

Teacher Philosophy

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I believe as an art teacher it is my job to expose my students to new strategies that best allow them to succeed. Learning and reflecting about oneself through art is important because it allows the student to problem solve, learn different skills, be aware of other cultures, develop new interests, and express one's self positively. I will create a positive learning environment for my students. My classroom community will be a safe place including trust, respect, understanding, and safety, not only physically but emotionally as well. My students will explore a wide range of mediums from drawing to digital media to help develop a well-rounded understanding art and Art History.

As an art educator it is important that students have the opportunity to collaborate on their art projects. I believe collaborative learning, beginning at a young age, is an essential skill both culturally and socially. Often times, the various skills a group of students can bring to a piece of art can be as effective as an individual working by themselves. This is a great chance to share ideas, exchange knowledge, and foster friendships.

Students will inevitably enter my classroom with a wide variety of cultural, socio economic, and social backgrounds. Each student deserves the opportunity to be successful. I modify my lessons to meet the individual needs of my students; whether they need revised directions, technology integration, additional complex thinking strategies, or individualized instruction. My goal is for my students to utilize these strategies and successfully apply them to other subjects.

The use of technology is an essential part of our students' lives. As educators it is important to foster these skills in our classroom as well. Having a good understanding of technology can benefit students in a variety of ways. First, students will have the ability to use it as a references tool. For example, to research artists around the world or to further examine a specific piece of art. Technology also allows students to share their work with other students who share the same interests. Peer critiques can be extremely beneficial in helping students assess their work. Lastly, students will have the ability to create an online portfolio allowing them to showcase their work on a larger scale.

It is my goal to encourage and inspire each student who enters my classroom. I understand the importance of integrating their interests into my lessons and to provide them with a plan of action to execute and explore their ideas. I hope to inspire my students, educate them on the importance of art and to model the benefits of the subject matter. I look forward to sharing my love for art and Art History with my students.