

September 4th, 2008

Dear Parents, Families & Guardians,

This letter is to welcome you and your child to John Muir Middle School and my Art Class during the 2008-2009 school year.

I look forward to a great year creating art with your students and helping them continue to develop into responsible, creative and productive community members.

If you wish to meet with me you may call the main office at 323-565-2216 to set up a conference or send a note with your student and I will call you. My conference period is 1st period.

Please check to make sure your student has a pencil, big eraser, pencil sharpener and color pencils every morning before they come to school. If it is difficult to get these supplies please have your child ask me for help.

Thank you for sending your child to my Art Class.

Sincerely,

Ms. Winterling

Winterling

John Muir Middle School Art

1. Course Syllabus

1.1. Course Description

This class introduces students to studio art, art history, creative expression, and social responsibility through projects, class discussion, and research. The Visual Arts California Content Standards and basic skills of drawing, painting, printmaking, bookmaking, and sculpture will be covered.

1.1.1. Specific Objectives

- 1.0 Artistic Perception: Students perceive and respond to works of art, objects in nature, events, and the environment. They also use the vocabulary of the visual arts to express their observations
- 2.0 Creative Expression: Students apply artistic processes and skills, using a variety of media to communicate meaning and intent in original works of art.
- 3.0 Historical and Cultural Context: Students analyze the role and development of the visual arts in past and present cultures throughout the world, noting human diversity as it relates to the visual arts and artists.
- 4.0 Aesthetic Valuing: Students analyze, assess, and derive meaning from works of art, including their own, according to the elements of art, the principles of design, and aesthetic qualities.
- 5.0 Connections, Relationships, Applications: Students apply what they learn in the visual arts across subject areas. They develop competencies and creative skills in problem solving, communication, and management of time and resources that contribute to lifelong learning and career skills. They also learn about careers in and related to the visual arts.

1.2. Grading

1.2.1. Breakdown

Final grades are based upon the scale in Table 1.

Table 1. Grade Breakdown

Activity	Percentage
Class Participation/Effort	15
Sketchbook and Homework	15
Projects	70

1.2.2. Grading Scale

In order to earn various grades, you must have the corresponding percentage range shown in Table 2.

Table 2. Percentage Range to Grade Mapping

Grade	Percentage Range
A=4	90—100
B=3	80—89
C=2	70—79
D=1	50—69
Fail=0	Below 50

1.3.1. Rubrics

Each project will have a rubric to guide students in creating their Art.

Grading of student work will be based on six areas:

1. Strength of design (use of the art elements and principles of design)
2. Creativity and originality
3. Craftsmanship (technique and materials)
4. Achievement of the CA Visual Arts Standards
5. Process- How focused and involved you are in the project
6. Process- Execution and inter/intra personal relationships- working well in a group setting and citizenship/clean up

Students will be graded on their participation in a class monitor system/clean up, completion of projects, homework, pencil points, agenda points and citizenship and personal growth as an artist.

2 Sketchbook Guidelines

Each student will be provided with a Journal/Sketchbook. Students may purchase their own sketchbooks if they wish. The sketchbook is a tool to become a better artist, be more creative, explore ideas and find enjoyment in visual art. Your sketchbook is a place where you record assignments and agendas, draw ideas, express your feelings and relax through art. This is a personal book that you may keep. You may draw, glue special pictures or write about your life and art in your sketchbook. You will have sketchbook assignments.

2.1. The Purpose of Your Sketchbook

- Copy information from the board about assignments.
- Draw your ideas for assignments.
- Write about your life, feelings and ideas.
- Express yourself through drawing.
- Use when you've got a great idea.
- Use when you haven't got any ideas
- Use when you are bored.
- Use when you are afraid to try something new or "ruin" your work.
- Use to express your philosophy of life, personal politics or what it's like to live in your neighborhood.
- Use to organize your work.
- Use to organize your work.
- Use beyond any suggestion listed!

2.2. Due Dates

Sketchbooks will be checked every week. You should bring your sketchbook to every class.

2.3. What You Should Not Put in Your Sketchbook

Profanity of any kind. If you feel that only an expletive will express your idea, emotion or thought, be creative and make something up to get the point across. For example in comic strips they use symbols like !&*();@#\$.

2.4. Assessment

You will be graded on completion of assignments, sketches, in class notes, outside of class drawings and writing and how much of yourself is expressed.

2.5 Rubric- per sketchbook check

100 pts.=A= Completion of all assignments, extra drawings, sketches, ideas, inventions, clippings, poems, writing. I will be looking for the quality of your creativity and higher level critical thinking in your Art, not the quantity. Having more pages of quick drawings does not equal an A.

70 pts.=B= Completion of all assignments/homework. There is detail and thought in the drawings. Does not go beyond the requirements.

50pts.=C=Number of drawings equals the homework/assignments which are assigned but the work exhibits little detail, thought or creativity.

25=D=Some homework drawings are missing. There is little effort exhibited.

5=F=Most assignments are missing. No effort exhibited.

0=F=No name, no work.

2.5. Acknowledgements

Thanks to Ray Moszkowicz, Kari Winterling and Ms. Campos.

Art Room Rules
Ms. Winterling

1. Stay in your seat unless you raise your hand and ask for permission to get up.
2. Listen and do not talk when the teacher is talking.
3. Respect other people in your Art Classroom.
4. Respect and clean up the Art Room.
5. No eating or drinking. You may drink water.
6. Stay positive.

Consequences for off task and inappropriate behavior

1. First Offense: Verbal prompt by teacher/ may move student's seat.
2. Second Offense: student/teacher conference
3. Third Offense: Telephone call to student's parents or guardians.
4. Fourth Offense: Student referred to counselor or dean.
5. Fifth Offense: Student/ parent/teacher conference.

Positive consequences will include positive phone calls and notes home, listening to music in class, praise and good grades.

Teacher will make positive and negative phone calls home.

Off task and inappropriate behavior negatively affects the entire Art class and your class participation grade. In addition, if you are off task then you are not completing your Art work and this affects your Art project grade. A goal of this class is to help you be an independent, collaborative and creative worker. Following the Art Room Rules will help you be successful.

Pencil/Work points

Students receive DAILY pencil points for bringing a pencil, big eraser, color pencils and a hand held sharpener.

Students receive DAILY work points.

Homework

There is homework every night, including weekends. The homework is to draw in your sketchbook or binder: one drawing per night, one drawing per weekend.

Signature

I have read and understand and will follow this syllabus and the requirements for Art Class.

student signature

date

parent/guardian signature

date

Note: This syllabus is subject to change by the teacher without notice.