

AP Art Info & Summer Assignments – Please Read!

Informational Meeting

Tuesday, June 9th, 8am: B140

Please plan to attend! We'll review everything and answer your questions before summer. You will receive a sketchbook at this time. If you cannot make it, please come see me during office hours: June 10-16, between 8:00 and 8:30 am. Here is a copy of the [PPT from the Summer Session](#).

About AP Art

Unlike most AP classes, **AP Art** does not have a traditional exam. Instead, students submit a **digital portfolio** in late April/early May that includes:

- Original artwork
- Images documenting your creative process
- Written reflections on your ideas, materials, and techniques

This course is both **rigorous and flexible**. It allows you to shape your own artistic journey while receiving guidance and feedback from your instructor.

To succeed in AP Art, students should:

- Have strong foundational skills in their chosen media
- Be self-motivated and consistently engaged
- Meet deadlines and regularly share progress
- Enjoy the creative process!

Course Goals (a.k.a. Big Ideas)

1. **Inquiry & Investigation** – Explore ideas, materials, and processes
2. **Practice, Experimentation & Revision** – Make, revise, and refine your work
3. **Communication & Reflection** – Write and talk about your artistic choices

You can review the full course details in the **EHS Course Catalog**.

Workload & Expectations

- **90% of class time** is for making art—be prepared to work!
- Some work will be required **outside of class**, depending on your pace
- Weekly **homework** includes short, graded videos from the College Board that help you understand the portfolio expectations
- This work should be **engaging and fun**—as long as you stay on top of it!

Costs

- There is a **\$90 class materials fee** and the **AP exam fee (\$100 approx.)**
- **Financial assistance is available** through the Counseling Office if needed

Next Steps

1. **Complete your summer assignments** (see attached/linked materials)
2. **Bring your questions** to the meeting on **Friday, June 13th**
3. Get excited! This is your year to grow as an artist and build something amazing.

If you have questions before the meeting, feel free to reach out.

Warmly,

Dina Jay (she/her),

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Fine Arts Department Chair

AP Art, Studio, All 3D Art

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ALL - AP Art Summer Assignments

Eastlake High School · 2026–27 · Ms. Jay

About AP Art & Summer Work

AP Art is a college-level course that requires dedication, creativity, and strong time management. Over the year, you'll create a portfolio of original artwork to submit to the College Board. To prepare, you are required to complete **Summer Assignments** to help you start strong in the fall.

Summer Assignment Overview (Due Week 2 of School):

1. Inspirational Sketchbook Practice

Collect images, explore styles, experiment with materials, and reflect on your process.

2. Original Work Collection

Include your best finished original artworks—these showcase your skills and interests.

Both assignments are graded and must be brought in to present during the **second week of school**.

Why It Matters:

- The more you find what you love, and how it can tie into your art, the easier your year will be.
- Summer work helps you gather inspiration and direction for your **Sustained Investigation**.
- Even while traveling, you can draw, explore, collect ideas, or research artists—creativity is portable!

AP Art Fees:

- **\$90 materials fee** (paid to the EHS bookkeeper in September)
- **\$100 exam fee** (paid in fall when registering—subject to change)

Financial assistance is available through the Counseling Office.

Recommended Materials:

Have these supplies ready for summer and home use:

- Sketchbook (provided in B140 before summer)
- Smartphone or digital camera (for photographing work)
- Tape measure (for artwork dimensions)
- Scissors, ruler, glue stick, X-Acto knife, highlighter
- Drawing/media supplies: pencils, pens, markers, colored pencils, paint, etc.
- Household objects for mixed-media entries

Note: If you lose the provided sketchbook, you'll need to replace it yourself.

If you drop the course, return the unused sketchbook or pay a \$5 supply fee.

Parent/Guardian Info:

Please review this information with your parent/guardian to ensure they're aware of:

- Summer work requirements
- Materials needed
- Fees due during the 2026–27 school year

AP SUMMER ASSIGNMENTS: ACCESS IMPORTANT LINKS BELOW

ASSIGNMENTS LIST – Access LINKS in BLUE

CLICK [HERE](#) FOR DEFINITIONS

- ☐ Read the [AP Website](#) information (*READ thoroughly! TAKE NOTES/HIGHLIGHT*). Familiarize yourself. We will NOT go over it in class.
- ☐ View the [Course and Exam Description \(CED\)](#) (Same as ABOVE)
- ✓ **After Reading, Ask yourself:**
 - What is the difference between the 2D, 3D, and Drawing portfolios?
 - What is the AP Art and Design Portfolio Exam Structure?
 - What are the Ethics, Artistic Integrity, and Plagiarism guidelines?
 - What is Sustained Investigation, and what must I do/show for it?
 - What is the Selected Works portfolio, and what must I do/show for it?
 - What are the Scoring Guidelines?
- ☐ Look at [Sample Portfolios](#) (See other portfolios at all scoring levels)
- ☐ **INSPIRATIONAL EVIDENCE** – this can be in One Drive, your sketchbook, or both (see below)
- ☐ **EXPRESSIVE SELF-PORTRAIT** - Plan, Experiment, Revise & Create a well-thought-out self-portrait (see below)
- ☐ **Take inventory 5 of the BEST original works you have done.**

VOCABULARY YOU WILL WANT TO KNOW!

- Ideas, Materials, Process
- Practice, Experiment, Revision
- Synthesis

AP Art: Collecting Inspiration (Short Version)

What inspires you?

This summer, explore ideas, artists, and materials that interest you. This is the **first step** toward your **Sustained Investigation**—an inquiry-based creative journey we'll dive into during the school year.

What to Do:

- **Create an "Inspiration" Folder** in your AP Art 2025–26 folder or start a section in your sketchbook. Collect and respond —**glue, sketch, paste, or write notes** about anything interesting to you.
- **Gather Images** that inspire you:
Look for styles, subjects, and tones that speak to you. Does the work tell a story? Is it part of a series? What draws you in?
- **Research an Artist (or a Few!)**
Study their work—what medium do they use? What style? How does their art make you feel?
- **Make a List** of materials and techniques you enjoy or want to explore more.
You'll have lots of choices in AP Art, so think ahead!
- **You'll Share Your Inspiration** during the **second week of school**, so keep track of what you collect, practice, and experiment with. This is how you will present yourself to the class.

Keep Practicing!

- Draw or create **each week** to keep your skills fresh.
Try different techniques, styles, or media—even quick sketches or doodles count!
- Use **weekly prompts** or set a subject to explore.
Challenge yourself to **recreate styles** or experiment with new materials.
- Record your process and reflect:
Why did you make confident choices? How did your materials impact your results?

Reminder: You don't need to choose your Sustained Investigation topic yet—explore and stay open! We'll refine ideas together in the fall.

AP SKETCHBOOK INSPIRATIONAL, PRACTICE, EXPERIMENTATION ASSIGNMENT EXAMPLES (BOTH 2D & 3D):

EXAMPLE CHART OF WHAT PRACTICE & EXPERIMENTATION COULD LOOK LIKE

PRACTICE & EXPERIMENTATION

(PROCESS IN PLANNING)

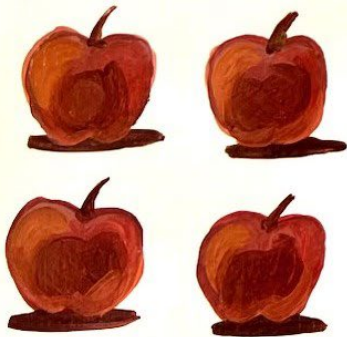
experimenting



practice deconstructing/simplifying the structure



practice by repeating



practice,

using thumbnails for composition



angle practice



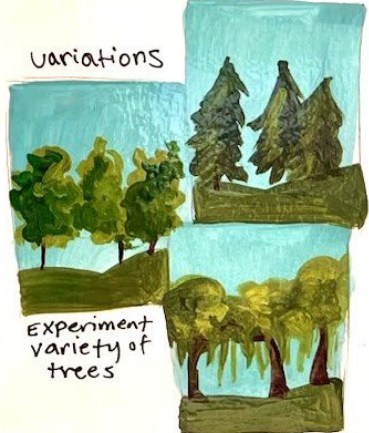
composition



Experiment using different media



variations



Experiment variety of trees

- Try something similar to the artist but different subject matter
- Investigate subject matter, explore new drawing technique
- Practice something that will help you be prepared for your project

Mark making, perspective, list of potential ideas



*****Needs to be some sort of your own drawing on these pages**

This sketchbook page shows the critical analysis of relevant artist work. It is important to note that it is rarely necessary to imitate an entire artist work: copying small pieces is all that is needed to learn about an artist's technique, style, use of media or approach to composition. In this example, the composition of the page as a whole has been carefully considered: the placement of the small images on the left balance the larger portrait on the right, creating a harmonious page layout. Note also that the annotation is neat, tidy, and small. It thus supports, rather than detracts from, the artwork and indicates to the examiners that the work was

produced
by a
committed,
dedicated
student



This
sequence
of
Advanced
Higher Art
sketchbook
pages
shows
clearly how
a
sketchbook
should be
used to aid

the development of ideas. It is the place where a **candidate thinks laterally, resolves issues and moves forward with their work.**



AP Art Summer Assignment: Inspiration, Style Practice & Medium Experimentation

This assignment is **required** and will help set you up for success with your **AP Portfolio**. Think of this as your first step in exploring your personal voice, practicing techniques, and building creative momentum. **Use your sketchbook** to document your journey—there's no page limit!



What to Focus On:

1. Inspiration

- Collect images, artists, and styles that resonate with you.
- Note what draws you in—ideas, subject matter, technique, media.
- Try to **recreate aspects** of these styles in your own way.
- This is your chance to experiment—be curious and open!

2. Practice & Experimentation

- Try multiple compositions, proportions, and materials.
- Show your effort by pushing past the first idea—keep refining.
- Play with **combinations, morphing, and layering** ideas.
- Quantity matters when it shows **quality thinking**.

3. Craft & Care

- Show attention to **detail, skill, and process**.
- Thoughtfully explore techniques, not just results.
- This is practice—mistakes are part of the process. Save them!

4. Design Thinking

- Include notes on using the **Elements of Art** and **Principles of Design** (line, space, movement, balance, proportion, etc.).
- Consider both 2D and 3D approaches, even if your portfolio is 2D.

5. Originality

- Develop your **OWN** voice. Avoid clichés.
- Take creative risks. Explore **new visual ideas**.
- Keep track of planning, drafts, and early attempts—you'll use this for your **Practice, Experimentation, and Revision (PE&R)** portfolio requirements.



AP Art Grading & Expectations

- **All assignments are graded based on the AP Art Rubric and expectations.**
- **Progress Check-Ins:** approx. 3 times per quarter—required to stay on track.
- **Peer & Teacher Feedback** is essential. Be open to critique.
- **Deadlines Matter:** Work is due at semester's end; late work may be accepted only before the cutoff.
- **Missing Work** will be marked as “missing” until submitted.
- **AP Portfolio** is due to the College Board in **late April/early May**.



Tips for Going Above & Beyond

- Doing extra work now can give you more freedom later.
- Focus extra efforts on **planning for your Sustained Investigation** (sketches, thumbnails, material tests, maquettes).
- Save **all revisions**—even the ones that didn't work! They count as important portfolio evidence.

Final Advice

This is a **learning process**, not just a final product. Embrace experimentation, reflection, and revision. Document everything. Ask questions. Grow your ideas.

Enjoy making art this summer! Let it be playful, meaningful, and yours. 😊

I'll check email occasionally over summer—feel free to reach out if you need help: dijay@lwsd.org

Let me know if you'd like a visual handout version or editable Google Doc link!

More information about the Portfolio sections can be found here:

<https://apstudents.collegeboard.org/art-design-program/sustained-investigation>

<https://apstudents.collegeboard.org/art-design-program/selected-works>

More information about AP Scores, Timeline & Credit:

<https://apstudents.collegeboard.org/about-ap-scores>

<https://apscore.collegeboard.org/scores>

<https://apstudents.collegeboard.org/timeline>

<https://apstudents.collegeboard.org/getting-credit-placement/search-policies/course/32>

(Use this to look up how specific colleges of interest may accept AP scores for credit!)

RUBRICS—read through these and know what is expected.

These will be your guide and how you are graded over the course of the year.

Scoring Guidelines for Sustained Investigation			
General Scoring Note			
When applying the rubric, the score for each row should be considered independently from the other rows. Student work may receive different scores for each row.			
When applying the rubric for each individual row, you should award the score for that row based solely upon the criteria indicated for that row, according to the preponderance of evidence.			
Row	Scoring Criteria		
A 2A 3A	Inquiry		
	1	2	3
B 2B 3B	Practice, Experimentation, and Revision		
	1	2	3
C 2C	Materials, Processes, and Ideas		
	1	2	3
D 2D	2D/3D/Drawing Art and Design		
	1	2	3

Scoring Guidelines for Selected Works	
General Scoring Note	
When applying the rubric, the response does not need to meet all three criteria for each score point. You should award the score according to the preponderance of evidence; however, if the written evidence is completely unrelated to the work, the maximum possible score is 2.	
Scoring Criteria	
A. 2D/3D/Drawing Art and Design Skills: 2D B. Materials, Processes, and Ideas: 2D C. Writing: 2C	
The body of work demonstrates:	
5	
A. Visual evidence of advanced 2D/3D/Drawing skills B. Visual relationships among materials, processes, and ideas are clearly evident and demonstrate synthesis . C. Written evidence identifies materials, processes, and ideas.	
4	
A. Visual evidence of good 2D/3D/Drawing skills B. Visual relationships among materials, processes, and ideas are clearly evident C. Written evidence identifies materials, processes, and ideas.	
3	
A. Visual evidence of moderate 2D/3D/Drawing skills B. Visual relationships among materials, processes, and ideas are evident but may be unclear or inconsistently demonstrated C. Written evidence identifies materials, processes, and ideas.	
2	
A. Visual evidence of rudimentary 2D/3D/Drawing skills B. Little to no evidence of visual relationships among materials, processes, or ideas C. Written evidence may identify materials, processes, and ideas.	
1	
A. Little to no visual evidence of 2D/3D/Drawing skills B. Little to no evidence of visual relationships among materials, processes, or ideas C. Written evidence may identify materials, processes, and ideas.	