

AP DRAWING/ AP 2D ART

SUMMER JOURNAL 2025-2026

INTRODUCTION

You will use the sketchbook handed out to you at the end of the school year. If you did not get a sketchbook you can purchase any mixed media sketchbook around 9x12 in or just staple together your papers. Your sketchbook will be used for the following: [Terms](#), [Gallery/Museum Visits](#), [Sketches](#), and [Reading](#). Your journal will need to be submit to Ms. Taylor on the first day of class for the 26/26 school year.



TERMS

DIRECTIONS

Please define the terms listed below as they relate to the Principles and Elements of Art. You will also need to include a sample for each term. This can be done using colored pencils, paints, crayons, charcoal, your own photographs, or pictures that you find in magazines, catalogs, and/or the internet... the sky is the limit, gang! (Examples need to be obvious in their representation of the terms). The terms are divided into three categories: Color, Elements, and Principles.

COLOR

Hue

Value

Saturation (Intensity)

Warm

Cool

Complimentary

Analogous

Monochromatic

Tint

Shade

Mood

ELEMENTS

Use this [LINK](#) for examples & definitions

Line

Color

Shape

Texture

Space

Tone

Form

PRINCIPLES

Use this [LINK](#) for examples and definitions

Balance

Contrast

Emphasis

Movement

Rhythm

Unity

Variety

Proportion

EXAMPLE

• Dr. MADDEN EXAMPLE •

TERMS

Hue

◦ THE DOMINANT wavelength of color that the human eye interprets as color or to say the basic color on the color wheel. In Lightroom when editing hue you can change a color to the color its next to on the color wheel.



Tint

◦ A shade or variety of a color. A color produced by adding black or white



Saturation: The Intensity of the color



COMPLEMENTARY

◦ Two colors opposite from each other on the color wheel. These colors create the strongest contrast.



GALLERY/ MUSEUM VISITS

DIRECTIONS

This summer, you will need to visit two different art museums or galleries. Please include in your journal any literature or brochures that you receive during your visits. Write down the names of 4 artists and pieces that drew your attention/ interest. Take some time to really observe the piece. If there is an artist's statement or curatorial statement, READ IT! For each of the pieces, make a written reflection using these key ideas that are generally used to define and understand what makes art art:

1. **INTENT- What is the intent of the artist OR your perception of the intent of the artist?**
Example: In a rather controversial act, Marcel Duchamp turned a urinal into art ("*Fountain*") with the intent to challenge what art is.
2. **EXPRESSION- How does this piece of art express an idea, emotion, or experience that resonates with you?** Example: Mark Rothko made his color field paintings to express basic human emotions and depending on the colors he used, they evoke a sense of joy, dread, grief, excitement, etc.
3. **AESTHETIC CONSIDERATION- Many works of art focus on visual, auditory, or sensory beauty... or deliberately subvert it! Aesthetic value doesn't have to mean "pretty," but it usually involves thoughtful design or composition.** (Hint! When writing about this, you'll probably be using several of the elements and principles you defined earlier!) Examples: Botticelli's *The Birth of Venus* is an objectively beautiful painting based on measurable & observable elements of design. Paul McCarthy subverts beauty to the Nth degree with his aptly titled sculpture *Complex Shit*.
4. **CONTEXT- The setting and conversation around a piece can make it "art" in the public's eyes. Very often, museums, galleries, critics, and art communities help define what is accepted as art.** Example: Artists like Banksy, Basquiat, and Keith Haring, who participate in graffiti are, under a legal definition, creating criminal damage in both public and private spaces. What is it that elevates these artists to a level of high reverence vs the alternative of... going to jail?
5. **CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE- Art reflects and shapes cultural values, beliefs, and identities. What is considered art in one culture or time period might not be in another.** Example: Ai Weiwei created a piece in 1995 called *Dropping a Han Dynasty Urn* where he dropped a 2000 year old vase. It is widely considered an important piece of protest art, but do you know who didn't regard this piece as art? The Chinese Communist Regime as well as collectors of ancient artifacts.
6. **AUDIENCE ENGAGEMENT- Art invites interpretation. If it makes you feel, think, question, or notice something, it's often functioning as art.** Example: If a tree falls in the woods and no one is around to hear it, does it make a sound? That is to say, art requires that others perceive and reflect upon it.

Here is a basic list of [Local Museums and Notable Galleries](#), but you can visit any gallery or museum of your choosing!



SKETCHES

DIRECTIONS

1. You will have made a sketch(ish) that represents each of the above terms.
2. Create a sketch inspired by each of your museum/gallery visits- This can be either pieces that inspired you or perhaps a scene that caught your eye or possibly even an emotional reaction you had to your experience.
3. Make 2 detailed sketches of "Moments of Beauty" from your summer.
4. Make a sketch based off of your 3 articles. That is to say, 1 sketch per article.
5. Create 1 brainstormy sketch toward areas of interest for your sustained investigation.

READING

DIRECTIONS

Read three (3) articles about art. Summarize your article in at least 100 words. Articles can also be about the history/future of art, philosophical takes on art, highlights of artists... I mean, there's a lot to choose from. Let your interests guide you. (Some of the magazine articles may include or consist mostly of videos: this is OK! You can watch videos instead of reading articles).

Please use this format for your summary:

Title: _____

Date of Publication: _____

Magazine/Journal: _____

Summary: _____

How will you apply what you learned to your own art?:

You may either write directly into your journal or type it and paste it in, however, I DO need to be able to read it so choose wisely.

Magazines, Journals, and Websites

[Art in America](#)

[Colossal](#)

[ARTnews](#)

[Works that Work](#)

[Disegno](#)

[Artforum](#)

[Apollo](#)

[The Art Newspaper](#)

[The NY Times \(art section\)](#)

[The World Art News](#)

[ARTNEXUS](#)

[Frieze](#)

[Here is a link to the Top 20 online art magazines](#)

The purpose of this summer journal is threefold:

1. To keep your mind engaged in art over the summer
2. To keep your skills sharp so we don't need to spend time warming up at the beginning of the year- it's a big year with a lot of work and you need to be ready to jump in!
3. I think this journal might help sort out what your sustained investigation will be about... or at the very least give us a head start.

Please use this as an opportunity to have FUN with yourself as an artist! If you spent 30 minutes a day on this, you'd be finished before Independence Day. Choose how you want to work, get out there, be curious, be creative, be an artist!

Happy Summer to you all 🌞❤️🎨