

# Welcome to Art Fundamentals

Ms. Ziegler



**What is art?    Why is it important?    Why should I care?**

In this choice-based classroom you will create your own understanding of visual art largely through self-exploration of materials, techniques, concepts and content.

## What will we DO?

- **Daily Journals** will be kept to organize your brainstorm process, gather thoughts and information, research concepts, practice with new materials or techniques, and complete fun drawing or writing prompts
- **Mini Lessons** will be completed as a whole group prior to each unit to introduce concepts or techniques
- **Independent Projects** are in depth self-directed artworks which use the concept and/or skill introduced in the mini lesson in a unique way to create an original artwork
- **Reflections** are critical or analytical responses to created artwork and can be oral or written

## How will your work be graded?

"It's not our job as art teachers to assess student artwork. That sounds shocking, I know, but if you reflect on it for a moment, you'll see that this statement is quite obviously true. It is our job as art teachers to assess student learning." – O. Gude

- 10% Daily Journal: thoughtful completion of daily writing assignments & drawings
- 30 % Mini Lessons: technical and conceptual mastery of a given media or topic
- 40% Independent Projects: the physical production of an artwork
  - Every project will have an accompanying scaled grading rubric given in advance
  - One project will be due each grading cycle (4 progress reports per semester)
- 20% Reflections: these are usually written, summative evaluations of personal process and product

Unfinished work will graded "*as-is*" on the due date but may be accepted (with valid explanation) up to the next grading cycle deadline for an altered grade. Students may turn in an alternative artwork from a previous cycle to increase their grade for that unit. Extra credit is also available in the form of journal entries.

## The general rules:

RESPECT is the most important rule for EVERYONE in the classroom

*I promise to respect your opinions, to be honest/open and to treat you with kindness. My goal is to help you become a successful artist/problem solver; I am here to help you!*

## ... In turn I need for you to have respect for:

- **EACH OTHER:** use kind/encouraging words, listen to the speaker, cooperate productively in groups and individual activities and keep your hands/objects to yourself
- **LEARNING:** be in class on time, pay attention, work hard to complete your coursework, ask questions, be open to new ideas, and do your best!
- **MATERIALS:** clean your space/supplies and leave the room cleaner than you found it.
- **CLASSROOM:** use materials and other supplies only as instructed/demonstrated, navigate the room safely by walking at all times, treat desks floors and

## Other Policies:

**\$10 ART FEE:** every student taking Art Fundamentals must submit payment as soon as possible (you will be provided a receipt). This covers the materials that we will use during class.

**ATTENDANCE:** will follow the expectations and consequences described in the student handbook.

**CELL PHONES:** are permitted by teacher for use on student work. Everyone is expected to have phones away during discussions, presentations, tests and other activities indicated.

**BATHROOM:** after asking, use paintbrush passes located by the door, use sign out prior to leaving.

**SEATING:** arrangements are open to student choice unless proving a distraction or disadvantage.

**OFFICE HOURS:** Monday, Tuesday & Friday after school until 3:30