

Specialized High School Portfolio Prep For Fine Art

The following information may be used to cover requirements asked for by the majority of Art High Schools. Please be sure to read all information in the High School Guide, and be sure that your child follows the instructions for the best chance of success!

Basic Portfolio Requirements

Self-Portrait (I recommend a $\frac{3}{4}$ pose) Created in class. 11"x14"

Color Still-Life created in class 11"x14"

Room Interior in perspective (B&W or in Color) **CREATED AT HOME 11"x14"** or larger suggested.

Beyond these required drawings I suggest an additional 9 pieces with a wide selection of media, and subject matter!

Full Body Portrait (human)

Building Portrait.

Surreal or Fantasy

Architecture, Product, or Clothing Design

Cityscape or Landscape

Extreme close up of any object (made to look abstract although created from observation)

Portraits of friends and relatives

Drawings on location (on vacation, at the park, visiting a friend's house, etc.)

Collage based on a theme

Original Cartoon, Editorial/Political Cartoon)

Printmaking

Sculpture (mixed media, plaster, wire, clay, paper, wood , soap, etc.)

Ceramics

Original Clothing/textile work

Suggested Media

3-D

Clay

Wood

Paper

Carved Soap

Mixed Media

Paper Mache

Metal

Wire

Plaster

Woven Fabric

Sewn Fabric

2-D Media

Pencil

Pen/Ink

Conte Crayon

Oil Pastel

Colored Pencil

Watercolor

Acrylic Paint

Collage

Marker

Tape Collage

Architectural Models

Tempera Paint

Ink wash

Printmaking

Charcoal

Chalk Pastel

Oil Paint

Mixed Media

Crayon

Computer Generated

VARIETY IS THE KEY!!!

DRAWING TESTS

The Following 4 drawing tests should be practiced. It is common for 3 tests to be given on the day of the portfolio review. Typically 30 minutes or less are given for each and are created on a page of 8½"x 11" sheet of computer paper. ("do-overs" not allowed) The tests must be completed by the end of the time given. Some may require backgrounds others without. Shading and a bit of a creative approach to the subject help the judges find the artists who stand out the most!!!

1. Draw a person sitting in a chair from head to toe. Chair included, no background. **(In Pencil)** Faces are often times not a big concern but should be attempted if time allows. SHADING COUNTS!
2. Draw your hand holding a crumpled piece of paper **(In Pencil)** Shading and drawing the objects with accuracy count. (Try to draw the hand so that the texture or shading is different from the paper)
3. Draw a Still Life from imagination with a list of 3 objects including a setting. **(In Pencil)**
A plant, a cup of coffee, and a table near a window. (Be creative, shading) For example What type of plant, table or style of coffee cup would you choose to stand out?
4. Draw a given scene from a particular time of year in the colors of the season or setting. ie. A parade in the city on a cold winter day. **(Oil Pastel/Craypas!)**
Drawing People may be required if this is not a strong suit of the artist draw from the back or another angle. (No stick figures!!!!)

You should have at least 10-12 very strong works of art in your portfolio. They should be 9"x12" or larger if possible. Multiple small works from a sketchbook or another source can be mounted on a large board to equal one piece. All work should be presented in a neat and organized fashion preferably in a portfolio case. Work should be mounted or matted on a board (black is the preference) with your name, grade, type/style of work, supervised or independent work, and whether it was created from imagination or observation or both.

Avery 5160 address labels work well! Example below:

Jane Doe
Grade 8
Self-Portrait
From Observation
Under Supervision

WRITTEN/VERBAL INTERVIEW

Students more and more are asked questions during the portfolio day. Questions can range from proud moments relating to art, favorite famous artist or art style, or favorite project.

A few Suggestions of HS Prep Classes Outside of MS 51

These are just a few possible locations to look research. Each location has different advantages and disadvantages such as location and price. Most have classes that may help develop portfolios for art high school hopefuls!

Joan Mitchell
joanmitchellfoundation.org

Parsons
newschool.edu

Wet Paint Arts Studio
www.wetpaintartstudio.com

Bridgeview
<http://www.academicart.com>

SVANYC
<http://www.sva.edu>

Ashcan School
<http://ashcanstudio.com/en/>

Pratt
Pratt.edu

Brooklyn Museum of Art
https://www.brooklynmuseum.org/education/youth-and-families/gallery_studio_schedule

The Art Students League
www.theartstudentsleague.org

smART BROOKLYN! smARTBrooklyn.weebly.com I smARTBklyn@gmail.com

Sarah Tanzer <sarahbethtanzer@gmail.com>

Private Tutors