DUKE ELLINGTON SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

VISUAL ARTS STUDENT HANDBOOK



THE MISSION

OF DUKE ELLINGTON SCHOOL OF THE ARTS IS TO NURTURE AND INSPIRE PASSION FOR ARTS AND LEARNING IN TALENTED STUDENTS WHO MIGHT NOT OTHERWISE HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO DEVELOP THEIR ARTISTIC SKILLS. WE ENSURE THAT OUR STUDENTS ARE PREPARED FOR POST SECONDARY AND/OR CAREERS IN THE ARTS BY OFFERING AN INTENSIVE ARTS- BASED PROGRAM. WE PREPARE OUR STUDENTS TO BECOME PRODUCTIVE CITIZENS IN OUR GLOBAL SOCIETY THROUGH OUR STRONG FOCUS ON COMMUNITY SERVICE.

THE ELLINGTON CREED

ELLINGTON'S GOAL IS TO BE A COMMUNITY OF ARTISTS, LEARNERS AND LEADERS. IN ORDER TO REACH THIS GOAL, WE ASCRIBE TO THE CREED:

COMMITMENT

THE HABIT OF APPLYING YOUR TALENTS TO A TASK OR PROJECT.

RESPONSIBILITY

ACTING IN A WAY THAT ACKNOWLEDGES THE CONNECTION AND DUTY YOU HAVE TO YOURSELF AND OTHERS.



EXCELLENCE

STRIVING TO MEET A STANDARD THAT DEMONSTRATES MASTERY OF AN IDEA OR TECHNIQUE.

EMPATHY

INTENTIONAL CARE AND CONSIDERATION OF OTHER'S FEELINGS, THOUGHTS AND EXPERIENCES.

DIGNITY

CONDUCTING
YOURSELF, AT
ALL TIMES, IN
A RESPECTFUL,
UPLIFTING MANNER
THAT SHOWS YOU
RECOGNIZE YOUR
CONNECTION TO
A PRESENT, PAST
AND FUTURE
COMMUNITY.

INTRODUCTION

The Ellington Visual Arts department provides students with visual arts abilities and the opportunity for in-depth study of all aspects of the art discipline. The curriculum comprised of a sequence of courses—beginning with fundamental courses in 9th and 10th grade that provide a solid foundation for the student's individual interests and style to emerge. In the 11th and 12th grades, the students begin to select their courses and their area of concentration with counseling from their teachers. The department strives to help students gain positive attitudes toward a variety of visual phenomena and develop their aesthetic. imaginative, and creative abilities through a combination of research and studio work.



MISSION STATEMENT



The Visual Arts department of the Duke Ellington School of the Arts teaches students the importance of art in society and the role that the artist plays in shaping human culture. The curriculum consists of drawing, painting, sculpture, computer graphics, and print making. The course sequence introduces our students to the elements and principles of art and design to prepare them for post secondary training in the arts at the very best colleges, universities, and schools of art. Students are exposed to traditional and contemporary styles and techniques from a diversity of cultures to broaden their horizon.



VA DEPARTMENT



- Provide students with the opportunity to develop their aesthetic, imaginative, and creative faculties.
- 2 Stimulate and train visual awareness, perception, and criticism of the arts of various cultures.
- **3** Provide students with the opportunity to discover, develop, and enjoy means of creative visual expression in the studio.
- 4 Encourage the pursuit of quality through training and individual experiments.
- **5** Exemplify and encourage a lively, inquiring, and informed attitude toward art and design in all its forms.
- **6** Provide students with the opportunity to view and research various art forms through visiting galleries and museums in the ellington community and beyond.
- **7** Provide students the opportunity to compete for internships at the senior level, connecting the student to an art form where he or she shows mastery of skills in a specific area.

Provide students the opportunity to participate in outreach programs in area schools, museums, and other community facilities where community service can be provided.

Provide students the opportunity to integrate their visual arts skills and knowledge with all areas of study.



CURRICULUM

VISUAL ARTS SEQUENCE OF COURSES FOR 4-YEAR STUDENTS

YEAR 1	CREDITS	YEAR 2	CREDITS
Drawing I	1	Drawing II	1
2D Concepts	1	Computer Graphics I	1
Sculpture I	1	Painting I	1
Art History	1	Photography (Imaging)	1

VISUAL ARTS SEQUENCE OF COURSES FOR 3-YEAR STUDENTS

YEAR 1	CREDITS	YEAR 2	CREDITS
Drawing II	1	Drawing III	1
Computer Graphics I	1	Ceramics	1
Painting I	1	AP Art History	1
Sculpture I	1	Elective Course	1

VA Students entering in the 9th grade (four-year program) must obtain 12 credits to receive artistic certificate/diploma, VA Students entering in the 10th grade (three-year program) must obtain 9 credits to receive artistic certificate/diploma

YEAR 3	CREDITS	YEAR 4	CREDITS
Drawing III	1	Drawing IV	1
Ceramics	1	Printmaking	1
AP Art History	1	AP Studio Portfolio	1
Elective Course	1	Senior Internship/ Professional Practices	1

YEAR 3	CREDITS
Drawing IV	1
Printmaking	1
AP Studio Portfolio	1
Senior Internship/ Professional Practices	1



STUDIO SUPPLIES

Visual arts students are required to come to class prepared with a pencil, eraser and ruler! However, it is highly recommended that each student come to class equipped with additional tools and supplies that will enhance and encourage a more productive, constructive and positive learning environment and experience.

THE RECOMMENDED SUPPLY LIST CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

- Set of drawing pencils
- •8" x 11" Hard Bound Sketchbook
- •3 or 4 kneaded erasers
- Artist tape (white)
- Art Bin/Art storage Box
- •Ruler 18"
- Portfolio

Where to purchase: WE HIGHLY RECOMMEND **BLICK/ UTRECHT**. Items can be purchased at other art stores.

STUDIO ART FEES

Duke Ellington students are required to pay a yearly activity fee of **\$200**, which directly benefits the arts department in which they are enrolled.

This fee should be paid at the time of registration but can be paid in installments. Money orders and checks should be made payable to DESAP (in the memo portion of the check: Visual Arts Department).

These fees help provide the "must haves" that include, but are not limited to: mats, paints, charcoal, canvas, large format printer ink, art paper and guest panelists.



STUDIO & DEPARTMENT RULES

- •PUNCTUALITY: Students are expected to arrive on time at the studio and be prepared to work upon arrival. studio time averages 90 minutes, so it is considered valuable. Consult individual class SYLLABI for specific teacher policies regarding tardiness.
- **ABSENCES AND LATE WORK:** Students are responsible for all work regardless of absences, suspensions or other school commitments. Consult SYLLABI for specific teacher policies.
- •GRAFFITI AND PROFANE OR EXPLICIT IMAGERY: Duke Ellington's policy prohibits graffiti in any part of the school. Profane, Suggestive, and Explicit Imagery is not a part of our curriculum and will not be exhibited. This includes but is not limited to material inappropriate for general audiences.
- •**BEHAVIOR:** Art studios are noisy by nature due to concrete floors, high ceilings and sometimes overcrowding. horseplay and other disruptive behaviors are magnified in this setting and are not permitted in the art studios.
- •**RESPECT AND HONESTY:** It is mandatory that all students respect their teacher and be aware of and respectful of the work of others to avoid damage and disruptive feelings.

V. A. STUDIO CONDUCT RUBRIC

Failure to exhibit good studio conduct will prohibit studio privileges!

- 1. Use studio time wisely.
- 2. Do not abuse art materials.
- 3. Return all borrowed art materials.
- 4. Clean up after art class.
- 5. Return art project to storing area.
- 6. Respect fellow students and their artwork.
- **7.** Use appropriate behavior with art materials.
- 8. Use appropriate behavior with art tools for safety.

STUDENT EXCELLENCE

Ellington's visual arts students are expected to commit to hard work and discipline. students are expected to work beyond the classroom (studio) on assignments and projects, with collaboration and critiques by the teacher. students must be open to comprehensive study and experimentation. serious study of the art includes drills and practice of previously learned skills.

Many projects allow students to select their own subject matter and inject their own personality and style. School assignments are designed to reinforce or teach specific concepts and skills. Some assignments require students to solve particular problems in specific ways and to move to a new level beyond their current comfort zone.

CONTINUED ENROLLMENT

Students are required to maintain a B average in their arts courses and a C average in their academic courses. All students will have a scheduled portfolio review by the department each year, at which time they will present an updated resume and sketchbook for review. The department will discuss the student's growth and study objectives for the next year.

CONSEQUENCES OF FAILING ARTS CLASSES

Students failing an arts class will repeat the class the next semester. Students failing more than one required art class will be transferred back to his/her neighborhood school. Students failing elective art courses will not receive an Ellington arts endorsement.

CRITIQUES

Critiques are a fundamental part of artistic growth. Review and constructive criticism is a learning process that promotes growth and critical thinking through open dialogue. The Visual Arts student must develop verbal and writing skills to explain their thoughts and objectives in making art and be able to evaluate the work of others.

Each year, the department will schedules a portfolio review and critique of all four levels. The purpose of the review is to evaluate the students and their progress. Students will collect their artwork, with the help of their teacher, at which time the student will begin organizing a portfolio and placing the artwork in dated sequence order, giving a clear view of the student's progress.

Critiques are a part of the studio practice. Teachers and students are critiquing artwork as students progress through and complete their assignments.

The student and teacher will evaluate the work once again and decide what will be presented. The student will make sure that all artwork is clean and organized by classes. Upon completing the portfolio inventory, the students and teacher will begin portfolio presentation drills in preparation for the big show.

GRADING COMPONENTS

- **1.** Students are required to have sketchbooks in the studios at all times. The sketchbook is a most valuable tool. It is used for sketching all projects, class notes and observation, a journal for thoughts and feelings, a place to collect visuals found in various media, and many short class exercises. sketchbooks are graded at each level.
- **2.** Test and quizzes may be administered when it is felt that they will most benefit the student by assisting him or her to review important accumulated knowledge.
- **3.** Tests may be used to aid the teacher in determining not only what the student has learned, but also what important points he or she has missed. when tests are approached in this manner, they are aids for reteaching or guides for further emphasis and explanation.
- **4.** Tests may be given in many forms: written, oral, visual, or by drawing a picture revealing certain principles of art, etc.
- **5.** Written tests may be essay, true-false, completion, or a combination of two or more of these, depending on the specific area covered, such as principles, definitions, important historical dates in art, and related subject matter.
- **6.** Oral tests or quizzes are used for presentation preparation and active listening skills.

- **7.** Visual tests determine the student's ability to identify the artist, select the outstanding picture, and explain why it is superior or best for specific use or reason, such as color, texture, composition, and design.
- **8.** Drawing tests show knowledge of and reason for re-teaching color, values compositions, perspective or other specific areas stressed in class.
- **9.** Projects consist of longer assignments that require additional time outside of class to complete. They may include gathering specific materials, research, and presentation of a finished piece.
- **10.** Field trips to galleries and museums are required by all students. some assignments could require students to visit local galleries and museums without teacher supervision.
- **11.** Field trips beyond the Metro area will be organized by the department. Student will be required to provide an account of their experience, through essay, true-false, completion, or other test forms, depending on the specific area covered. The examination will cover principles, definitions, important historical dates in art, and related subject matter.

VISUAL ARTS PORTFOLIO REVIEW RUBRIC

CATEGORY	5 EXTRAORDINARY	4 EXCELLENT
Assignment & Goals	Completed assignment & goals	4 goals met
Preliminary Preparation	Organized portfolio	Clean artwork
Craftmanship & Use of Medium	Excellent technique & attention to detail	Strong technique
Creativity & Originality	Exceptional expression of idea, concept and original	Rubric Artwork reflect development of idea and thoughts
Aesthetics	Artwork excels in its ability to communicate with viewerser	Artwork is strong
Presentation	Knowledge of art process and art vocabulary	Knowledge of artwork

3 SATISFACTORY	2 UNSATISFACTORY	1 INFERIOR
3 goals met	2 goals met	1 goals met
Missing artwork	Missing artwork	Missing artwork
Technique satisfactory	Technique weak	Technique poor
Artwork reflects problem	Artwork lack original thought	Art is a copy
Artwork is satisfactory	Artwork cannot be considered	Lack of beauty
Poor art vocabulary	No knowledge of art process	

NEW TECHNIQUES

9TH & 10TH GRADES At this level, students begin to explore the elements and principles of art structure through drawing, painting, twodimensional concepts/design, digital photography, computer graphics, sculpture, and art history survey. The first two years are very critical years for our students, because this is when they begin to build and develop artistic skills that will make creating art more fun at the upper levels. Their teachers will design assignments representing each of their courses that will involve the student in informed and critical decisionmaking as well as help students develop technical skills and familiarize them with the function of the visual elements. The second year, the instructor will encourage creative and systematic investigation of formal and conceptual issues along with encouraging students to become independent thinkers. The students will discover that the sketchbook becomes a very good source for recording and experimenting with various media as they explore ways of achieving independent thinking. The successful student will emerge from the first two years with works of quality that will be the beginning of their portfolio.

PORTFOLIO DEVELOPMENT

11TH & 12TH GRADES As students acquire mastery in theory and technique, they are encouraged to develop a personal voice and identify themes and techniques of particular interest. At this level, emphasis is on the completion of a portfolio by the middle of their senior year that demonstrates breadth and concentration.

11th and 12th grade students will be expected to participate in advanced placement studio classes, including Art History. Students will be prepared to select an area for concentration, with the help of their instructors. A concentration is a body of works describing in-depth exploration of a particular artistic concern. It should reflect a process of investigation of a specific visual idea. Students will be encouraged to explore a personal central interest as intensively as possible. the concentration should grow out of the students' ideas and demonstrate growth and/or discovery through a number of conceptually related works. Students will be encouraged to create works that show visual evidence of the students' thinking and selected method of working.

CONTESTS & RETENTION OF ARTWORK

Visual Arts students are required to keep their portfolio of work in the studio at all times. If students take work home, they must first get teacher permission. Students can remove all artwork from the studio at the end of the school year. Visual Arts students are required to enter art competitions and shows beyond the Ellington community. Teachers will inform students of competitions throughout the school year. All students must sign a **visual arts release form**, which gives the school permission to use student art for occasions such as competition and art shows. Visual Arts students can and will gain exposure and recognition as well as certificates to be highlighted in their portfolios and on their resumes as they participate in many activities throughout their Duke Ellington School of the Arts tenure.

STUDIO '74: VISITING ARTISTS

Visiting artists are an important component of the VA department's curriculum. Studio '74 is a visiting artist panel series. Guest artists may present a talk, slide show or demonstration of their work, or they may be invited to present a specialized workshop. The department will schedule a minimum of two panels, each school year in connection to the different subject areas and their mediums. Visiting artists can be recommended by parents and teachers.

VISITING ART COLLEGES

Each year, a large number of art schools will schedule visits to the VA department to meet with the juniors and seniors. The seniors are scheduled into a portfolio class which gives them direct contact with visiting school representatives. The representatives recruit for their respective schools and request to view portfolios. In addition, visiting schools talk with students about post-secondary study of visual arts. These visits are an excellent opportunity for students to get a head start in college and career preparation which include opportunities to discuss financial aid and scholarship requirements. The students are impressed with most schools and their representatives as they give an overview of their curriculum and the school environment. After such presentations, students are motivated to begin early admission application to the schools of their choice.

PARENT SUPPORT GROUP

Active parents who can support and assist our program in many ways are a vital part of our program. Parents help organize and chaperone field trips, assist with fundraising activities, prepare receptions for student shows, etc.

The department asks that parents please leave correct e-mail addresses, home addresses, and correct phone numbers at the beginning of the school year. By doing so, all information pertaining to the Visual Arts Parent Support Group **(VAPSG)** can be forwarded on specific dates regarding meetings and other activities.

- Parents are expected to attend all parent support group meetings. Parents will be notified in advance of the date and time.
- Parents are expected to attend all parent teacher conferences; they are held at the end of every advisory. parents will be notified in advance of date and time.
- Parents are expected to attend all student art exhibitions held at the school and even those outside of the school gallery.
- Parents are requested to volunteer their services for a minimum of 40 hours per year.

