

# Kennedy Junior High School

## Course Descriptor for Art

### Naperville District 203 EC-12 Art Philosophy

*We believe: Visual art is essential to human development. It is fundamental for understanding and interpreting the ever changing world around us. Through inquiry into the origins, traditions, and processes of art, students become more literate. They learn about art concepts, cultures, our contemporary society, and the progress of civilizations. This promotes twenty-first century skills, including critical thinking, problem solving, collaboration, and adaptability.*

The visual arts curriculum is designed to develop innovative thinkers and self-directed learners. While promoting independence and high-order thinking, visual arts also improves fine motor and problem-solving skills. Visual arts learning provides cross-curricular connections and applications with STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math), World Languages, English Language Arts, and Social Sciences while meeting the Illinois Visual Arts Standards, <https://www.isbe.net/Documents/Visual-Arts-Standards.pdf>, and the National Core Art Standards, <https://www.nationalartsstandards.org/>.

Students learn to create, develop, refine and complete original ideas and works of art. Students learn to present works of art and interpret shared works of art. Learning in art connects students through relating artistic ideas. Students learn how to connect work with personal meaning and with external contexts. Students respond to art through synthesizing and evaluating how the arts convey meaning. As a result, students become more observant and appreciative of themselves in their environment and of the diversity of cultures around them.

#### 7th Grade Art

The 7th grade curriculum focuses on the formal characteristics of the Elements of Art; line, shape, color, form, value, space, and texture in the design process and composition formation. Additionally, 7th grade students learn about the Principles of Design, specifically focusing on pattern and balance in their creative thought and design processes. Through research, sketching, and ongoing feedback, students learn to formulate their own ideas into complex designs in 2D and 3D mediums such as drawing, painting, clay/sculpture, and digital works of art. At Kennedy students have the opportunity to engage in STEAM (Art + STEM) integrated activities. Due to grant equipment, 7th grade students engage in stop-motion animation as one of their units of study.

#### 8th Grade Art

The 8th grade curriculum focuses on the formal characteristics of the Elements of Art; line, shape, color, form, value, space, and texture in the design process and composition formation. Additionally, 8th grade students learn about the Principles of Design, specifically focusing on pattern, balance and emphasis in their creative thought and design processes. Through research, sketching, and ongoing feedback, students learn to formulate their own ideas into complex designs in 2D and 3D mediums such as drawing, painting, clay/sculpture, and digital works of art. At Kennedy students have the opportunity to engage in STEAM (Art + STEM) integrated activities. Due to grant equipment, 8th grade students engage in 3D printing, light painting photography and/or unique printing processes on clay.