

# AP Art Summer Assignments 2024-25

"I am seeking. I am striving. I am in it with all my heart."

~Vincent van Gogh

Please complete the 2 out of the 3 project assignments **AND** the 50 pages of sketchbook work. All work is due Friday, September 20th. You may drop off the work in the AP art room in the morning if your class is scheduled later in the day. Each of the 2 chosen assignments should take at least 10 hours (not including planning and sketches). The Sketchbook should also take approximately 10 hours to complete. That is at least 30 hours of artmaking total, please plan accordingly.

## PROJECT ASSIGNMENT - #1

### Reflections, Reflective Surfaces:

Explore reflections in the natural world, or reflective man-made objects, or find environments with reflective surfaces, and capture reflections in interesting ways. For example objects or structures made of glass, mirror, plastic or metal. Look for natural reflections in water, bodies of water, fountains, metals, etc. Pay attention to light and dark and depict interesting angles, planes, shadows, and reflections. Develop a full range of values in the media of your choice. Consider how the light and shadows fall over surfaces and how it helps to separate one plane from another. Render the reflections/reflective surfaces and exploit them as interesting elements of art.

**Medium:** Open. Color optional. suggestions include but are not limited to: acrylic paint, ink, watercolor, gouache, marker, pastels, colored pencils, oil sticks, collage, mixed media, etc. Use a flat 2-dimensional surface of your choice. Suggestions include but are not limited to: canvas board, illustration board, paper, homosote, masonite, etc. **but NO cardboard.**

**Style:** Open

Minimum size: 11 X 14 (this is approximate. Work does not have to be rectangular)

Minimum time on final piece: 10 hours



## PROJECT ASSIGNMENT - #2

### **Unusual Object Still Life:**

Arrange a still life using objects, clothing, food, etc.

Create an interesting and unusual composition with a unique viewpoint (bug's eye view, bird's eye view, angle, zoomed in). Create a hard light source with a bright lamp or look for interesting light sources (window, closet light) or create your own (flashlight, candle, etc.) See that light and dark work in your favor. Consider how the light and shadow fall over surfaces and how it helps to separate one plane from another. Use perspective to help you give the illusion of forms in space.

**Medium:** Open, but must be done in color. Some suggestions include but are not limited to: acrylic paint, ink, watercolor, marker, pastels, colored pencils, oil sticks, collage, mixed media, etc. Use a flat 2-dimensional surface of your choice. Suggestions include but are not limited to: canvas board, illustration board, paper, homosote, masonite, etc. **but NO cardboard.**

**Style:** Open

**Minimum Size:** 11 X 14 (this is approximate. Work does not have to be rectangular)

Minimum time on final piece: 10 hours

## PROJECT ASSIGNMENT - #3

### Fragmented Self Portrait:

Using photos or mirror, create multiple self portrait sketches from multiple angles. Choose three or more of these different angles and combine them into a unique and creative composition. Think outside the box!

**Medium:** Open. Color optional. suggestions include but are not limited to: acrylic paint, ink, watercolor, gouache, marker, pastels, colored pencils, oil sticks, collage, mixed media, etc. Use a flat 2-dimensional surface of your choice. Suggestions include but are not limited to: canvas board, illustration board, paper, homosote, masonite, etc. **but NO cardboard.**

**Style:** Open

Minimum size: 11 X 14 (this is approximate. Work does not have to be rectangular)

Minimum time on final piece: 10 hours



## Sketchbook ASSIGNMENTS-

A sketchbook is a very important tool for an artist. It's a way to explore with technique, media, style and ideas.

**Assignment:** In your 9x12 black, hardcover sketchbook, fold over your first clean page and write "summer sketchbook". Please number each page 1-50.

The sketchbook may be hardbound or spiral bound- if using a spiral notebook make sure the spiral is along the side (not a top spiral) and has hardbound covers.

**Complete AT LEAST 50 Pages** in this sketchbook over the summer...

Some of the pages should be used to plan ideas for your 2 summer assignments. This could include thumbnail sketches, written plans, references, practice drawings, etc.

If you go to a museum or gallery you can use one page to put the information down about where you went and what you saw, if you have a ticket stub- tape it in and that's a page done.

On your trip you should sit and sketch some artwork that you like- more pages done.

If you go on any trips (the zoo, the park, vacation, a train ride, etc.) you should bring your sketchbook to draw some of what you see.

Spend 5 pages on an artist, art movement, or art technique that you admire or inspires you. These should contain sketches, collage, and writing about your choices.

At least 4 pages should be an open sketchbook layout, where you use both pages of the open book to create one artwork (this would create 2 pieces in total)

**Mediums:** Paint (acrylic, tempera, watercolor), marker, pencil, colored pencil, crayons, oil pastels, chalk pastels, stamps, and ink. Use anything that will make a mark – Be Inventive!

There are many sketchbook prompt lists on the internet. Look some up if you are struggling with ideas. Choose wisely.

You should try to draw in your sketchbook every day. Draw from observation/imagination. Work with a variety of drawing, painting, and design techniques. DO NOT COPY PHOTOGRAPHS!

### **BUILD UP LAYERS USING DIFFERENT MATERIALS!**

Use the following suggestions to get rid of the white of the page...

- Experiment with techniques such as collage, weaving (paper and/or fabric), and a variety of color relationships (ex. Analogous, Complementary, Triadic) on these pages.
- Do a watercolor wash over the page before drawing/painting.
- Paint a page with a dark color and when dry cover it with a coat of gesso.
- Design a page with a small rubber stamp from a gum eraser and stamp it to create a repeating design.

- Do an inkblot with thinned acrylic paint then paint or draw over it. Let the blot be your inspiration. Splatter or drip paint.
- Begin a page with a crayon design and add a watercolor wash. Build up at least 3 more layers of materials – crayon resist, torn paper, acrylic paint.
- Sponge paint with acrylics.
- Start your page by gluing a map or other textured paper.
- Use colored tape to create masked off stripes or borders.
- Do a rubbing with crayon, tear it out, and attach it to your page.
- Make a cutout niche by gluing several (at least 10) pages together. Put something in the cutout.
- Use a quote and incorporate it into your artwork.
- Use type/text foreign language.
- Add strings or threads
- Draw or paint with an unconventional tool like a stick.
- Sew through your page or pages. Attach a pocket by sewing it on the page.
- Add a weaving or unusual fabric.
- Make your page a puzzle.
- Use puzzle pieces, game pieces, playing cards, a spinner from a board game or mechanical parts from clocks, etc.
- Do a page in the style of a certain artist – Van Gogh, Picasso, Kusama, Kahlo, Basquait, Matisse, etc.
- Add sand to acrylic paint and cover the page before you start painting or drawing your image.
- Stain watercolor paper with coffee or tea and create an antique image –glue this to the page.
- Add your own photographs to the page – build around the image with paint or colored pencils.- Find an image in a magazine, make copies, cut it out and arrange on the page. ---- Paint over the pictures and emphasize the brush strokes.
- Use only one kind of paper and make a relief design, attach it to your page – white or black paper, newspaper, mat board.
- Do an entire page in just words.
- Before you begin painting, highlight or circle words that form a thought and layout your design around these words.
- Add objects (natural or manmade) to the page.
- Scratch into wet paint or do a finger painting across the page. Paint a thin layer of color first.
- Add paper tabs on the edge of the page.