

Art Masterpiece: 1st Grade, Lesson 6 (May)

Andy Warhol (1928 – 1987)

Self-Portrait (1966)

Silkscreen ink on synthetic polymer paint on nine canvases,
Each canvas 22 1/2 x 22 1/2", overall 67 5/8 x 67 5/8"

Pronounced: War-haul

Art Style: Pop Art

Art Terms: Silk Screen Printing, Repetition

Activity: Warhol Handprints

Medium: Watercolor and Tempera Paint



Meet the Artist

- Born Andrew Warhola, Jr. in 1928 near Pittsburgh PA.
- At the age of 8, Warhol contracted Chorea, a rare and sometimes fatal disease of the nervous system that left him bedridden for several months. It was during these months, while Warhol was sick in bed, that his mother, herself a skillful artist, gave him his first drawing lessons. Drawing soon became Warhol's favorite childhood pastime. He was also an avid fan of the movies, and when his mother bought him a camera at the age of 9 he took up photography as well, developing film in a makeshift darkroom he set up in their basement.
- Warhol showed early artistic talent and studied commercial art at the School of Fine Arts at Carnegie Institute of Technology in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
- When he graduated from college with his Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in 1949, Warhol moved to New York City to pursue a career as a commercial artist. It was also at this time that he dropped the "a" at the end of his last name to become Andy Warhol. He landed a job with *Glamour* magazine in September, and went on to become one of the most successful commercial artists of the 1950s.
- Andy Warhol is best known for his Pop Art. **Pop Art** was a major movement of the 20th century in the United States that used elements of popular culture, magazines, movies, music, bottles, cans (everyday objects seen in a NEW WAY).
- In the 1960's, he started to make paintings of famous American products such as Campbell's soup cans, Coke bottles and dollar signs. He also enjoyed creating art with images of other famous people. He became

known as the “Pope of Pop”. He brought art to the masses by making art out of daily life.

- Credit is generally given to Warhol for popularizing **silk screen printing** in the United States. The printing technique allowed Warhol to create art in mass production (large amounts at one time).
- Warhol made over 60 films and wrote several books. He created the fashion magazine, “Interview” which is still published today.
- The Andy Warhol Museum in Pittsburgh, PA is the largest American Art Museum dedicated to a single artist. There are more than 4,000 works by Warhol in the museum.

Art Style

Pop Art

- A movement in modern art that uses elements of popular culture, such as magazines, movies, popular music, comic strips and even bottles and cans in a bold and colorful way.

Art Terms

Silk Screen Printing

- This process uses stenciling to create repeated images in different bright colors.

Repetition

- A design that is used over and over again in a pleasing way.

Questions about *Self-Portrait*

- What do you see in this painting?
- How many faces are there? This is called Repetition.
- How does each picture of Andy Warhol differ?
- How are they the same?
- What colors are in the painting?
- What kind of colors are they? (Both warm and cool colors. Warm colors are yellow, orange, red - Cool colors and green, blue, violet.)

Activity

Warhol Handprints – Watercolor and Tempera Paints

Supplies

Watercolor paper (4 rectangle grid drawn on it) – 9" x 12"

Tempera paint – white, black

Watercolors

Pencils

Paintbrushes

Plastic plates – 2

Bowls or cups for water

Paper towels (located by the sink)

Directions

1. Explain to the students that they will create a silk screen effect by using watercolor paints as a background for tempera painted handprints.
2. Have students write their name and room # on the back of the paper.
3. Using watercolors have the students paint each rectangle a different color.
4. While the students are painting set-up a table with one plate of black paint and one plate of white paint.
5. When the students are done painting their rectangles have them line up at the table to make their handprints.
6. If their watercolor paper is still really wet you can use a paper towel to blot the paper, do not rub or the paper could tear.
7. Turn their paper in the portrait/vertical position. Have students put their left hand in black and their right hand in white. Place hands on top two rectangles. Then have the students switch their hands for the bottom two rectangles.

Lesson Example

