

✓ Middle School Growth Focus (Grades 6–8)

- **Technical Mastery:** Perspective, proportion, shading, ceramics, printmaking, acrylics.
- **Creative Expression:** Identity in portraits, narrative in mixed media, choice in portfolio work.
- **Cross-Curricular Links:**
 - Math → perspective, geometry, fractions in printmaking
 - Science → light/shadow, color theory, clay as earth material
 - ELA → storytelling, artist statements, symbolism
 - Social Studies → cultural vessels, historical art forms
- **Critical Thinking:** Reflection and critique built into every project.
- **Independence:** Final quarter emphasizes student-driven choice to prepare for high school art pathways.

Project Title	Standards	Vocabulary	Master Artist(s)	Cross-Curricular	Materials	Essential Question	Learning Intention	Success Criteria	Pacing
Advanced Observational Drawing (Still Life Bootcamp)	VA.68.S.1.1, VA.68.S.1.2	proportion, foreshortening, contour, value scale	Leonardo da Vinci, Georgia O'Keeffe	Science (observation skills, light/shadow)	drawing pencils, charcoal, erasers, objects, lamps	How do artists use observation to create accurate drawings?	I will practice drawing objects from observation using proportion and shading.	I can demonstrate accurate proportion, detail, and a range of values.	Q1, Weeks 1–4
Perspective Environments (2- & 3-Point)	VA.68.O.1.1, VA.68.S.2.1	horizon line, vanishing point, perspective, depth	M.C. Escher, Edward Hopper	Math (geometry, spatial reasoning)	rulers, pencils, graph paper, ink pens	How can perspective show space and depth in art?	I will create an environment using linear perspective.	I can draw an interior/exterior scene using 2- or 3-point perspective accurately.	Q1, Weeks 5–9
Perspective Environments (2- & 3-Point)	VA.68.O.1.1, VA.68.S.2.1	horizon line, vanishing point, perspective, depth	M.C. Escher, Edward Hopper	Math (geometry, spatial reasoning)	rulers, pencils, graph paper, ink pens	How can perspective show space and depth in art?	I will create an environment using	I can draw an interior/exterior scene using 2- or 3-point	Q1, Weeks 5–9

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Portraits with Expression (Realistic & Stylized)	VA.68.S.1.3, VA.68.C.1.2	proportion, symmetry, stylization, expression	Chuck Close, Kehinde Wiley	ELA (identity and character study)	mirrors, drawing pencils, colored pencils, markers	How can portraits communicate identity and emotion?	I will create a portrait that balances realism and expressive style.	I can use proportion for accuracy and stylistic choices for meaning.	Q2, Weeks 1–4
Acrylic Painting with Color Theory	VA.68.S.3.1, VA.68.O.3.1	complementary, analogous, saturation, glazing	Claude Monet, Alma Thomas	Science (color/light, optical mixing)	acrylic paints, brushes, canvas/paper	How do artists use color to create mood and impact?	I will paint using color harmonies and layering.	I can mix colors, use schemes, and apply paint techniques.	Q2, Weeks 5–9
Cultural Ceramic Vessel (Functional + Decorative)	VA.68.H.1.3, VA.68.S.3.3	coil, slab, slip, glaze, motif, functional art	Maria Martinez (Pueblo pottery), Chinese Ming ceramics	Social Studies (ancient civilizations, cultural artifacts)	clay, tools, slip, glazes	How does functional pottery reflect culture?	I will build and glaze a clay vessel inspired by cultural designs.	I can construct, decorate, and glaze a balanced clay vessel.	Q3, Weeks 1–4
Printmaking Layers (Reduction or Collagraph)	VA.68.S.2.2, VA.68.O.3.2	relief, brayer, edition, registration, contrast	Hokusai, Elizabeth Catlett	Math (patterns, sequencing, fractions)	foam/linoleum, gouges, ink, brayers, paper	How can layering and repetition create meaning in prints?	I will design and print using multiple layers.	I can align, carve, and print with strong contrast and precision.	Q3, Weeks 5–9
Mixed Media Narrative (Collage + Text)	VA.68.C.1.1, VA.68.H.3.1	mixed media, narrative, juxtaposition, symbolism	Romare Bearden, Hannah Höch	ELA (storytelling, poetry, symbolism)	magazines, found papers, glue, paint, ink pens	How can artists combine images and text to tell stories?	I will create a mixed media artwork with narrative meaning.	I can use collage and drawing to communicate a personal or cultural story.	Q4, Weeks 1–4
Independent Portfolio Project (Choice-Based)	VA.68.F.1.1, VA.68.C.2.1	concept, media, portfolio, critique, reflection	Contemporary artist choice (student research)	ELA (artist statement writing), Technology (research)	student-chosen media	How do artists develop and present their own ideas?	I will plan and create a personal artwork from concept to completion.	I can demonstrate planning, skill, and reflection in an independent project.	Q4, Weeks 5–9

Year-at-a-Glance Pacing Overview

Quarter 1: Observational Drawing + Perspective Environments

Quarter 2: Portraits (Realistic + Stylized) + Acrylic Painting

Quarter 3: Cultural Ceramics + Printmaking Layers
Quarter 4: Mixed Media Narrative + Independent Portfolio Project