



Lehigh Senior High School Center for the Arts Visual Department

Visual Arts Program Description:

Lehigh Senior High School Center for the Arts Visual Arts students, will receive a well-rounded, rigorous course of study in ceramics, drawing, painting and sculpture. From the beginning classes, which introduce art techniques, mediums and skills, to the advanced classes, that guide and support art skills and nourish artistic abilities, students will develop observational and art-making skills through visual sensitivity, patience and rigorous practice. They will also have advanced portfolio, Cambridge and Advanced Placement options,

to extend their knowledge and experience in the Visual Arts. They will develop and demonstrate an understanding of the Elements and Principles and use them to create interesting compositions of personal significance. They will explore all four Disciplines of Art Education: Art Making, Art History, Art Criticism and Aesthetics. The Visual Arts program provides instructional opportunities and places a strong emphasis upon artistic quality, aesthetics, and career preparation. Art professionals, cross curricular collaboration with other departments, will enhance the visual art department's curriculum. Research shows that arts education strengthens students' ability to solve problems and be creative in their thinking, adding to overall academic achievement and school success.

Audition Requirements:

In order to audition, an audition application must be filled out and return it to the school. The audition will be held in the evening and may fill the entire 2 hour window. It will consist of drawing a still life, creating a 3-D piece in clay, a review of the student's portfolio and a short essay by the student explaining what he/she will bring to the Center and how art is part of his/her life. These four aspects will be assessed by the art teachers on a rubric to determine acceptance into the Center

Grade Requirements:

All students enrolled in the Center for the Arts are expected to maintain an overall GPA of 2.0 or higher, 3.0 in Center classes. Artists who drop below this will be placed on probation or removed from the Center for the Arts program.

Visual Arts Course Descriptions:

CREATING 2-D ART

This is a beginning, introductory, hands-on studio course, designed to explore art techniques, mediums and concepts. As beginning artists, you will learn and build on basic skills over the semester. Students will develop observational and art-making skills through visual sensitivity, patience and rigorous work. This class is required and is a prerequisite for every other visual arts course.

CERAMICS I *Prerequisite: Creating 2-D Art.* This is an introductory course in pottery making. Students will learn a variety of ceramics techniques and make projects. Students will also be introduced to historical artist and time periods. Students will explore all four Disciplines of Art Education: Art Making, Art History, Art Criticism and Aesthetics. Students will grow artistically, explore new areas, and develop with ceramics skills.

CERAMICS II *Prerequisite: Center for the Arts status, Ceramics I and Creating 2-D Art.* This is an advanced course in pottery making. Students will develop and hone their ceramics skills while learning new and more intense methods for art making. Students will also develop and enhance all four Disciplines of Art Education: Art Making, Art History, Art Criticism and Aesthetics. Students will grow artistically, explore new areas, and further emphasize personal development and style in Ceramics.

DRAWING I *Prerequisite: Creating 2-D Art.* Drawing I is a foundation course, which emphasizes applying the Elements of Art and the Principles of Design to create two dimensional works of art that communicate an idea, feeling or message. A variety of media, such as pencils and erasers, blending stumps, ink, and pastels will be used. Works from artists past and present as well as art forms from varied cultures will be studied and interwoven with class projects. The course teaches the student to be both an artist and viewer. The end goal is to increase artistic self-confidence and produce successful works of art.

DRAWING II *Prerequisite: Center for the Arts status, Drawing I and Creating 2-D Art.* Drawing II is an advanced class, designed to explore art techniques and concepts. It is designed to build on existing art skills through practice over time. Drawing I is a prerequisite for this course. The student will develop observational and art-making skills through visual sensitivity and rigorous work. Art Elements and Principles of Design are used when creating art.

PAINTING I *Prerequisite: Creating 2-D Art.* This is a beginning painting class, a hands-on studio painting course designed to explore and improve painting mediums, styles and concepts. As beginning artists, students will learn and build on basic skills and develop their observational and art-making skills.

PAINTING II *Prerequisite: Center for the Arts status, Drawing I and Creating 2-D Art.* This is an advanced, hands-on studio painting course, designed to help students strengthen their painting techniques, try new mediums and explore new concepts. As developing artists, they will improve their abilities, and engage students in the processes of creating, interpreting and

responding to art.

SCULPTURE *Prerequisite: Creating 2-D Art.* This is an introductory course into sculpture and 3-dimensional design. Students will explore a number of different materials to construct 3-Dimensional Sculptures. Students will experiment and learn using a variety of materials to construct personally relevant projects. Students will also develop an appreciation for 3-dimensional artwork and conceptual ideas based on famous sculptors and artistic movements.

AICE ART and DESIGN *Prerequisite: Center for the Arts status, Drawing I, Ceramics I or Painting I and Cambridge status and teacher recommendation.* Students will explore a variety of art making techniques that pertain to the material or medium they will be primarily working with. They will be reading various excerpts/articles about art making, as well as researching a variety of artists and art movements to develop historical and cultural links that inform their own art making. Furthermore, they will use media and technology to enrich the traditional curriculum. Ultimately, students will prepare extensively for the AICE exams in order to be successful in the Cambridge program. This course is about self-discovery and becoming a fully autonomous artist.

AP STUDIO ART *Prerequisite: Center for the Arts status, Drawing II or Painting II and teacher recommendation.* The AP Studio Art courses include Drawing 2D Design and 3D Design. Those taking AP Studio art is expected to be a serious art student who may wish to pursue art as a career. The courses are similar to what an entering college freshman may encounter. The AP student will become proficient in creating quality art work at a high level, in accordance to the expectations of the College Board. The AP student will utilize critical judgment through self and peer evaluations.

PORTFOLIO *Prerequisite: Center for the Arts status, Ceramics II, Drawing II or Painting II and teacher recommendation.* Portfolio class is designed for students who work independently on their art. This class provides an opportunity for students who need an additional credit or need more time to work on their existing course work.