**Curriculum**

**8th Grade Art**

**Course Overview**

The eighth grade course is structured to build upon student’s existing knowledge and understanding of the elements of Art and Design. Students work with traditional and new media, developing confidence, competence and creativity, through the continued exploration of two and three-dimensional materials. With each assignment students will be introduced to new art concepts through the research of relevant historical and contemporary artist’s work. Students develop an appreciation of artifacts and images from various cultures and an understanding of the contexts in which they were made. The students are encouraged to reflect and objectively analyze both their own work and the work of others using art terminology.

**Department Standards**

Students will be encouraged to develop an involvement in and appreciation of the Visual Arts.

Students will utilize and explore a variety of media and techniques.

Students will develop interpretive skills through exposure to and active investigation of social, historical and philosophical contexts.

Students will develop an understanding of Visual Arts from a local, national and international perspective.

**Benchmarks**:

Understand, select and apply all elements of art.

Select, understand and apply all principles of design.

Recognize art media and processes.

Recognize artistic mood and expression.

Recognize and compare varying cultural themes.

**Performance Indicators**

The student will be able to represent in visual form what is observed directly.

The student will be able to work with proficiency and imagination in a variety of media and methods.

The student will be able to make connections with examples of works of art through a chosen period of history.

The student will demonstrate an advanced vocabulary of art terminology through class discussion.

Students will be able to create works that demonstrates creative strength, knowledge of all elements of art and application of principles of design.

The student will be able to compose pieces that follow a variety of investigation in approaches and techniques.

The student will demonstrate a creative and active imagination through the creation of the final project.

**Assessments**

Still-life project.

Create a series of still-life studies using direct observation drawing techniques. These studies should be created in a variety of materials. Create a two dimensional relief clay tile using the still-life as inspiration.

Analyze a drawing or painting to inspire a personal response to a chosen theme.

People/Figure.

Looking at the work of a well known artist, designer or sculptor create a three dimensional piece.

Landscape project.

Create a series of landscape studies from real life focusing of line, form and unity. Create an imagined landscape using the appropriate choice of materials.

Abstract project.

Create a drawing, painting, print or collage inspired by the work of your favorite visual artist.

**Core Topics**

Apply advanced knowledge of the elements of art to their work. Apply advanced knowledge of the principles of design to their own original compositions and structures. Apply an advanced knowledge of materials, techniques and processes through the creation of original artwork.

Refine application of elements of art within their own artworks.

Evaluate and understand the organizational structures of artworks including painting and sculpture. Demonstrate the influence of their own culture and history through the creation of their own artwork.

Apply the appropriate materials and techniques to successfully communicate an idea.

**Specific Content**

Use advanced knowledge of color theory to communicate emotions successfully. Demonstrate advanced techniques of composition to express and communicate a visual idea.

Create artworks which have a significance politically or personally, after studying the work of a variety of artists.

Analyze the meaning and message of a variety of painters, sculptors and designers works.

Create artworks that reflect an appropriate use of materials and processes. Create artworks that combine subject matter and artistic ideas to produce a successful piece.

**Resources**

The Story of Art, E.H.Gombrich

The Portrait, Norbert Schneider

The Figure in Clay, Lark Books

Classical Drawing Atelier, Juliette Aristides

Time, Andy Goldsworthy

The Story of Art, E.H. Gombrich

Cezanne, Catherine Dean

Landscapes, Claude Delafosse