

Honors Painting Summer Assignments

All students are required to complete TWO out of the five following studio projects. It is strongly recommended that they do at least three.

Paintings may be done in any size and on any surface using either watercolor, acrylic or oil paint (if you have oil paint and worked with it before). Each painting should be “portfolio” quality and will be collected on the first day of school.

Some examples of previous student work are included in the packet.

1. Self-portrait

-Does not have to be realistic or the entire portrait. It can be a profile, or a reflection off another surface (spoon, mirror, etc.)

2. Still life

-Must include at least one smooth object and one textured object (example: an egg with crumpled paper in the background, a stuffed animal with a marble)
-Must also have some sort of theme (example: musical instruments, fruit, etc)

3. Unusual View

-Be creative... Looking through something, from a giant’s eye, from an ant’s eye...

4. Landscape

-Do not use photo references from the internet.

5. Hands in motion

-Focus on the hands and the activity. Make sure you show the details in the hands and that the activity is clearly defined. The overall goal is to communicate the motion of the activity.

Some things to remember when you are working on the above assignments:

- *Use photo references or paint from real life.
- *Always have a light source (think light directions, shadows, highlights, etc.)
- *Be very critical and conscious of your composition, and paper size and type.
- *Do several rough drafts or experiments for each assignment. Rarely the first thing you do is the best.
- *Strong craftsmanship is important.
- *Consider the 3 C’s of art. (Composition, Craftsmanship, Contrast)
- *Presentation is important. Does it have the “Wow!” factor?

Good luck! Please contact me with questions or ideas at any time.

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