

Visual Arts Department

K12 Overview - May, 2023



Lessons Learned

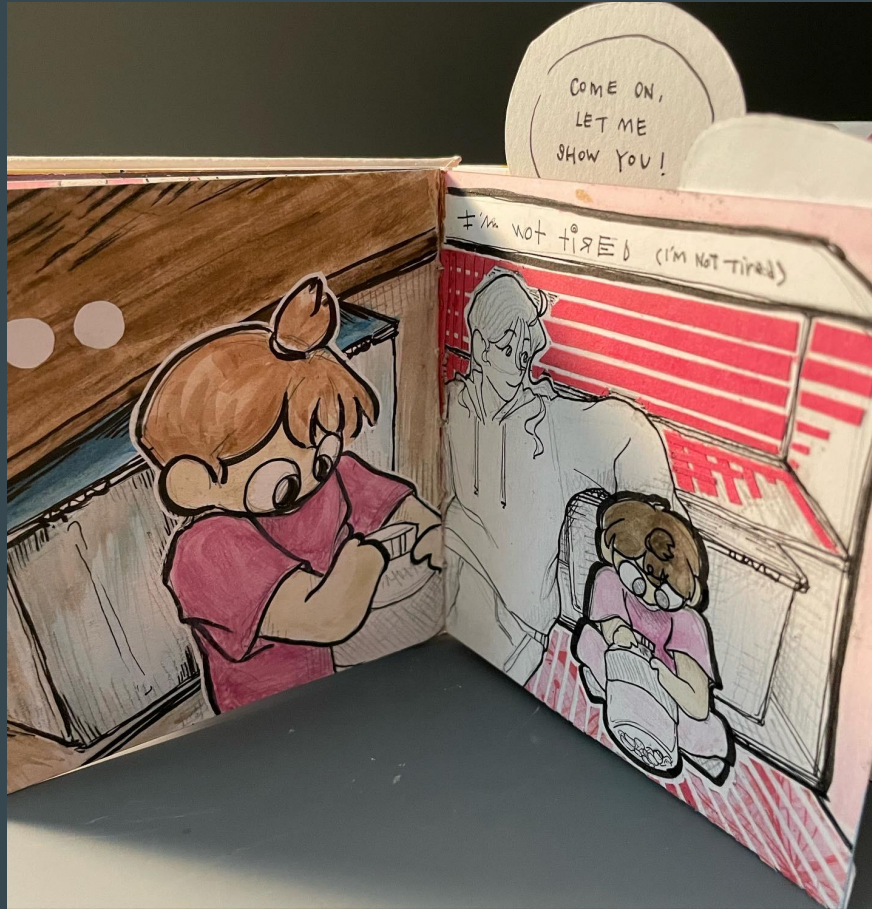
Art making is good for us. It is good for our intellectual, physical and mental health.

Students want and need more opportunity to express their own ideas and perspectives. They need to see that their ideas and experiences are important.

Artists have an important role in society and culture. They create, reflect and challenge culture. - they show us who we are and what we value as a society.

The ability to think creatively and flexibly and to do it with empathy and compassion is what is needed in this moment.





Embedded SEL

Self Awareness

Self Management

Social Awareness

Relationship Skills

Responsible Decision
Making

Visual Arts Curriculum

Articulated the embedded SEL learning that is and has been apart of our curriculum K12.

Adjusted our K8 curriculum documents to reflect our expanded approach to thinking about our role as educators.

We worked K12 to think about how well the middle school years bridge to the kind of art experiences students have in high school.

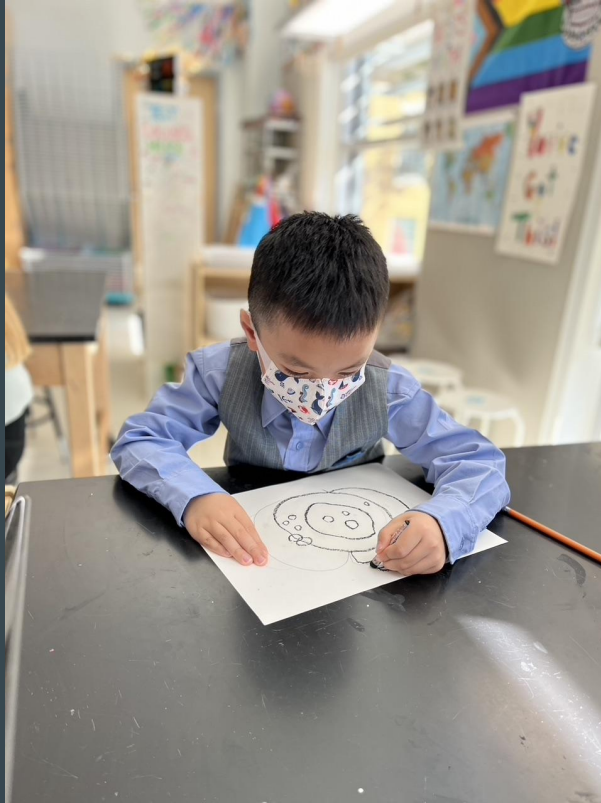
Discussed the role of grading in helping students to learn and grow as artists.

VISUAL ART	ARTISTS ARE ACTIVE LEARNERS WHO ENGAGE WITH CURIOSITY AND INVENTIVE THINKING	ARTISTS CELEBRATE AND CREATE COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS	ARTISTS TELL THE STORIES OF WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE VALUE	ARTISTS INVESTIGATE THE WORLD AROUND THEM	ARTISTS ENGAGE IN PRODUCTIVE PLAY TO THINK FLEXIBLY, COLLABORATE, AND IMAGINE NEW POSSIBILITIES
<p>All students in visual arts classes will have the opportunity to draw, paint, print, collage, and build each year.</p> <p>All students will reflect on their work and process to connect with their learning and carry that learning forward</p> <p>All students will have the opportunity to explore their identity and experiences - learning to see themselves as creative beings</p> <p>All students will have the opportunity to learn, explore, and apply the <i>social and emotional learning skills</i> essential for healthy and creative individuals.</p>	<p>Exploring the connections between imagination, memory, and observation that lead to innovations</p> <p>Experimentation, improvisation, and productive play help artists to figure out how materials work and gain confidence in their ability to create the world as they see it.</p> <p>Reflecting on their learning experiences - in conversation, and in writing - allows student artists to practice <i>self-awareness skills</i> to better understand themselves, their feelings, their abilities, and their experiences.</p>	<p>Creating work that expresses thanks, builds community, and celebrates family and cultural traditions</p> <p>Discovering and expressing personal identity through, recording, remembering, observing, honoring, and acknowledging family and community connections.</p> <p>Group reflection/critique using visual dialog and thinking strategies (windows and mirrors) to develop <i>relationship skills</i> such as listening, well, communicating effectively, compromise, and the development of empathy in order to build the creative community of the classroom.</p>	<p>Discovering connections with other artists from diverse cultures, time periods, and experiences to understand how they told the story of their time, place, and perspective.</p> <p>Considering the meaning and expression of value embedded within the material culture of society: - structures, clothing, and media - and the power of visual art to move people (art as activism)</p> <p>Practice <i>Responsible decision-making skills</i> by developing an understanding your own strengths and limitations, knowing when to ask for help, and being aware of how your choices effects others.</p>	<p>Observing and noticing the whole, the component parts and the details that make up the things that they see in the world</p> <p>Creating work inspired by their experience of the natural world and our human societies and cultures.</p> <p>Understanding that for the artist, all of their experiences offer creative inspiration and opportunity</p> <p>Practice <i>social awareness skills</i> by taking the perspective of others in different situations to your own and thereby experiencing empathy and understanding for others.</p>	<p>Collaborate on art projects, installations, and shared experiences with making to reflect on learning and to learn from each other. .</p> <p>Celebrate work and accomplishments through exhibitions and art festivals to share learning with the community and envision next steps.</p> <p>Working abstractly, improvisationally, intuitively, and from the heart allows students to practice <i>self management skills</i> to reduce stress and help regulate their emotions while they are in this time of MCAS and other kinds of testing as well as the changes to routine that the end of the school year brings.</p>



Challenges and Responses from the K8 Team

Behavior and Engagement



Professional Development

K8 PD Summer 2022 - Tier 1
Strategies that help all
students learn.

2022-23 SEL conversations
with Matt Dubois focused
specifically on Middle School
students

- Clear and Consistent Expectations
- Relationship Building
- Restore and Repair

Shared Curriculum Resources





Rethinking Middle School

Middle School students need more
- more challenge, more variety, and
more time in art.

Middle School Materials Pilot to
try out new more challenging
methods and techniques.

Leveraging in-house expertise to
offer PD workshops:

- Bookbinding
- Printmaking
- Ceramics
- Non-Darkroom Photo
Processes
- Digital Art

Supporting Student Choice

Middle School students currently have no choices about what they want to learn. The middle school review panel found that 54% middle school students surveyed said they wanted **more time in art**.

High School Freshmen can choose to take classes in any of three electives areas: CTE, PA, and VA

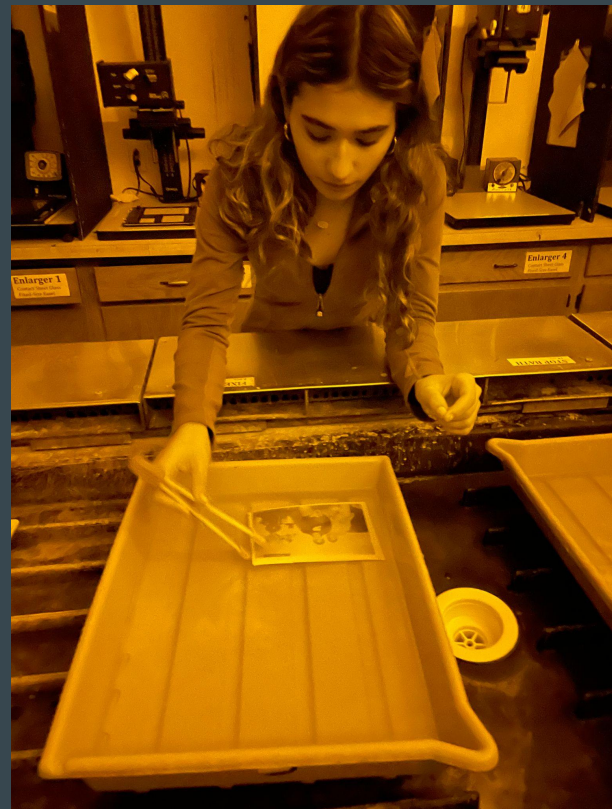
Incoming Freshmen to the high school can choose from among 21 different course options in Visual Arts alone!

Foundational Courses (open to all students no prerequisite)		
Digital Media Arts	2D Studio Arts	3D Studio Arts
Graphic Design Photography Documentary Photography Digital Video TV Production Digital Drawing and Painting Animation 3D Animation	Drawing Foundations Painting Foundation Drawing for Understanding in Field Science Printmaking Art Studio: Mixed Media Art Studio: Art as Activisim Comics Foundations	Ceramics Foundations Sculptural Design Metals Foundations Artist's Books and Visual Journals Art Studio: For the Reluctant Artist



Challenges and Responses from the HS Team

Different ways to learn....

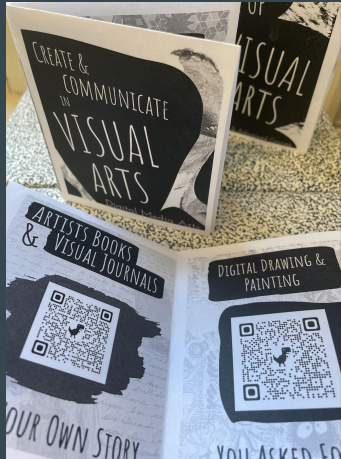


Brookline High School

Visual Arts Department



QR codes link you to the program of studies and individual course websites



Educational Equity

We investigated how well we were serving the students of Brookline High School and where there might be perceptual or systemic barriers to access for some populations of students.

We made adjustments to course descriptions and designed new courses to engage more students.

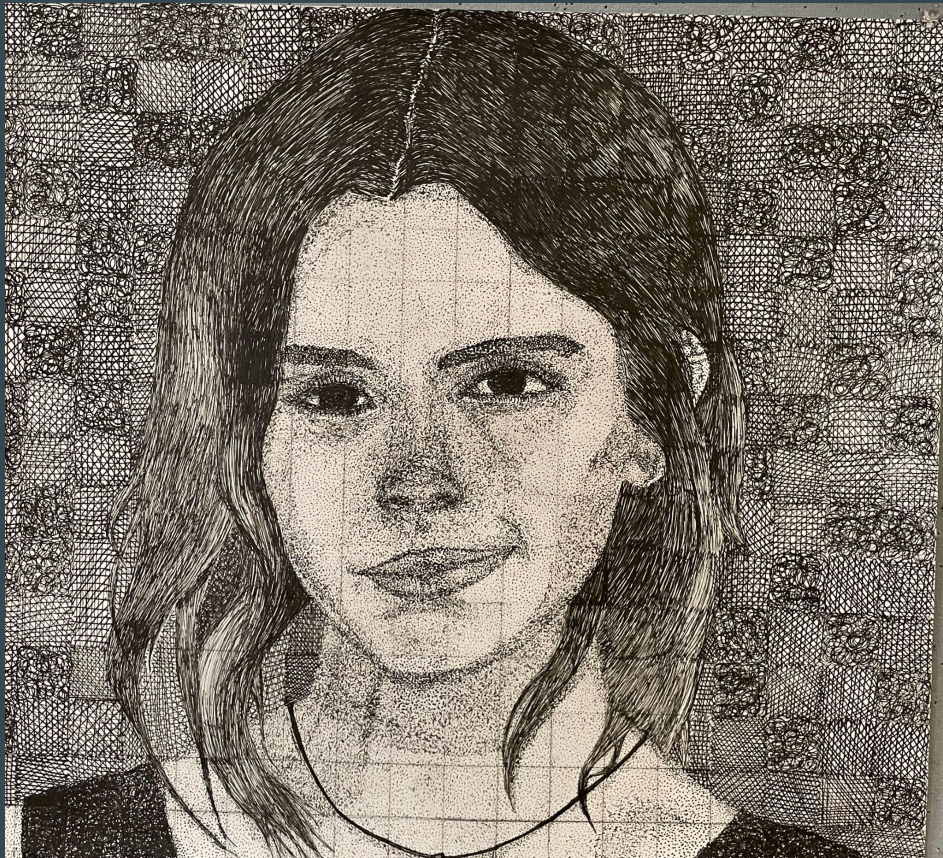
We designed and built a program of studies website and individual course websites to help students to navigate the wide variety of opportunities for learning in the visual arts.


All Kinds of Learners...

Our courses are a model of differentiated teaching at its best.

We initiated inter-departmental collaborative conversations with teachers from Winthrop House, RISE, ACE and ExCEL to leverage our collective expertise in service of some of our most high-need students.

We received a BEF Grant to work with the teachers of Winthrop House on trauma-informed teaching and therapeutic approaches to art making.



An art gallery installation in a room with a light-colored wooden floor. Several black display panels are arranged in a semi-circle, showcasing a variety of children's artwork. The art includes drawings of animals like a blue fish, a green frog, and a brown monkey, as well as abstract patterns, a colorful butterfly, and a drawing of a person. Some panels have small white labels with text like '1S' and '3M'. The overall atmosphere is creative and educational.

Engaging Families and the Community



Celebrating Student Work

In addition to exhibiting student work in and around the schools, each elementary school art teacher holds all-school exhibits either in person or online.

Some of the K8 art teachers send out monthly newsletters to parents letting them know what is happening at each grade level.

Many K8 art teachers also maintain Instagram accounts for the classroom that offer parents a window into what is happening in the art room right now.

Exhibitions and Events

At the high school we have had a series of pop-up exhibitions to celebrate student artists in a variety of ways.

We have held exhibits for many of the special all school events celebrating and supporting student voice and identity.

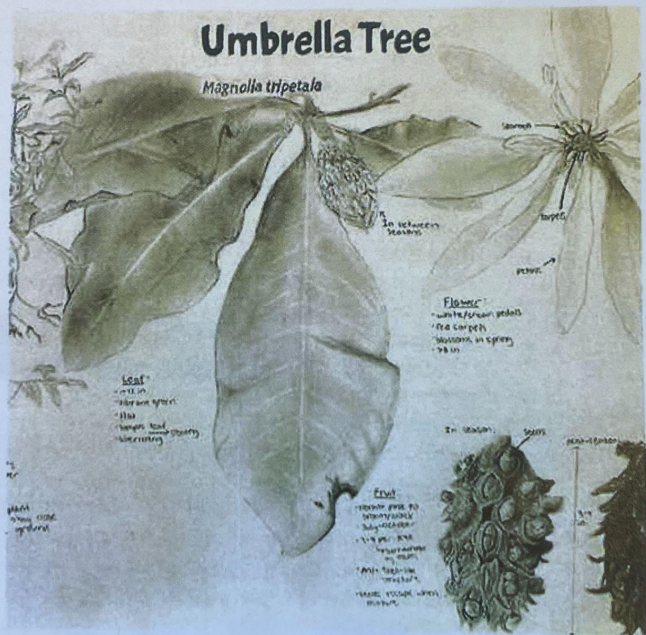
We held a pop-up exhibit at the Teen Center with Mass Art to encourage application to art school and art related careers.

Instagram: @bhsartspace



Winter in Word and Image

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ART: TIA PERCHEVA

Our digital video classes have made connections with the video and film industry in Massachusetts including with our own Brookline Interactive Group. This has opened up opportunities for students to secure internships and working experience in this exciting industry.

And we have more outreach and community collaborations on the horizon!

Exhibition of Student Work K-12

