Hey Folks,

Hopefully, most of you know who I am and know that I will be your teacher in AP Class. I will try to inspire, encourage, and help each of you reach your artistic, creative potential.

If you are like me, school will quickly fade from your mind. Before that totally happens, I need to remind you how important it is to keep your artistic skills honed. This letter is to inform you of your summer assignments. (Yes, I am sorry to say you will have summer assignments) Creating art throughout the summer is a great opportunity to better your skills or just refresh what you learned in class. It will also help keep your creative thinking skills active and show me your willingness to take risks.

This class will require hours outside of class and it will be important to use your class time wisely. By doing this you will demonstrate to me your ability to maintain long term assignments without losing interest. By the end of this class, you will have created a portfolio or cohesive body of work. All students will need a journal/research/investigative workbook. (If you already have one from an existing class you can continue to use it). Use your workbook as a way to communicate your ideas, practice techniques, show process, experiment with media, and record information about events you attend, art you have seen or artists of interest. In the class you will be required to research. Remember, the purpose of investigation is to provide you with a vocabulary to discuss, evaluate and analyze art.

Hopefully by now I have piqued your interest and you are asking, “What are the summer assignments?” The summer assignments are attached and can also be found on the High School website. Click on the IB and AP program tab. The summer assignments will take some time to complete especially when I am looking for quality work so don’t wait until the last minute. I am asking you to complete at least 3 of the assignments but would recommend doing all. You must be ready to share your art the first day of class. My goal for you is to step outside your comfort zone, develop good time management skills, build on your technical skills and develop your own original style. I would like to help guide you to go from wherever you are as an artist to the next level. I will be sending out an email as we get closer to the beginning of school to make sure you have everything you need to have a successful start to the new year.

Now go and have a great summer. Get rejuvenated, inspired and creating!
~Ms. Cornwell~
Summer Assignments

Pick at least 3 assignments out of the following suggestions. Final projects may be no bigger than 18”x24”. All works must be completely finished works of art that show a complete range of value, tones, and shades. You may choose any medium to work with. You may use pencil, pen and ink, marker, watercolor, acrylic, oil, oil pastel, chalk pastel, charcoal, mixed media, etc… You may not use any type of published image or draw from any photograph. If it is inevitable to use a photo as a reference, you must take a picture by yourself. If you draw in pencil, please do not “smudge” the pencil to create value, you want to see value through the pencil marks. The assignments are due at the beginning of class on the first day of school.

- Draw an object submerged in water. You can submerge it in a clear container and view from the side, view it from above, or have the object half in and half out of the water to observe the distortion.
- A Still Life that contains at least 3 shiny objects. Make sure you consider the light reflection and images seen in the shiny objects.
- A piece that depicts an emotion. Try to have the colors or marks/brush strokes convey the emotion that you chose.
- Draw/paint the inside of something: a drawer, your car, refrigerator, a tool box, etc…
- A pile of pillows, boxes, brown lunch bags, or crumpled paper

Helpful hints:
1. Draw directly from life instead of using reference photos, whenever possible. If you must use a photo, take your own.
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. Do not do the final piece in your sketchbook and then tear them out.
3. Use a sketchbook to plan your artwork. Make several thumbnails, jot down notes, glue in reference images, and do color studies when needed.
4. 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.
5. Read about art! Read art magazines, such as The Artist's Magazine and International Artist. You will find these in local libraries. Check out books about famous artists in the library while you are there. Study the images in them.

6. Search the Internet for artists dealing with the same subject as you. Study their work, life history, and influences. Sketchbooks should display forethought, good composition, exceptional craftsmanship, have mature subject matter (avoid trite, overused symbols).

**Workbook Assignments**

The Investigative Workbook (IWB) will contain visual and written information, including original works such as sketches and diagrams, and will function as a working journal. It should reflect your personal interest, your investigation into many art fields with a balance between analytical research and open-ended inquiry. The IWB will illustrate your personal creative process.

Your IWB should reflect a personal approach or style. Entries should be dated and kept in chronological order. Number all pages and don't skip pages (this means front and back). Workbooks should not be edited (no discarding or tearing out journal pages.) Make connecting statements or refer back to other numbered pages.

**Begin with a one-page autobiography.** (Sketches communicate too) What interest you? What is important to you? What determines who you are? What paths might you choose for the possible future?

**Artist Research:** Research 1 artist that you do not know much about. (Remember: **do not just share facts about the artist**) What compelled you to choose this artist? What did you think you would learn about them or their art? Include examples of their work and comment on those pieces. Do you think they are successful? Why or why not?

**Art Shows or Museums:** Go to an art show, gallery or museums during the summer. Explain and critique the pieces you find most interesting. What was the artists’ intent? How did they use the elements and principles? Include sketches or diagrams in your book.

**In addition to the above, create finished images of the following studies below in your workbook.**

- Draped fabric with a pattern over a chair, hung on the wall, on a bed, etc.
- Close up of an object making it abstract
- Something Plugged in
- A tiny image repeated several times
Example of workbook pages.

Examples of assignments:

A pile of something: boxes, crumpled paper, pillow, brown lunch bags, etc....

Inside a drawer, refrigerator, dishwasher, car, tool box, etc……
Still life with at least 3 shiny objects.

Object submerged in water. View can be from side or top.

Depicting emotions: through color, brushstrokes, subject, etc........