

June 2022

Dear AP Studio Art Students,

I am so excited to that you have chosen to take AP Studio art during the 2022-2023 school year. I feel fortunate to be able to be a part of this journey with you. This class is a rigorous course and much will be expected of you. I hope that you are willing to take on this challenge; you will be required to create over the summer. Completing more than the required pieces will help put you further ahead when school begins. If you have any questions or concerns over the summer email me anytime [jmclellan@troy.k12.mi.us](mailto:jmclellan@troy.k12.mi.us)

**Resources Required:** sketchbook, camera (on your cell phone is acceptable) and art supplies as needed (pencils, watercolors, chalk, pens/markers, color pencils)

**How the assignments will be assessed:** Each section will be assessed using the AP Art rubrics.

**Purpose of the Assignments:** The summer work acts as a review of foundational material/concepts/skills. The work will expose students to required material/concepts/skills/texts to prepare the student for the rigorous work to be completed within the school year.

**Helpful hints:**

1. **Draw from life.** If you need to use a photo, it should be from a photo that you have taken.
2. **Use quality materials** for your art. Good materials make it easier to create good work. Use at least 80 lb white drawing paper and stretched canvases for painting.
3. Carry a **sketchbook** everywhere. You have a new best friend. Sketch your life, ideas, thoughts. Make thumbnails, jot down notes, glue in reference images, and do color studies when needed.
4. **Use a variety of media**, even combining them for mixed media. Take risks, experiment, have fun!!!
5. **DO NOT SIGN YOUR NAME TO THE FRONT OF YOUR WORK** or place any identifying marks on the front as per AP Guidelines.
6. **Visit the AP Central website for the portfolio you are submitting** often to see sample portfolios and to become familiar with requirements.  
<https://apstudents.collegeboard.org/courses/ap-drawing/sample-portfolios-by-year>  
<https://apstudents.collegeboard.org/courses/ap-2d-art-and-design/sample-portfolios-by-year>  
<https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/courses/ap-3-d-art-and-design/portfolio>
7. **Look at good art!** Visit the local art centers, galleries, art museums, and art festivals. Take your sketchbook with you, and render the work as well as your response to it. It is a good thing to jot down your thinking process in your sketchbook as well as draw in it.
8. **Go to** <https://www.studentartguide.com/articles/art-sketchbook-ideas> READ AND LOOK through this whole page. It has LOTS of fabulous information. Really actually read it.

**The Sustained Investigation – 15 images – you will be working on these all year**  
**This summer start thinking about and developing your ideas – LOOK at lots of AP Student Art work.**

This section of your portfolio should show **a body of related works that demonstrate an inquiry-based sustained investigation** of materials, processes, and ideas through practice, experimentation, and revision.

You'll be submitting 15 images in May 2023, some of which may show details and process documentation. Images can include fully resolved works and forms as well as sketches, models, plans, and diagrams

**Assignment: investigate sustained investigation questions and create two aesthetically pleasing mind maps**

**Develop 2 possible questions that you will investigate for your sustained investigation**

**Click on the link below & follow the instructions for developing your ideas. Narrow it down to your favorite two ideas to possibly pursue.**

<https://www.studentartguide.com/articles/a-level-art-ideas>

**Click on the link below for ideas on how to create a mind-map. Create two visual mind maps digging deeper into your ideas for the sustained investigation**

<https://www.studentartguide.com/articles/how-to-make-a-mindmap-creative-ideas>

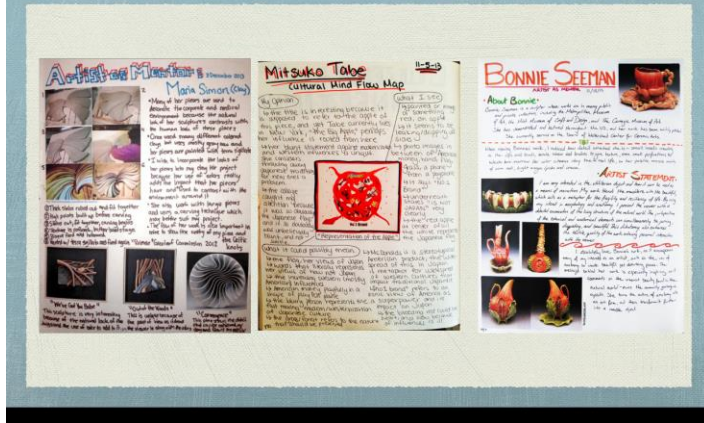
**Research Assignment: choose one of the 2 options**

**Option 1**

1. **Research 1 Artists who inspires you - contemporary artists / master artists / female artists**
  - a. Describe the artist's work. Sketch it. Sketch your own ideas inspired by the artist
  - b. React to their work. Write annotated notes about what you love or hate or want to see more of or how <https://order.ridleysbakery.com/order/catering-gift-baskets> you could use it in your own work.
  - c. include printed images/text in addition to your own writing and drawing.
  - d. Process (The ways in which the artist plays with ideas and manipulates or applies materials. Constraints within this category might include placing time limits, harnessing chance, creating opportunities for reflection, repeating themes or motifs, collaborating, exploring a material, or using a new/different technique.)
  - e. Context (The circumstances that surround the artwork. Where, when, how, and for what purpose the work was made), including what was historically and socially present for the artist at the time the artwork was made. As the context of an artwork changes, so too does its meaning.)
  - f. Content (The concept, big idea, or subject of the artwork Note: The visible subject matter is not necessarily the same as the content. For example, water lilies were often Monet's subject matter, but light was his content.)



# Artists as Mentors



**Ai Weiwei** Born in Beijing, China Born 1957, Still alive Artist/human rights activist

Ai Weiwei is more than just an artist. He is a perfect example of an artist who transcends his network for social commentary. He is a human rights activist and his ideas and pieces stand out to me like no other artist. I love his purpose, goals, and determination. He represents a lifestyle of fearlessness and persistence all for the betterment of culture. For him, he focuses on social issues in his home country China. He speaks messages about uniformity, censorship, and modernity.

I am somewhat conservative, making one or more pieces in his style because he is such an interesting artist with such an incredible personality and story and his theme is similar to mine. He has worked with highlighting sculptures, assemblages, and really modern methods to make a statement. One thing I love about his work is that it is huge and stark. No one can ignore what he is trying to say, whether they like it or not. (Candy like John Holzer). I like working progressive because artwork should draw attention and send a message.

Ai Weiwei also has a bit of an attitude. He was arrested for his political messages and implications. Through his art, not just his still, continues his art. I think his art is just flawed to give him more attention on an international scale, now the whole world knows about his wins and what he has done. Even in his home country, he created a marble sculpture of a security camera, making a quiet yet important message about the Chinese government.

There are many ways in which I can interpret and see Ai's style in my own work. One thing which I definitely want to experiment with is his

## Option 2

Artists are always looking at the work of other artists for enjoyment, education, and inspiration. Talk to your parents about going to an art museum, gallery, or other art experience. With parent permission go and record your experience in a one or two-page spread art journal entry. Your spread should include a reaction to some of the artwork you saw, observational drawing, collage and text. Include what inspired you and how it may impact your future work.

- Gallery / museum name
- include printed images/text in addition to your own writing and drawing
- Specific art pieces that inspire you – include photos & annotation
- Other relevant / important information

# Gallery Visits



Have fun this summer!!! Look at lots of art, explore and experiment with your own art!!! You do not have to do any complete pieces – but if you want to start working on pieces for your sustained investigation it will be helpful to you next year.