



June 6, 2024

Welcome to the Visual Arts Department at Kinder HSPVA!

My name is David Waddell. I am the Chair of the Visual Arts Department. I want to welcome you and your child to the new school year. We look forward to the 2024-25 school year.

First of all, CONGRATULATIONS! You have been accepted into a rigorous art program. You are talented and deserving of this opportunity. The audition process is strenuous and competitive. We look forward to seeing your talent blossom and evolve over the next three years. This program takes time, effort, diligence, persistence and creativity. We are excited to see your talents and contributions to the program. You will add to the legacy that makes HSPVA special.

I invite you to revisit the website and review all of the department information. <https://www.houstonisd.org/Page/85658> You will find general information, student artworks, curriculum and the department structure. There is a download section that contains a lot of pertinent documents. Parents and students need to become familiar with the handbook. It is a tool to guide you through the next four years. The documents posted are from last year and may change slightly for the upcoming year. These will be updated by Artist Academy.

Supply check and paperwork check will be **Monday, August 19, 2024** at the beginning of the art block. Mr. Gray will provide a link during the first week of school to fill out the paperwork. If you have difficulty, please email Mr. Gray in advance of this deadline. The art department is more than happy to help.

Supplies

You may purchase supplies at Hobby Lobby, Michael's, Texas Art Supply, Jerry's Artorama or Amazon, among other places. Students are expected to have all supplies at school each day. When supplies run out, they are expected to replenish them. Students should put their name on everything. Sharing personal supplies is discouraged. The expectation is that students have a set of supplies and an art box at school every day. If students keep up with these, they will not have to repurchase every year and can use throughout their

next three years at HSPVA. If you have financial difficulty, please email Mr. Gray in regards to the art supply box. CGray13@houstonisd.org

In the Fall Semester, each visual art 10th grader should have a sketchbook journal and set of colored pencils. Students are also expected to have their journal and planner at school every day. Students may use an electronic calendar such as Microsoft or Google. Or they may purchase a physical calendar of their choice, as long as it includes a monthly view AND a section for each day.

Art Lockers

10th graders receive a horizontal locker and a vertical locker to store their work and supplies. Mr. Gray will organize the locker situation during the first week. Tenth graders need to bring their own locks (identical combination locks) during the first week of school.

Schedule for the Year

Students take Art History, Art Criticism, Ceramic Sculpture, Design, Photography, Drawing, Video, Mixed Media, Painting, Printmaking, and Tool Time (Woodshop skills). In addition to these exciting classes, sophomore students spend a great deal of time creating experimental journal prompts, observational life drawings, and planning for works in the journal for weekly prompts. You will have between 3-5 different art teachers in the fall. Some will be full time art teachers and others will be part-time art consultants. Your guiding teacher and tenth grade advocate is Mr. Gray. He is the teacher of record for grades and will communicate with part-time consultants as your advocate.

Sincerely,

David Waddell

Incoming Sophomore: Summer Assignment

Assigned 5/24/24

Due: August 23, 2024

The sophomore experience includes an introductory investment of a variety of techniques in a variety of media. It can include: Art Appreciation, Art Criticism, Ceramic Sculpture, Design, Photography, Drawing, Video, Mixed Media, Painting, Printmaking, and Tool Time (Woodshop skills). In addition to these exciting classes, sophomore students spend a great deal of time creating experimental journal prompts, observational life drawings, and planning for works in the journal for weekly prompts.

This summer assignment is designed to bridge the ninth and tenth grade year experience. Students will practice and continue to develop skills learned as well as explore subject matters of interest. Within these prompts, students are encouraged to explore a variety of media and subject matter to achieve: unexpected results, creative risk-taking, getting out of comfort zone, attention to detail, development of student voice.

The sophomore summer assignment consists of 11 total journal prompts:

- **6 experimental pages**
- **4 observational life drawings**
- **1 writing page**

Your responses to these prompts will serve as the jumping off point for ideas that may be applied to assignments in your first semester of sophomore year. Students should plan out summer schedules to help with time management (see attached calendar). **Your 11 completed journal pages are due the second week of school on Friday, August 23, 2024.**

6 Experimental Pages

Create a total of six experimental pages in your journal. Your six pages should utilize different media, techniques, and subject matters. Consider how to play and experiment with color, pattern, layering (different papers), collage, traditional/non-traditional materials, and mixed media. You may also choose to explore different ways of approaching abstract and representational imagery.

Your prompts should be original (your own ideas). Remember to use the whole page edge to edge. Try to spend no more than one hour on each page. Be sure to always LABEL your entries in your journal!

Evaluation: Your six experimental pages will be assigned a single major grade (40%) based on completeness, overall quality/craft, exploration of variety of media and subject matter, creative risk-taking.

4 Observational Life Drawings

Create a total of four observational life drawings in your journal: 2 drawings in ebony pencil (graphite) and 2 drawings in color pencil. Your four life drawings may be of subject matters of your choice; however, your subject matter should be of something truly in front of you. (Do NOT draw from photographs for these prompts)

Remember to use the whole page and include a range of value. Consider foreground, background, composition, lighting. Try to challenge yourself by what you choose to draw. Try to spend no more than one hour on each page.

Evaluation: Your four observational life drawings will be assigned a single major grade (40%) based on completeness, overall quality/craft, use of value, exploration of variety of media and subject matter, creative risk-taking.

1 Writing Prompt: List of 100 Interests

In your journal, generate a list of 100 things that interest you. These “things” may be topics, themes, artists, aesthetics, materials, hobbies, objects, moods, frames of mind, places, communities, concepts, etc. Have fun with it!

Evaluation: Your writing prompt will be assigned a single journal grade (20%) based on completeness.

A Letter from Mr. Gray

Dear Incoming 10th grade Students and Parents,

My name is Chadwick Gray, I am the 10th Grade Visual Art Coordinator of the Art Department. I want to welcome each of you to the Visual Arts Department at Kinder HSPVA! We are thrilled to have you in our program. You are about to embark on one of the most exciting times of your life. I look forward to being your teacher and beginning this journey together.

A little bit about myself – I started working at HSPVA in 2023. I grew up in Virginia and have a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Virginia Commonwealth University and a Masters of Fine Arts (education and art history) from the University of California at Berkeley. I love the time I get to spend with students in class. I believe in building community and fostering environments that encourage growth through the arts. Day to day, we are all bringing our unique selves and personal narratives to the classroom. We will learn new things, challenge what we already know, work towards goals, and create!

While at HSPVA, I have taught classes across grade levels such as Art History, Mixed Media, Tool Time, Welding, 3D design, Sculpture and Experimental Drawing in Journal Prompts.

Please reach out with any questions or concerns you have. I look forward to a spectacular year ahead!

With Kindness,
Chadwick Gray

Visual Arts Supply List

2024-2025

Supply check is August 19. All students should have supplies by then. If there is an issue, the teacher of record should be notified BEFORE this date via email/phone.

Retailer suggestions for purchasing art supplies include: Texas Art Supply, Michael's, Hobby Lobby, Jerry's Artarama, Amazon

ART SUPPLIES REQUIRED FOR ALL ART STUDENTS

- Folder – 1 for Departmental Papers. MUST BE 3-hole clasped OR a binder with dividers for all
- drawing board (to fit 18" x 24" paper and portable to take on fieldtrips)
- plastic toolbox (tackle box) to store and transport supplies
- roll of paper towels
- small, handheld pencil sharpener
- ebony pencils (4 minimum)
- 4 or more black felt tip markers or sharpies (one thick and one thin)(these may NOT be Micron pens
- paint brushes: Suggestions: (#1 or #2) and (#10 or #11) round, soft watercolor type and an inexpensive, 1" sponge brush
- palette knife (choose one that works for you! Can be metal or an inexpensive plastic one)
- Elmer's glue
- Exacto knife w/ #11 blade
- glue stick
- extra #11 blades
- hot glue sticks
- 12" metal ruler
- hot glue gun
- roll 1" masking tape
- White Mars Plastic Eraser
- needle nose pliers
- kneaded eraser
- 16 GB SD Memory Card for Digital Camera
- 16 GB (or larger) USB Flash Drive
- Watercolors (inexpensive pan watercolors with at least 6 colors)
- large scissors (at least 4" blades)

ART SUPPLIES REQUIRED FOR 10th, 11th & 12th GRADE STUDENTS

- combination lock for art locker
- one pair safety goggles
- shop shoes*(see below)
- tape measure
- dishwashing gloves
- For Seniors ONLY - a second 16 GB (or larger) USB FlashDrive (for Documenting Image storage)

OPTIONAL ART SUPPLIES FOR 10th, 11th & 12th GRADE STUDENTS

- Staple gun (& staples)
- Hammer
- Flat blade screwdriver
- Philips screwdriver
- Utility knife and blades
- Lino cut tool (with multiple blades) optional: to complete work at home, we cannot check these items out
- Etching scribe optional: to complete work at home, we cannot check these items out
- Fabric scissors

Art Supply Notes:

- The supply list is extensive, and we recognize that the materials are a major investment. However, if students take care of these items from year to year, they should only have to replenish the expendable supplies.
- Keep in mind, some art courses are individualized, and additional supplies may be required.
- Many of these supplies are available at discount home centers, hardware and art supply stores. Look for student grade (NOT professional)!

ALL REQUIRED MATERIALS MUST BE REPLENISHED BY THE STUDENT WHEN USED, LOST OR BROKEN.

*Please note: "shop shoes" must be closed-toed, sturdy uppers: leather work type shoes. Students will not be able to work in the shop in flip flops, shoes made of flammable synthetic materials, soft canvas type shoes or shoes that do not adequately cover the feet. Even if a student just needs to use the shop to build a stretcher for painting or printmaking or needs to perform any other activity in the shop or courtyard, they are required to have shoes that will protect their feet.