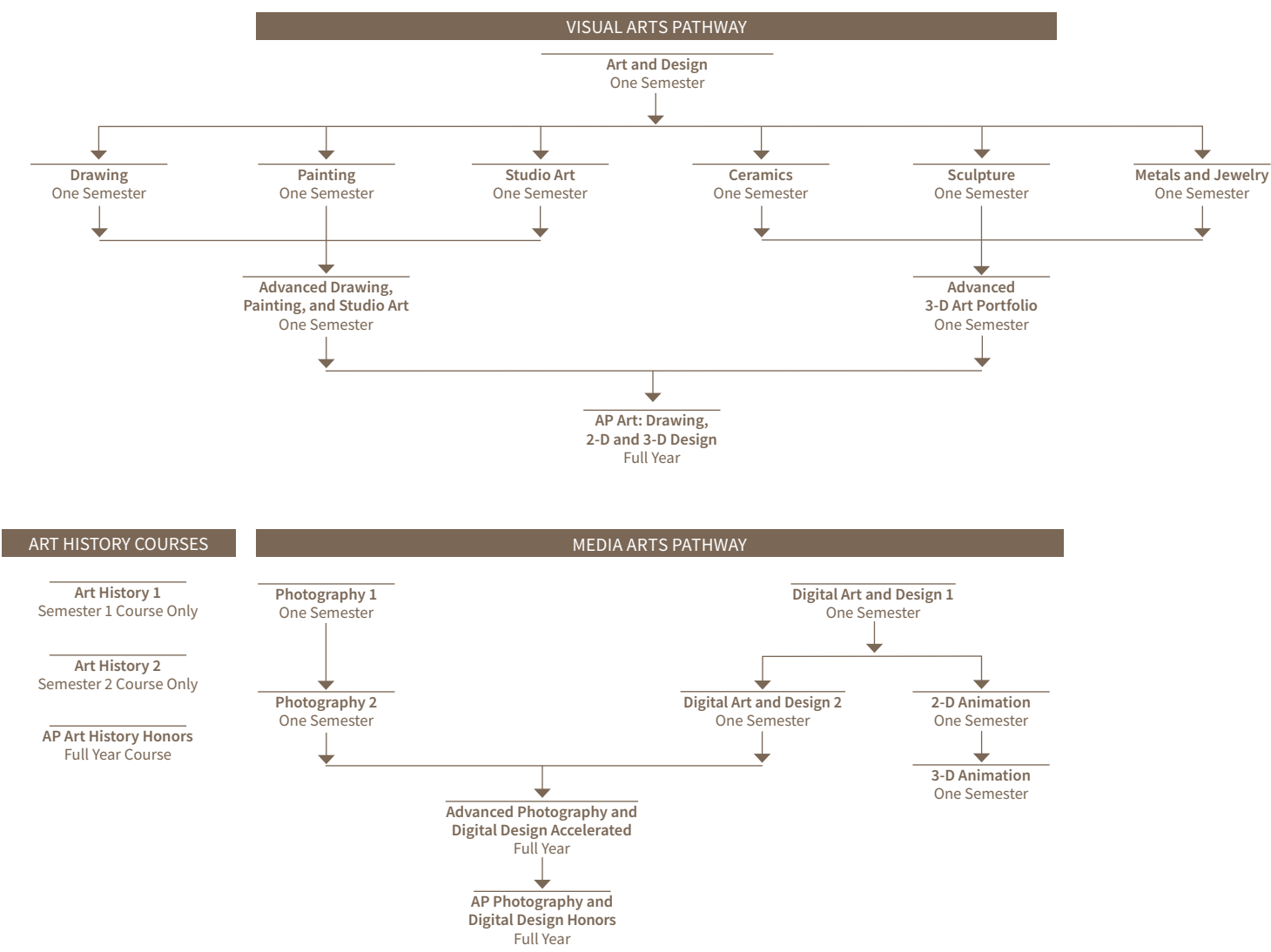
Visual Art Courses at Stevenson High School

Activities in Stevenson’s art classes are designed to develop skills of perception, problem solving, understanding, and sensitivity. The unique character of our curriculum provides students opportunities to express and nurture their creative instincts and to develop a deeper sense of appreciation for humankind and nature in an atmosphere where individual expression is encouraged.

Courses are offered to meet the varied interests and abilities of our students. Students may be required to purchase specialized supplies and tools for some art classes.

Course Pathways

The graphic below shows course pathways for 2-D and 3-D areas of study. These pathways are visual guides to help students and parents/guardians understand how students can progress through the Visual Arts program. Detailed course information can be found in the Coursebook at www.d125.org/academics/coursebook.



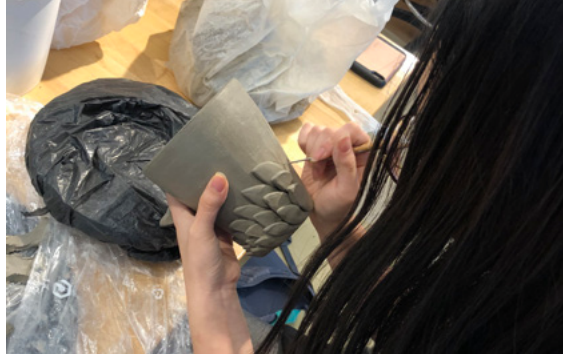
Introductory Classes

Stevenson's Visual Arts Department offers a variety of classes to meet diverse levels of student interests and abilities. No previous art experience is needed to take art classes at Stevenson.

Our introductory art courses include:

- Art and Design
- Photography 1
- Digital Art and Design 1

These classes build foundational skills for success in our advanced classes, and they are offered during the school year and summer school.



Art & Design is a one-semester class that helps develop students' artistic skills and techniques using a variety of tools and materials. Students develop skills in drawing, painting, ceramics, sculpture, and design while improving their ability to look at and talk about art. After completing Art & Design students may enroll in any of our two-dimensional classes: Drawing, Painting, Studio Art, or our three-dimensional art classes: Ceramics, Sculpture, and Metals & Jewelry.

Photography 1 covers basic concepts and processes of digital photography, including understanding and use of the camera, lenses, and other basic photographic equipment. The course addresses aesthetic principles as they relate to composition, space, exposure, light, and color. Technological requirements of digital formats are also addressed, such as formats and resolution. Basic digital manipulations of images are taught in preparation for creating finished artwork. Photography 1 serves as the prerequisite class to Photography 2 and Advanced Photography & Digital Design.



Digital Art & Design 1 is a one-semester class designed to introduce students to Adobe Photoshop and Procreate as drawing and graphic design tools and as a means of producing finished artwork. Students have the opportunity to develop skills and be creative while digitally drawing, painting, and manipulating photographic images with the mouse, Wacom tablets, and with the iPad and Apple pencil. The types of projects vary from fine art drawing and painting, to digital photography, to graphic design. Digital Art & Design 1 serves as the prerequisite to Digital Art & Design 2, 2-D Animation and other advanced courses.

Students may also consider taking **Art History** or **AP Art History** once they are a sophomore or older. Art History is designed to introduce students to the major forms of visual expression from prehistory through the twenty-first century. Students learn the vocabulary and skills to analyze architecture, sculpture, painting, and other art forms.



Co-Curricular Clubs and Activities



Art Club

In Art Club, students have the opportunity to work freely on personal art projects as well as projects related to the school and the community.

Students are able to work with different media throughout the school year including:

- Colored pencil
- Clay
- Pastels
- Markers
- Watercolors
- Button making
- Puppet making
- Pumpkin carving, and more

Art Club is a great place to not only be creative, but to meet new friends once a week after school, and to create art.

2-D and 3-D Open Lab

Students are welcome to work in the 3-D Art Studio if they need extra time for their projects. Students receive individualized attention and sharpen their skills.

Photography Studio

Photography Studio is a great opportunity for students to work on their digital photography outside of class. Students have access to the studio shooting space, printers, and computers equipped with the Adobe Creative Suite.

National Art Honor Society

The National Art Honor Society was founded in 1978 by the National Art Education Association to inspire and recognize students who have shown an outstanding ability and interest in art. The program supports members in their efforts to attain the highest standards in art scholarship, character, and service, and to bring art education to the attention of the school and community. Students that meet the requirements of the organization are invited to apply at the beginning of each school year.

Poster Design Club

Poster Design Club provides students with opportunities to problem-solve thematically, to develop creative and technical skills in a variety of media, and to practice production scenarios. Students develop portfolio material and might have their designs printed or published throughout the school and community. Students participate in professional client/employee relationships—developing their products, communicating with their clients, and meeting deadlines.



Art Exhibitions and Competitions



Illinois High School Art Exhibition

The Illinois High School Art Exhibit showcases artwork from more than 100 high schools throughout Illinois. AESHS students participate in both the General Exhibition and the Senior Scholarship Exhibition, which take place

in the Chicago Bridgeport neighborhood at the Zhou B. Art Center and the Bridgeport Art Center.

The IHSAE receives more than 2,500 artwork submissions for its General Exhibition, and guest jurors select various works in each category for awards. Senior students submitting work to the Senior Scholarship Exhibition are provided the opportunity to have their work reviewed by various college representatives that offer select students scholarships to their institutions. Up to six artworks are selected for the General Exhibition, and senior art students are encouraged to submit their portfolio for the Senior Scholarship Exhibition.



AP Art, AP & Advanced Photography & Digital Design Show

Each year the AP Art: Drawing, 2-D & 3-D Design, AP Photography & Digital Design, and Advanced Photography & Digital Design students showcase their artwork in this annual Stevenson exhibition. In this show students, with help from their teacher, work on all aspects of displaying their work—from matting their artwork, designing the layout, and setting up and striking the show. This exhibit is open for two school days and there is a night reception which is open to the public.

Winter Art Fest

Winter Art Fest is our annual all-school, two-day art show wherein art students showcase one piece from their art class during the first semester. The show is centrally located within the school for high visibility. Students, their parents, and the community attend an evening reception.



Art Exhibitions and Competitions



North Suburban Conference Art Festival

Each year the schools which make up the North Suburban Conference share the best of their art department's student work in an one-evening show. Each school submits 50-60 works representing their curriculum.

One school hosts on a rotating basis, supplying the space, invitations, posters, name tags, and student certificates. Seven students from each school participate in a field trip to set up the show, attend visual art workshops taught by professional artists, and hear a keynote speaker. Blue ribbons are awarded to the top ten works at each school, as judged by another school's art teachers.



Consortium Art Festival

The annual Consortium Art Festival showcases all second-semester Stevenson High School art students as well as selected students from each of our K-8 Consortium schools. The show is open to all students and parents during the school day with an evening reception featuring wheel throwing, drawing, painting, and digital art demonstrations by Stevenson students. Ceramic bowls created by ceramics students are donated to the Empty Bowls Project, which sells the bowls during this event to raise funds for a local food pantry. This is our largest art show, typically attended by upwards of 1,000 people.



Congressional Art Show

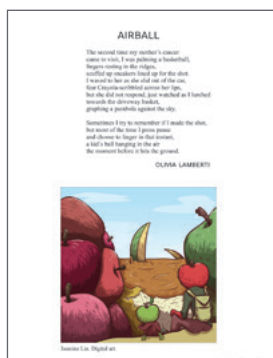
Every year, the art teachers select five student artworks for the District Congressional Art Competition. All selected artists receive an official certificate, and winners are announced. The winning entry is displayed in the U.S. Capital for one year. The second- and third-place pieces are displayed in the congressman's district and Washington, D.C. offices, respectively. The first-prize winner receives two round-trip airline tickets courtesy of Southwest Airlines to Washington, D.C., and have the opportunity to attend the Congressional Art Competition award ceremony. At that ceremony, the district's winner will see their winning artwork hung in the Capital, and be joined by other first-prize entries from the other 434 congressional districts.

Read more at: www.congressionalinstitute.org.



Public Art and Permanent Art Collection

Each year the Stevenson Visual Arts Department honors approximately ten accomplished and committed art students by buying their artwork and displaying it throughout our large campus. Through this practice, students are provided an opportunity to state on their resumes that they have sold their art, and they are provided a legacy experience rarely afforded to young people. Contracts are created in order to pay the students an honorarium and the students sign an agreement allowing AESHS to use their name and digital reproductions of their artwork for publicity purposes. The pieces that are selected for inclusion in the Permanent Art Collection also showcase our curriculum.



The WIT and *The Half-Wit* Literary Magazines

The WIT, Stevenson's literary arts magazine, has won national awards (National Scholastic Press Association, American Scholastic Press Association, National Council of Teachers of English) every year for the past ten years. Visual art for inclusion in *The WIT* is initially chosen by art teachers from their classes. Student artists and writers of any grade can submit to be published in *The WIT*. *The Half-Wit* is the literary arts magazine printed first semester specifically for freshmen and sophomores.



Visiting Artist Series

There are two permanent art galleries at Stevenson, called the Rotunda Galleries, which are used to expose students to different professional artists' work. Typically six different professional artists from the Chicagoland area display their work over the course of a year. Our art classes then attend artist presentations, where students can engage with the artists and ask questions. Visiting artists share how they became interested in art, where they studied, and what motivates them to create and market their work. Some artists include a demonstration when presenting. In addition to these daytime presentations available to our art students, we offer an ArtTalks program wherein the artist runs a presentation open to parents and community members, plus additional interested Stevenson students. This open presentation is made possible through a visiting artist stipend generously provided by a donation from the Stevenson Foundation.

Visual Arts Field Trips



AP Art History Architectural Riverboat Cruise

Art History students visit Chicago, take the Architectural Riverboat Cruise, and continue studying Chicago architecture on a walking tour within the Loop, comparing historic and modern skyscrapers.

Students visit the Art Institute of Chicago, touring art of the ancient worlds, and practicing various methodologies for analyzing artworks.



Metals & Jewelry Glassblowing Workshop

In Project Fire (glassblowing workshop), students are given choices about what to make, and are then paired in small working groups with a mentor teacher, to create a glass piece.



Ceramics & Advanced 3-D Raku Workshop

Students enrolled in the Ceramics class participate in an in-school field trip where they get to experience a raku firing. Students work with visiting artist(s) and learn about the raku process, from the different types of raku glazes to working hands-on with loading and unloading the ceramic pieces from the kiln.



Advanced Photography & Digital Design and AP Photography & Digital Design Museum Field Trip

Every year the Advanced Photography & Digital Design and AP Photography & Digital Design students visit The Chicago Cultural Center, The Art Institute of Chicago, Millennium Park, Maggie Daley Park, The Museum of Contemporary Photography, Museum of Contemporary Art, or The Milwaukee Art Museum.



Painting and Advanced Drawing, Painting & Studio Museum Field Trip

Students visit either the Art Institute of Chicago or the Milwaukee Art Museum.



Visual Arts

STEVENSON HIGH SCHOOL
DEPARTMENT OF FINE ARTS



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www.d125.org/arts



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