

# the WILLOWS Academy

## VISUAL ART- GRADES 6 - 12

*Demanding that one think beyond the given, the arts utilize and expand the imagination.*

### VISUAL ART CURRICULUM

The Willows Academy visual art program is structured to help students identify their artistic talents through the development of technical abilities and the fostering of individual creative expression. Students at each grade level build critical thinking skills through the analysis of art while learning to utilize, as well as develop, an understanding of the basic elements and principles of 2-D and 3-D design.

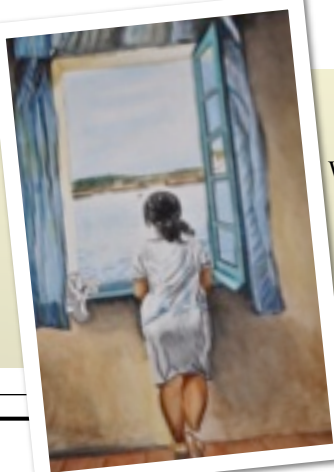
The studio experience includes sketchbooks, critiques, lectures, and demonstrations.

Students within the program begin with traditional foundations as they progress to more conceptual work. Through the study of different processes and media students will create their own personal aesthetic.



Dominika Twardowski- Class of 2011  
Fused Glass Artist Studio Experience-  
Senior Year

The visual art program introduces students to career opportunities in the field of visual arts, provides field trip experiences, enriching extracurricular clubs- art/ photo, and gives students the chance to exhibit work within the Willows Academy community and regional venues.



Maureen Brown- Class of 2011  
Watercolor Painting- Junior Year



Emma Diez- Class of 2014  
Aztec Warrior Unit- 6th grade



## Middle School Art

### 6th Grade

Students will be exposed to a variety of studio art projects, art appreciation, and art history.

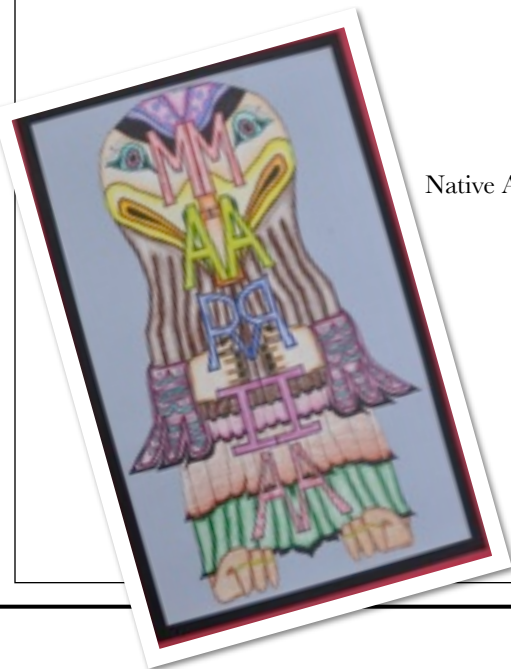
This instruction enables students to attain a higher understanding of the world, as well as, increased levels of critical thinking. A focus is given to multicultural art (historical and cultural connections), the vocabulary of art, basic geometry within art, and cultural/world significance of art.

### 7th Grade

Students will be exposed to a variety of studio art projects, art history, and art styles. Students expand upon previous knowledge and continue to explore the connections between art and geometry. Students will understand the vocabulary of geometry, the tools of geometry, and develop an awareness of spatial sense. A focus is given to hand eye coordination through the fiber arts consisting of knitting and hand sewing.

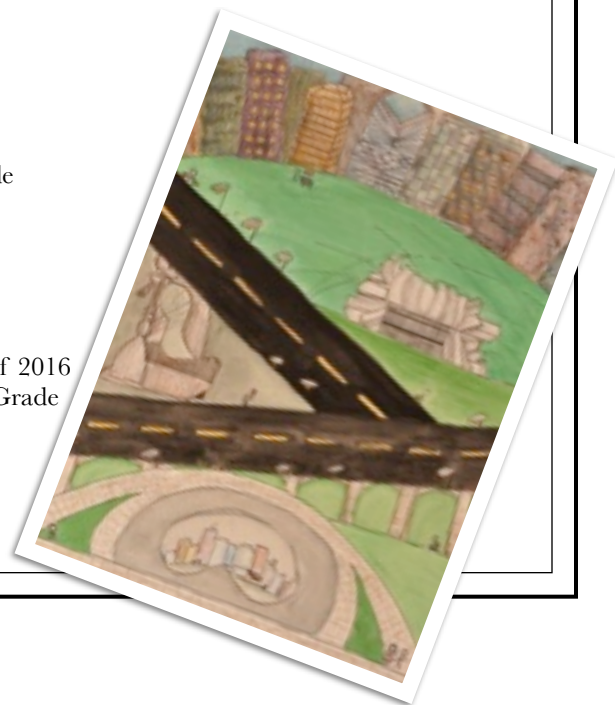
### 8th Grade

Students will create art that exhibits refinement, control, technical ability and personal style utilizing a variety of art media, techniques, and processes. A focus is given to group based projects that promote collaboration, communication, and problem solving. Students will embark on the critique process of art: examining, evaluating, and revising their artwork and that of others.



Maria Kaiser- Class of 2018  
Native American Totem Pole Unit- 6th Grade

Mandy Mongoven- Class of 2016  
Watercolor Folk Art- 8th Grade



# HIGH SCHOOL ART

## *9th Grade*

This class is designed for students experiencing art for the first time at the high school level. Students will create original art by exploring a variety of materials and developing beginning skills. The course will encompass principles and elements of art. Students will be exposed to a variety of studio art projects, art appreciation, art history, and aesthetics. This instruction enables students to attain a higher understanding of the world, as well as, increased levels of critical thinking.

## *10th Grade*

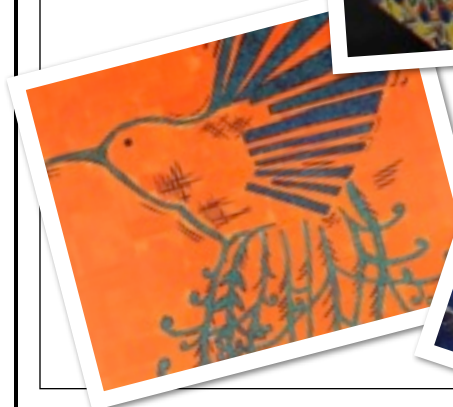
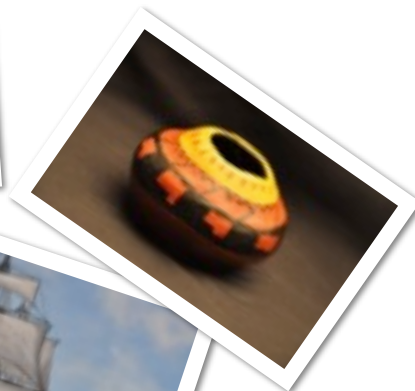
Students will be presented a variety of experiences that will foster self-expression and communication through the visual arts. The course will encompass principles and elements of art. Students will experiment with different techniques to give a visual vocabulary and sensitivity to subject matter. Students will be exposed to a variety of studio art projects, art appreciation, art history, and aesthetics.

## *11th Grade*

The emphasis in Art III is on a more technical plane. Students will create projects with major emphasis on individual skills and techniques rather than the multiple experiences of Art I and II. All areas will be explored with emphasis placed on drawing techniques, watercolor painting, and printmaking. Two field trip experiences are planned to enhance students knowledge and understanding of visual art.

## *12th Grade*

The emphasis in Art IV is on independence and original creativity. Students will create projects with major emphasis on individual skills and techniques. The main focus in Art IV is personal identity and original creativity. By students learning to be creators with integrity about themselves and their own identities, they will be better able to understand, empathize, and respect the efforts of those other than themselves. All areas will be explored with emphasis placed on independent projects, contemporary/modern art, and oil painting. Two field trip experiences are planned to enhance students knowledge and understanding of visual art.





Dan Park- Class of 2008  
Industrial Design Major  
University Of Illinois



Bevin Lucas- Class of 2009  
Illustration Major  
Maine College of Art & Design

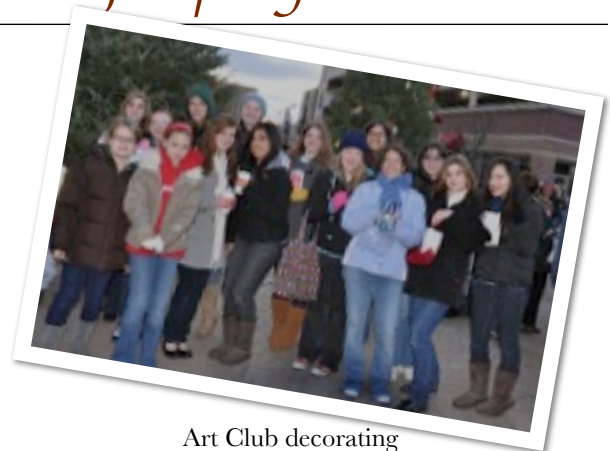
## *Advanced Art*

Students will further their exploration of art through semester long independent self-driven projects. The focus will be on all media, including but not limited to: computer animation, digital photography, architecture, digital film and all facets of the "Fine Arts." This class is geared toward the student that will pursue a career in the arts.

## *Clubs- Art & Photography*



Haley Sullivan- Class of 2016  
Digital Photography



Art Club decorating  
tree in Des Plaines

Art club is structured towards a service oriented goal. Every year a project is created for the local community, another project for the school community, and money is raised for various organizations-donations. Digital Photography Club is offered to students at the high school level. Digital photography club guides students in using digital SLR cameras combined with the latest digital photography computer programs to create and experiment with digital media.