**Ms. Flanagan**

**2016/17 Expectations and Course Information**

**Contact:**

kflanagan@ledyard.net

**Web Resources :**

**LHS Art Department Website** (course descriptions, student work, college/career info, contests and opportunities): [www.ledyardart.weebly.com](http://www.ledyardart.weebly.com)

**My Teacher Website** (rubrics, handouts, Powerpoints from class): [www.flanaganledyardart.weebly.com](http://www.flanaganledyardart.weebly.com)

(*Please note- since the district is migrating to Google this year, I will likely be switching over many of my Weebly resources as well and integrating them with Google; stay tuned*)

**Pinterest** (examples and inspiration): [www.pinterest.com/colonelart](http://www.pinterest.com/colonelart)

**Twitter** (stay up to date with the latest art room excitement): @msflanaganart

**Hashtag** (share your work!): #ledyardart

**Expectations for this Class:**

**What do I need to bring to class?**

\*Yourself (by the time the bell rings; repeated unexcused tardiness will result in a detention)

\*A pencil and eraser (if you forget, you need to get one from somebody! You’re in high school, for goodness sake!)

\*A good attitude towards the class and art making

\*Anything that was due (more on that later…)

That’s pretty much it! Mostly everything else will be provided to you.

**What will I be doing in class?**

You’ll be working towards making wonderful and original art pieces during just about the entire 83 minutes you are in this class. Please don’t work on assignments for any other class while you are in here. Please don’t clean up early. I’ll tell you what I would like you to do if you finish your regularly-assigned work and have extra time.

**Where will I keep all of my handouts, artwork in-progress, etc.?**

\*You will have a sketchbook and a folder (provided for you) that you will keep in the classroom. There are blue slots in the front of the room; one will be assigned to you that you will keep your sketchbook and folder inside of. You’ll get them out at the start of the class, and return them there at the end. I will also return your graded rubrics and any other paperwork to these slots, so you need to check them every class.

\*You will keep your artwork in large class folders over by the window on tables (they are labeled). Make sure you get your work in the right place- there are “in-progress” folders and “complete” folders, and there are different folders for each class and each assignment.

**What goes in my Sketchbook?**

When I pass out the sketchbooks at the beginning of the year, I’ll tell you how to set them up. There will be three sections:

\*Daily journals- You will have a daily journal question to answer every class during the first few minutes. Please write out the question itself and then answer it (when I take a look at your sketchbooks, it makes it easier for me so I know what you’re talking about!)

\*Notes and Sketches- Take notes on lesson introductions/presentations and make sketches/preliminary work as directed in class (I’ll tell you what to do as we go along)

\*Vocabulary- You will copy down vocabulary words and definitions as directed (usually once per project/unit) and will be quizzed on them at a later date

\*Please label and date everything in your sketchbook! An organized sketchbook will not only help you in class, but it will help me immensely when I grade them!

We’ll go into more detail about the sketchbooks in a couple days, once the class roster is solidified.

**What goes in my Folder?**

Basically, all the paperwork you get in this class- handouts, rubrics etc. and everything that gets passed back to you.

**How do I keep track of everything I’m supposed to do on a daily basis?**

Over on the wall between the windows is the “Art Studio Command Center”. Each block has two whiteboards.

On the big whiteboard, you will see:

-The daily journal question (written in blue at the top)

-The agenda for the day (written in black in the middle)

-Any due dates/homework (written in red on the bottom)

When you come in every day, get out your sketchbook and folder, and look at the whiteboard so you know what to do.

On the small whiteboard, I will write the vocabulary words from the unit we are working on.

**When I finish with my art project and I think its ready for the teacher to grade, what do I do?**

-Fill out the rubric self-evaluation (both sides; you’ll grade yourself on the front and answer questions on the back)

-Make sure your name is on your project

-Paper clip the filled-out rubric to your completed work

-Put your work with the rubric clipped to it in the “complete” folder for that assignment

Make sure all these things are followed through on! I don’t grade work without a name, if you don’t hand in a rubric, I deduct ten points, and if you don’t fully fill out the rubric, I deduct five points.

**Where do I get the rubrics?**

There is a yellow bookshelf that contains folders with rubrics. You will obviously need to take one before you can hand in the project, but you can take one earlier (which I would recommend doing, because then you can make sure you’re on the right track throughout the project and will get a good grade).

I only put out as many copies as there are students, so you can’t loose your rubric! You should probably keep it in your folder so it doesn’t get lost.

**What happens if I finish my project early?**

I still expect you to work on something art-related (we’re not rushing to get finished just to be on our phones, do other homework, socialize etc.). You can work on a free-choice art project in your sketchbook (I always have doodle sheets, sketch ideas, and coloring sheets available), or work on a *Scholastic Arts* article response.

**What happens if I need more time on my project?**

You’ll need to get it done on your own time. You can come up to the art room during your study hall/learning lab (you need to have a pass), you can come during Activity Period, or you can come after school (**MONDAYS**).

If you started your work in class, you *might* be able to take it home, depending what it is. I can’t always guarantee that I can allow supplies to go home, it just depends on what we’re doing. Please don’t fold your work, roll it (creases in beautiful artwork drive me nuts!) and absolutely make sure it returns!

**What is your late work policy?**

\*Unless there is a special circumstance, work looses five points for each day that it is handed in late. I do not accept late work after two weeks. You need to be the judge- will you get a better grade turning in what you have, or could you finish it and take a point deduction and get a better grade that way?

\*Excused absences will be given an extension equivalent to the number of days you were out. However, we will need to move on in class, so you will have to finish your work on your own time (points just won’t be taken off).

\*If you’re handing something in after the due date, please get it to me personally (I may have already gone through the “complete” folder).

**What if I need help? (If you forget the directions, need more guidance, want feedback etc.)**

Of course you can always ask me or ask a classmate. Additionally, the yellow bookshelf will contain project resources that anyone can use such as extra copies of the presentations from class and books or handouts that might also help you. Its up to you to be a good artist and utilize these things if they will help you!

**What if I’m absent?**

If I handed anything out, I will put yours in your slot for you. If we went over anything new, you’ll need to look over the presentation and/or ask a peer first, *then* ask me questions. It’s your responsibility to get as caught up as you can on your own if you missed class. Don’t rush at my desk when I’m trying to start class for the kids that *were* here and say, “what’d I miss?”

**What if I need to go somewhere?**

\*If you need to use the lav or get a drink, sign out on the clipboard, have me initial it, and take it with you. This clipboard is only to be used for the 200s. When its not in use, it needs to stay on the corner of my desk. Don’t tie up the lav/drink pass; do what you need to do and return to class.

\*If you need to go anywhere else (the nurse) please fill out a Colonel Pass and have me sign it.

\*You really shouldn’t need to go anywhere else while you’re in my class unless you have a pass from somewhere else to go there (if you have an appointment or something like that).

**What’s your phone policy?**

You’re here to learn and to make artwork, not be texting, checking/sending Snaps, using social media, playing games etc. on your phone. I trust you to be responsible with your phone. If you have your phone out, it should be because you’re using it to help you with something towards your art project. If I see that you’re choosing to let your phone be a distraction, I will address it. If it becomes a repeated distraction, I will have to take further measures such as taking it away, contacting your parents or writing you up. Let me treat you like the young men and women that you are and not have to be constantly making an issue out of phone usage.

**What’s your music policy?**

When we get into the swing of things, if the class is running smoothly, I may allow you to listen to your own music through your headphones as you are working on your piece (not while I’m going over stuff, obviously). However, this is kind of like my phone policy- I will expect you to be responsible with this privilege. “I didn’t hear the directions because I was listening to my music” is not an excuse. Put one ear bud in instead of both, or keep your volume down etc. Additionally, wasting time by constantly changing the song/playlist isn’t acceptable. The idea of me letting you listen to music in the first place is to help you focus on your art, not distract you from it. If we can’t handle listening to music responsibly, I’ll take away the privilege for the class. It’s as simple as that.

**I saw this really cool drawing online! I want to do it, too. I can hand that in as my project, right?**

Not so fast! All artists need to understand the difference between referencing and copying. Referencing is okay, copying is not.

Let’s say you want to include a lion in your piece. So you go to Google Images and look at a picture of a lion so that you can see what one looks like and reference it in your own work. That’s okay.

But, let’s say you went to Google Images and found a drawing/painting of a lion by another artist and made your piece look *exactly* like the one you found online. That’s copying. That’s not okay. That’s basically plagiarism. I would much rather see a so-so piece that’s original and yours than an awesome piece that’s been copied from somewhere else.

**Will there be homework?**

Not usually. I might ask you to bring something in for your project from time to time, and if you need to finish your regular art project that needs to be done on your own time, of course, but I don’t assign separate projects that are done outside of class…

…*Unless you’re in Advanced Studio*! Which we’ll go over.

**Do you offer extra credit?**

Not really. You need to do the work that is being asked of you. The only thing is that there are *Scholastic Arts* article response sheets that you may do if you finish early for two extra points per article on your project grade up to ten points. I may throw in something else here or there, but the onus is on you to keep up with your regular work.

**How are we going to keep the art room clean with all these different people coming through and using it all the time?**

Clean up is everyone’s responsibility. I expect you to clean up after yourself and maintain organization so everyone has an easier time. Before you leave class, you need to make sure the following is done:

-Tables and floor are swept

-Tables are sponged down

-Everything is cleared off the tables

-Stools are pushed in

-Your materials are put away neatly

-Your work is put back where it belongs

-The sink area is cleaned (pallets, brushes and water cups are all cleaned, rinsed and stacked)

-Your sketchbook and folder are in your slot

-You have all your belongings (purse, sweatshirts, backpacks etc) with you

If I see these things aren’t done, I’ll randomly call on people to help out. Pro tip- I’ll probably go to those of you that are milling about waiting for the bell to ring!

**How am I going to be graded?**

I use a total points system (so everything you do earns you points).

\*Projects are worth 100 points each. There are usually anywhere from 3 to 5 per quarter (I focus on quality, not quantity. That said, you might be surprised at how long it takes to make good artwork!) We will spend the bulk of class time learning about, setting up for, working on and reflecting on our projects.

\*Sketchbooks are worth 50 points each. I’ll grade them roughly twice per quarter. I’m looking for completion and thoroughness (the sketchbook is mostly a place to record, experiment and reflect; I don’t look at it the same way as I look finalized work).

\*Quizzes are typically worth about 10 points each. We will have a vocab quiz just about once per lesson or unit. The quizzes will usually be fill-in-the-blank, no word bank, spelling counts.

 Those are the main assignments you’ll have. We might have other assignments that are graded here or there, but I’ll let you know as we go along. There shouldn’t be any major surprises.

There will also be a midterm/final that will be project-based.

**When you grade artwork, what are you looking for?**

The project criteria will change based on the lesson or unit. However, when I grade your project, I break it into six categories (that are evenly weighted):

\*Creativity- did you think outside the box or did you play it safe?

\*Composition- how did you used the space that was given/how did you set up your piece?

\*Use of Skills- what skills and techniques did we focus on? How did you do with them?

\*Use of Media- what media did we use? How did you do with it?

\*Craft- How careful and neat were you? Did you take your work as far as you could?

\*Citizenship-Did you use your time wisely? Did you have a good attitude? Did you care for peers and the studio?

Notice that the following things are NOT a part of your grade:

-“Talent” (or lack of talent)

-How much I “like” you or “like” your piece

-How “pretty” your piece is

-“Effort” (effort is a big part of it, but its not the whole story. We do have certain objectives to meet. A piece you worked really hard on but didn’t fully meet the criteria might get you a C instead of an A, for example).

**When I get my artwork back, what do I do?**

Take it home and share it! Post it! Be proud! Celebrate what you did- you deserve it!

And, I hate to have to say this, but its come up a couple times so I will: any work found destroyed or discarded will result in a failing grade for that assignment (even if a grade has already been entered- it will be changed). Custodians throughout the school are aware of my policy on this and have been instructed to notify me of any work that they find thrown away.

**Do we have an Art Show?**

We sure do! It is in May, the same night as the Spring Coffee House. It’s here in the 200s and 600s mostly. You’ll have at least one piece in it. If you have me in the Spring, you’ll help get ready for Arts Night. It’s a great night. You should definitely come with your friends and family.

**What’s your story, Ms. Flanagan?**

This will be my seventh year teaching art at Ledyard High School. I absolutely love it here! I got hired right out of college, and I haven’t looked back; I know I’m where I’m supposed to be and I hope to be here for a very long time! I’m getting married this October (I’m keeping my last name so you won’t have to get used to calling me something else!) My soon-to-be-husband teaches third grade at Gallup Hill School. We live in Gales Ferry. I grew up in Pawcatuck (where most of my family is now) and I went to Central CT State University where I got my Bachelor’s in Art Education; I’ve been working on my Master’s in Art Education there since 2012 (hoping to finish this Spring!). I’ve liked art since I was little (my dad has been an active artist ever since I can remember). I like anything hands-on and creative, but drawing and painting are my areas of expertise. I sometimes struggle to find balance between my creative mind that’s all over the place, and the need to maintain organization and efficiency, but it’s something I work at continuously. My favorite thing about teaching is getting to know my students, and helping kids to see the importance of living a creative life. I am SO looking forward to a great year!

**Anything else I need to know?**

The biggest thing that is going to make or break this class (for everyone- not just you, not just me) is your attitude. I get that you’re not all walking into this room with this as your favorite class, loving art, loving me, feeling confident, feeling energized. But here’s the thing: you *chose* to be here. Whether you signed up for this course, or you got put into it, you have the choice to keep it in your schedule; its not required. You *can* switch out. The thing number one thing I ask and expect from each and every one of you is for **RESPECT**. Respect me: the lessons I have worked really hard to put together for you, my experience, my feelings, my belief in your abilities and your potential. Respect others: their hard work on their projects, the unique personalities and experiences they bring to the able, their feelings, their strengths and their attempts to grow. Respect yourself: your ability to do what is asked of you and do it well, the unique backgrounds, insights and ideas that only you can provide, and your potential to grow, learn something new, and make some amazing artwork this year. If you think I am asking too much, then reconsider taking this class; maybe it really isn’t right for you right now. If you switch out, I know its because you’re doing what is right for you, and I won’t take it personally. But if you know you can commit to consistently putting forth effort towards respect as describe above, then, trust me, everything else will come and everyone’s year will be better because of it.

**Student and Guardian Art Studio Contract**

My signature below states that I have read all of the Art Studio Course Outline and I understand the information. If I have any questions regarding the course outline, I will either ask Ms. Flanagan tomorrow in class or email her at: **kflanagan@ledyard.net**

I also know that all class information regarding homework, vocabulary, worksheets, test information, upcoming events, and pictures of student work can be found on Powerschool, Ms. Flanagan’s website, or the LHS website.

As a student, I will follow through the expectations stated. As a guardian, I will encourage my student to follow through with the expectations stated because I know it will help them to be successful and they will bring home great artwork that I can display throughout my home.

Student’s name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student’s signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Guardian’s name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Guardian Contact Information:

Phone:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Guardian’s signature:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Please complete and return by Tuesday September 6th (A)/Wednesday September 7th (B). This will be a 10 point assignment and your first grade for this course!**