

AP Art Summer 2018

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Summer Assignments

1. **Self-portrait:** Work from observation to create at least five different sketches of yourself. Go beyond just showing your head/face. Look in a mirror and other reflective surfaces that capture your image. Pose yourself in different and unusual positions to avoid the “deer in the headlights” view. Look up, down, to the side; disguise or costume yourself. Arrange interesting side lighting, and be sure to add a background or setting that says something about who you are—your personality, your dreams, your experiences (no floating heads). Make use of dramatic lighting, maybe even a flashlight held from below. Combine different features from your sketches to create a complex, composite autobiographical image of yourself that takes time for the viewer to “read.”
2. **Still life:** Set up a still life with a strong light source, near a window or with a flashlight. Try unusual objects or unusual combinations of objects: kids’ toys, dog/cat toys, linens (a loud beach towel or wild pillow), jewelry, furniture (outdoor, antique, a lava lamp), holiday decorations, wilted flowers, broken seashells, musical instruments, kitchen tools, candy, pasta, clocks, game boards and pieces, light bulbs, seedpods, hardware, origami. Try to choose objects that are interesting to look at individually, and more so in combination. Be sure to compose the entire page. Focus on negative as well as positive space. Play with perspective—show some forms larger than life or depict a close-up of the surface. Your background can be text based, patterned, surreal, fantastic, textured, collaged ...
3. **Landscape:** Do a drawing on location—the beach, the park, looking down your street, your backyard. Include perspectives, details, and a style that demonstrates your personal and unique view of the place. What does this place mean to you? What memories do you associate with it? How can you create a composition that communicates your specific experiences with it? Try to go beyond direct, realistic representation to create a story about the place and how it relates to you.

Suggested Media

Do *not* do all the works in pencil; if you use pencil, it must be used darkly to make an effective image. Try black ballpoint pen, crosshatching, colored pencils, charcoal pencil, pastels, markers, or any assorted materials you may have at home. BUT REMEMBER TO USE THE ENTIRE PAGE! You may work in your sketchbook if it is at least 8” x 10”, or you may take home paper from our classroom.