

Acrylic Painting Project

Description

Whether you have never painted before, painting is your favorite hobby, or you are somewhere in between, this project is designed to push your artistic skills to the next level. You will learn the techniques of acrylic painting and have the space to create a painting that takes patience, time and artistic attention. You will learn about color theory, various brush techniques and how to apply the elements of art and design to your painting. You will choose a reference photograph to paint from that must be teacher-approved. Using a 16" x 20" canvas (no smaller. You can go bigger if you're feelin' ambitious), you will draw out your photograph with a pencil and then apply acrylic paint to the canvas. Yay!

Requirements for reference photo:

- the subject is a person, animal or landscape (if you *really* want to do something else, come talk to me)
- the photo has strong value/contrast
- the photo is in color somewhere for you to reference (I understand we may have to print in black in white)
- You can do still life if you want!

NO USING OTHER DRAWINGS AS REFERENCE PHOTOS

Essential terms:

Composition: The overall placement and organization of elements in a work of art, as well as the interrelationships between individual elements

Compositional balance: A balanced composition is a compositional choice in art in which the frame feels balanced

Negative space: Shapes or spaces that are or represent the areas unoccupied by objects.

Value: element of art that refers to the degree and qualities of lightness or darkness. In color theory, value refers to the lightness (tint) or darkness (shade) of a color; i.e. pink is a tint of red

Contrast: design principle that emphasizes differences between the art elements. For example, a painting may have bright colors that contrast with dull colors or angular shapes that contrast with rounded shapes. Sharp contrast draws attention and can direct the viewer to a focal point within a work of art

Primary colors: Red, Yellow, Blue. All other colors can be obtained by mixing these colors

Secondary colors: Orange, Green, Purple. - a color resulting from the mixing of two primary colors

Complementary colors: Colors opposite one another on the color wheel. Red/green, blue/orange, yellow/violet are complementary colors

Constraints: (available in the art classroom)

- acrylic paint
- graphite pencils
- canvas
- reference photo/still life
- paintbrushes
- paper towels

Tips from the teacher:

- Find a photograph or subject to paint that intrigues you!
- Squint your eyes to see basic value
- Step away from your painting to get a different perspective of it
 - Have compassion if you are having a hard time drawing/painting, it can be pretty tough sometimes, and time consuming!
- If you are having trouble with drawing and proportion, you can use the grid technique
- Choose a signature that can be your "artist brand" and stick with it. Place it in the bottom right of your artwork every time.

Grading on:

- Application of essential terms
- Following the reference photo guidelines/canvas size
- If you are putting effort into your painting! (You are not using class time to talk to your friends or look at your computer doing non-art activities).
- Participation during critiques