

# Cooley Studios: Drawing and Painting Classes

## Learn to Draw & Paint like the old masters at Cooley Studios:

Join us for ongoing monthly art classes. Learn something new and make new friends.

Where: 870 N. High Street,  
Suite 11 Worthington, OH  
43085

Class time: 4:15pm to 5:45pm.

Class: 1 day per week each  
week per month, Tu, W or Thr.

Tuition: \$100 per month. Pay  
with cash, check or card.

Tuition due, 1st week of each  
month.

Call to register, No text please:  
614-547-7900.

Receive materials list after you  
register.

Grades: Freshmen to Seniors.  
Beginners to experienced

Limit: 8 - 10 students per class.



Hinako Miyazaki, Still life painting, 2013, Oil.  
She is a former student of Cooley Studios. She was also a former student at Olentangy Liberty High School in Powell, OH. Hinako went on to study and graduate from Musashino Art University, Tokyo, Japan.



Cassidy Boyuk working on her Mastercopy drawing, 2015, Graphite.  
She is a very talented young artist with a bright future ahead of her. She is a Junior at Hilliard Davison High school in Hilliard Ohio. She started drawing as soon as she was able to hold a crayon and painting by age 13. She went on to study at and graduate from The Florence Academy of art in Florence Italy.

## Cooley Studios Student Testimonials:

**03/10/2024**

Michael, I have learned a lot under your tutelage in the last three years. Thank you for that.

Thank you again,  
Ranga Padmanabhan, PhD.  
Former organic chemistry instructor and scientific researcher

**1/11/2021**

I have been working with Michael at Cooley Studios as a once a week student for about 4 years now. I started thinking I had the skills, and just wanted to learn to paint and sort of pushed through on several projects with Michael, humbly, letting me do them. After completing them, Michael then asked if I wanted to get serious. I said yes, and we started working on drawing skills, tone, then color, then the rudiments of painting in oil. It has been an incredible experience to be able to increase my skills, and Michael has been nothing but encouraging, even when he tells me I need to slow down and treat every project like a master piece. I'm not someone who is that detail oriented, but Michael has shown me that patience and lots of focus really pays off. I hope to continue in my study with Michael and work to become a "professional" artist in my retirement. I find that painting and drawing can be completely absorbing, and stress reducing, I marvel at what I can produce now and at how much I continue to grow.

Suzanne Bartle-Haring, PhD.  
**Professor/ Program Co-Director**  
College of Education and Human Ecology Human Sciences/HDFS/Couple and Family Therapy

**6/12/2017**

To future artists and whom it may concern,  
I can say, without any shred of hyperbole, Michael Cooley is a Columbus treasure.

The American art world, and Central Ohio with it, is awash with opinions about what exactly constitutes beauty, and therefore what is valued and praised as fine art. For the last 100 or more years, ingenuity has reigned over technique resulting in pieces and installations that are solely designed to provoke the viewer's sensibilities without any indication of traditional artistic talent. And if you failed to understand a piece of "modern" art, then it was you who was deficient, not the art.

Gone was the effort to capture a realistic representation of the human condition on canvas, called classical realism. That is until recently. In the U.S. and abroad in art capitals like Paris and Florence, there is an exciting resurgence of art created in the tradition of Michelangelo and Bouguereau.

That is what I wanted for my daughter. I wanted her to learn the techniques of the masters. I wanted her to understand light, form and tone. I wanted her to learn brush technique and the "tricks of the trade."  
We had tried the local art college's summer classes and found them to be simply a celebration of creativity

without any real rigorous approach to learning the craft. We tried numerous known and reputable venues in the area with the same results. So many of them collect your money, give you materials and assignments, but never teach you how to achieve the result you want. It was like grown-up finger painting or summer school for bored children.

Our goal was to raise her skill to a level that would earn her admission and substantial scholarship dollars at the nations top art schools. We wanted the art equivalent of a personal coach - but one that really understood HOW to teach.

That's when we found Cooley Studios. We met with Michael and explained our objectives and he then explained how he could help.

Finally, I heard what I'd been waiting for. Here was an approach that would take the time-tested lessons of the masters and adapt it to her personal skill level and progress.

I will leave you to learn how Michael's program works, but know that it stems from the classic atelier approach that is supported by the Art Renewal Center. Columbus is beyond lucky to have this instruction available to us. There are far too few available in the whole of the United States.

In her years with Michael, my daughter learned solid fundamentals and progressed from simple graphite forms to oil based still life's and portraits. Her work has earned her two first-place Congressional Art Awards and her pieces have hung in the U.S. Capitol. She also won the regional Winston Art Scholarship, from the National Society of Arts and Letters.

She was accepted to every U.S art school she applied to with generous scholarship offers from SAIC and others (about \$100,000 in total). Ultimately, we found that even at the college level, the classic approach is not emphasized. So we searched in France and Italy. She was accepted (with advance placement) to the Angel Academy in Italy but finally accepted the invitation to attend the Florence Academy of Art's three year program in Italy. So much of her success is directly attributable to Michael. His guidance, tutoring and proven approach have set her on her way to becoming a Living Master. We are deeply grateful and eternally indebted to him and his vision.

I wholeheartedly encourage you to learn more about his program and trust in his tutelage. He will teach you what the masters knew.

Peter Boyuk,  
President and Founder  
**Boxer Rebellion LTD**  
Marketing and Design

*12/02/2017*

Florence is wonderful. It's hard and demanding but I couldn't feel better prepared. I can't thank you enough for everything you've given me the past three years. So many instructors have asked if I've had previous instruction, and I always proudly tell them that I studied with you. I'm super ahead of the pack and it's all because I studied at Cooley Studios. I'm so glad that you're sticking around to teach. You're incredible at it.

Sorry I've taken so long to reach out. School is so busy. I'll be home for winter break though, so I'll try and stop in and say hello! Sending all my best from Florence.

Cass

***10/31/2015***

Ever since I can remember I have always been drawing. I loved that I was able to recreate from my own hand what I saw around me, but as the years passed I felt that I had reached a plateau. It seemed difficult to receive teaching that helped me grow in technique with real constructive criticism. Finding Mr. Cooley and his Art Academy was truly a Godsend and a blessed discovery. Within the past 4 months at Mr. Cooley's Art Academy, I have learned and grown more than any other formal education I have received before. Mr. Cooley's classical approach to art has been incredibly helpful in its ability to train my eye to truly observe as well as follow proven technique. I am so thankful to have found and study under Mr. Cooley and would recommend this Academy to anyone who is serious about art.

Christine Kwon, BSc. Degree in Human Nutrition from The Ohio State University, Spring 2015. Prospective medical illustration student.

***7/10/2014***

I have only taken two classes at Cooley Studios and I am amazed at the progress I have made already. I have a Bachelor's Degree in Fine Art and 12 years professional painting experience in theatre. I have taken many art classes and workshops and although I have learned from every one I have not seen such a drastic change in my accuracy of drawing so fast. The method that Michael is teaching me, a well studied and academic method, is far superior to anything else I have learned. I cannot wait to see what is around the corner!

Edith Wadkins, Professional Freelance Illustrator and Professional Painter specializing in theatrical scenic painting and wildlife painting.

***12/23/2013***

When I met Michael Cooley, I knew I found the right teacher.

Being a 43-year-old medical professional looking to fulfill a life long dream of Medical illustration, I knew very few opportunities would be open and feasible for me. Having found Cooley studios online, I was not sure what to expect when I had my first meeting with Michael.

I was encouraged and pleasantly surprised after having an in depth and sincere conversation at my first meeting. Michael was welcoming, knowledgeable, extremely talented and genuinely believed I could reach my goals!! Since being trained by Michael Cooley, I have learned more in my 6 sessions with him than I did in my entire fine arts minor in college. I am that much closer to pursuing what I love. I will never be able to fully thank him for giving me the opportunity to have formal training on a busy mom/professionals schedule.

Come and see what you are missing.

Heidi Gum, Physician Assistant

***12/13/2013***

My dream is to become a medical illustrator. There are not many colleges that offer such training close to Ohio. While at an art store in town, I was given Michael Cooley's name to look up his artwork. After getting in contact with him, he reinforced my desire to become a medical illustrator. He was eager to help me in making my dream come true. I have completed my first six week session with Michael Cooley and I love every minute of every session. After just six weeks I have seen improvement in my artistic abilities. He has taught me to slow down and really look at what I am trying to draw. My accuracy in drawing has really improved. He is patient, down to earth, and he genuinely cares about his students. He is an extremely talented artist and a very educated and dedicated teacher. I am excited to take more classes with him so that I can continue to learn and better my skills. Taking classes with him has been the best thing to get me closer to becoming a medical illustrator.

Julianne Panzo, 19, Sophomore at The Ohio State University

***12/2/2013***

My goal when I started with Cooley Studios was to learn how to paint. I didn't want to paint abstract images but fully rendered, lifelike compositions. Through the months I've worked with Michael, he's shown me in clear steps how I will reach that goal. Starting with drawing and building on each new skill, I've learned how to look as an artist looks at shapes and colors and light.

Cooley Studios is for all skill levels as Michael is able to adapt the coursework for the novice and experienced artist alike. Michael is a good instructor who encourages but also does thoughtful critiques to better move the artist in the right direction. He has a great enthusiasm for art and for teaching drawing and painting principles and techniques.

Beth Mirka, Information Technology Specialist (IT)

***11/28/2013***

It was quite by accident that I met Michael. He was looking for studio space one day last summer and he walked into our office. I began chatting with him and found out he taught beginning drawing, and the rest is history! I am still a beginner but improving my techniques everyday. Through Michael's patience, encouragement and skill, I am actually learning how to draw! His passion is for drawing and painting and he simply wants to pass this pleasure on to others, whether you are career-oriented or just have those creative juices flowing. He's a wonderful, kind-hearted man, highly talented with a true gift for teaching. I'm honored to know him and to be his student. If anyone wants to actually learn drawing skills, and I mean really learn the "how to" of drawing, which is a natural progression into painting, you must check him out. You will not be sorry!

Suzanne Beck, Office Manager and Coordinator

***11/25/2013***

Michael Cooley is a great art instructor. He has individualized my art plan to maximize my progress while minimizing my frustration. I have never had any formal training prior to Michael, and I have to say, I believe there is an artist in me! It's exciting because with his method of teaching, and step by step approach I can see a great deal of personal growth. Michael is kind and very giving of his time and advice. I look forward to Saturdays with him.

My goal is to eventually paint and learn those techniques from Michael. I now believe it is possible and I can't wait. This is a dream I never thought would come true for me. Michael is actually teaching me how to construct masterful drawings. Six months ago I'd have never believed it!! Thank you Michael.

Beth Roseman RN, Recovery Room Nurse

***11/24/2013***

I last took an art class in high school and have been missing it ever since. Two years ago, I began entertaining the idea of combining my two loves in life: science and illustration. While I was taking my candidacy exams for my PhD, I decided I needed to figure out if this was a true possibility for my future career. I started studying with Michael almost a year ago and couldn't be more happy. I have had little formal training in art so Michael started with me at the basics of drawing and helped fill in many of my foundational gaps in training. It has been exciting to watch my progression over the course of the last year and I have been surprised at the quality of every piece I have completed. Michael both inspires and fosters my dreams for science illustration and has pushed me towards fulfilling my greatest potential. His extent of knowledge about both the field of medical/scientific illustration and academic fine art is an amazing resource and I am so excited I found him! Michael has helped me take my dreams of scientific illustration from just a passing thought to a viable possibility for my future and I can't be more grateful for having the opportunity to continue to study with him.

Maya Wei-Haas, PhD Candidate, School of Earth Science, The Ohio State University

***11/8/2013***

Until 12 weeks ago, I hadn't picked up a sketch pad in 40 plus years, and did not have any formal training in art aside from a few art classes in college. I signed on with Michael Cooley's art classes, and I do believe that in these last, few short weeks, he has awakened some unsung talent within me. As a teacher, Mr. Cooley is honest and straightforward, and at the same time very patient and encouraging. He has a wonderful calming personality, and I am not at all intimidated to draw in front of him. His instruction is tailored to my level of experience. Samples of his work surround the classroom, and one can clearly see that his talent spans many areas, from medical illustration to fine art. I can only say that some day, under his guidance, I could only hope, in my wildest dreams, to be as accomplished as he is.

I would like to be a book illustrator at some point, and I do believe that he is the teacher to lead me there.

Roberta Vita, Vocational School Instructor



**6/23/2013**

Besides being a talented artist, Mr. Cooley is a great teacher. The descriptions were step-by-step and easy to understand. He explained me each method with his nicely organized sources and examples. I am sure that I would put what I learned from him into many different art works in future.

Also, his amazing humanity kept my motivation high. He always cares about me, and my course after graduation as well. It helped to gain my confidence about my future, and I could keep myself up. He definitely changed my life. I am really glad that I could meet him, and been his student!

Hinako Miyazaki, Former student at Olentangy Liberty High School, Powell, OH. Presently studying at Japan's premier university of art and design, Musashino Art University, Tokyo, Japan.