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# VISUAL ARTS

## COURSES OFFERED

### Grades 9, 10 only

Drawing/Painting 1	# 6403
Drawing/Painting 2	# 6503
Drawing/Painting 3	# 6603
Arts and Crafts	# 6703
Introduction to Sculpture	# 6803
Introduction to Pottery and Jewelry	# 6404

### Grades 11, 12 only

Senior High Drawing	# 6504
Senior High Painting	# 6604
Pottery I	# 6704
Pottery II	# 6705
Sculpture	# 6804
Photography	# 6505
Honors Art	# 6010
AP Studio Art	# 6011
Jewelry and Metalsmithing	# 6912
Computer Multi-Media Arts	# 6201

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**DRAWING/PAINTING 1**  
**Semester/Full Time**  
**Grades 9, 10**

**No. 6403**  
  
**Credit .5**

Drawing/Painting 1 is a basic course that introduces a wide variety of media and techniques. Included in the course are topics in design and composition in areas such as painting, drawing, cartooning, and work in the sketchbook. Students will be encouraged to work creatively and to become competent in the use of different materials and basic processes. This course enables the student to meet all the State Academic Standards for Visual Arts.

**Criteria for Selection** - None.

**DRAWING/PAINTING 2**  
**Semester/Full Time**  
**Grades 9, 10**

**No. 6503**  
  
**Credit .5**

Drawing/Painting 2 is a more advanced study of drawing and painting. There are no pre-requisites; however, Drawing/Painting 1 is recommended. The work is primarily two-dimensional in nature. There will be concentration in areas of more advanced drawing, watercolor and acrylic painting, graphic art and design, as well as work in the artist's own personal sketchbook. This course enables the student to meet all the State Academic Standards for Visual Arts.

**Criteria for Selection** - None.

**DRAWING/PAINTING 3**  
**Year/Full Time**  
**Grade 10**

**No. 6603**  
  
**Credit 1.0**

Drawing/Painting 3 is a full-year course designed for those who wish to concentrate in specialized areas of interests. A high degree of personal involvement and responsibility will be stressed. Projects will include an emphasis on advanced drawing and painting, especially watercolor, acrylics, graphic design, and work in the sketchbook. This course enables the student to meet all the State Academic Standards for Visual Arts.

**Criteria for Selection** - Successful completion of Drawing/Painting 1 (6403) or Drawing/Painting 2 (6503).

**ARTS and CRAFTS**  
**Semester/Full Time**  
**Grades 9, 10**

**No. 6703**  
  
**Credit .5**

This course is designed for students who like to work in many different artistic areas to discover interests and abilities for further study. The main goal of the course is to teach the primary skills of many visual art processes. Most of the work produced in this class is intended to be used as functional objects as well as works of art, and a variety of artistic media are used to develop artistic concepts. Some of the activities in the course include: etching on mirrors, handwrought metal work, wheel thrown pottery, stencil painting on shirts, sculpture, decoupage, sandcasting, and fresco painting. This course enables the student to meet all the State Academic Standards for Visual Arts.

**Criteria for Selection** - None.

**INTRODUCTION TO SCULPTURE**  
**Semester/Full Time**  
**Grades 9, 10**

**No. 6803**  
  
**Credit .5**

This course deals with studying the concepts of three-dimensional art. The entire semester will be devoted to the creation of sculptures while exploring a variety of media including clay, plaster, metal, wood, glass, and plastic. Within each unit of study, various artists and artistic styles will be covered as well as different sculptural techniques and surface renderings. Some of these techniques will include: under and over glazing, sgraffito, marbleizing clay, polychrome, mishima, and traditional patina finishes. This course enables the student to meet all the State Academic Standards for Visual Arts.

**Criteria for Selection** - None.

**INTRODUCTION TO POTTERY and JEWELRY**  
**Semester/Full Time**  
**Grade 9, 10**

**No. 6404**  
  
**Credit .5**

This course is designed to provide students with the opportunity to explore methods of artistic expression through studies in pottery and metal-working. Student study will include a nine week concentration in pottery work with experiences on the potter's wheel, hand building pottery, and glazing. The other half of the semester will be spent in a nine week concentration in metal work, which will consist of advanced jewelry creation methods that do not require sawing, including pewter casting, stone setting, "lost wax" casting, enameling (melted glass on copper), scrimshaw, copper-smithing, and etching (engraving on metal). This course enables the student to meet all the State Academic Standards for Visual Arts.

**Criteria for Selection** - None.

**SENIOR HIGH DRAWING**  
**Semester/Full Time**  
**Grades 11, 12**

**No. 6504**  
  
**Credit .5**

All levels of artistic ability and experience are welcome in this semester course. In Senior High Drawing you will learn to utilize a wide range of media and techniques, including charcoal, pencil, and pastel. You will learn techniques for drawing from observation that help you see with an artist's eye, a key to drawing success. You will cultivate your imagination and ability to express your ideas visually with a variety of creative strategies. Learning to use color, light, and other visual elements will enable you to compose well designed drawings. Drawings will be inspired by observation of the human figure, portraiture, still life, study of perspective, and the great works of the masters, as well as from your own ideas and imagination. You will learn from the great master artists of past and present by observing, discussing, and analyzing their drawings, which will sharpen your eye for good design, beauty, and meaning in art. Individual and group discussions of your artwork will help to take your work to the next level. This course enables the student to meet all the State Academic Standards for Visual Arts.

**Criteria for Selection** - None.

**POTTERY I** No. 6704  
**Semester/Full Time**  
**Grades 11, 12** Credit .5

Pottery I is an entry-level course. Students will learn various forming methods such as coil, slab, and potter's wheel. Emphasis will be placed on craftsmanship, proper technique, glazing, and decorating. No previous experience is necessary. More course information and student work can be found at: [northalleggheny.org/academics/artsec/pottery/](http://northalleggheny.org/academics/artsec/pottery/). This course enables the student to meet all the State Academic Standards for Visual Arts.

**Criteria for Selection** - None.

**POTTERY II** No. 6705  
**Semester/Full Time**  
**Grades 11, 12** Credit .5

Pottery II is a class designed for students that are interested in a more in-depth clay experience. Pottery 1 taken at NASH is required prior to taking Pottery 2. Emphasis will be placed on refining basic skills to produce work that is more complex and mature. A variety of glazing/decorating techniques will be explored. In addition, the study of ceramic history will be included focusing on contemporary masters. More course information and student work can be found at: [northalleggheny.org/academics/artsec/pottery/](http://northalleggheny.org/academics/artsec/pottery/). This course enables the student to meet all the State Academic Standards for Visual Arts.

**Criteria for Selection** - Pottery I taken at NASH, or approval of teacher.

**SCULPTURE** No. 6804  
**Semester/Full Time**  
**Grades 11, 12** Credit .5

This class will provide students with the opportunity to creatively express their thoughts and ideas in a three-dimensional form. Students will explore the processes of moldmaking, casting, head modeling, reductive carving, and assemblage while utilizing a variety of materials including clay, plaster, wood, and found objects. Emphasis will be placed on handling the materials, craftsmanship, and creative solutions to assigned projects. No previous experience is necessary. This course enables the student to meet all the State Academic Standards for Visual Arts.

**Criteria for Selection** - None.

**PHOTOGRAPHY** No. 6505  
**Semester/Full Time**  
**Grades 11, 12** Credit .5

No previous experience is necessary to enjoy this course. Students will learn how to take great photographs, develop their own film, and make prints from their negatives. All film, chemicals, and darkroom equipment are provided. Digital photography and picture editing will also be explored. This course enables the student to meet all the State Academic Standards for Visual Arts.

**Criteria for Selection** - Students must provide a 35 mm camera and their own enlarging paper.

**SENIOR HIGH PAINTING** No. 6604  
**Semester/Full Time**  
**Grades 11, 12** Credit .5

All levels of artistic ability and experience are welcome in this semester course. In Senior High Painting you will learn to utilize a wide range of media and techniques, including watercolor, acrylic, oils, and mixed media. You will learn techniques for painting from direct observation as well as from your imagination and develop your ability to express your ideas visually with a variety of creative strategies. Learning to use color, light, and other visual elements will enable you to compose well designed paintings. Paintings will be inspired by observation of the human figure, portraiture, still life, study of perspective, and the great works of the masters, as well as from your own ideas and imagination. You will learn from the great master artists of past and present by observing, discussing, and analyzing their paintings, which will sharpen your eye for good design, beauty, and meaning in art. Individual and group discussions of your artwork will help to take your work to the next level. This course enables the student to meet all the State Academic Standards for Visual Arts.

**Criteria for Selection** - None.

**HONORS ART** No. 6010  
**Full Year/Full Time** Honors Wt.  
**Grade 11/12** Credit 1.0

Honors Art is a studio course in which the student develops a high level of personal creative expression, aesthetic judgment, and technical skill in visual art. Creative thought and individual artistic expression are developed through the use of sketchbooks, journals, gallery visits, and a variety of creative thinking strategies. Students explore aesthetic preferences in the growth of an artistic style. Studio activities center on development of technical skills in a wide variety of traditional drawing and painting media as well as new media. Students study and critically respond to significant historical works of art, artists, and art periods in the process of refining their own artistic vision. Students learn to prepare and present their work for group critiques, portfolios, and exhibitions.

Students who earn a grade of 'B' or better can choose to earn three college credits for a fee by participating in the "Scholars" program through LaRoche College. The skills, knowledge, and insight gained in this course will help prepare students for any career and life pursuit. The course is a good preparation for the AP Studio Art Course and a career in the arts. This course enables the student to meet all the State Academic Standards for Visual Arts.

**Criteria for Selection** -

1. To be accepted, you must have a 'C' average or higher in "Drawing and Painting I, II or III."
2. **OR**, a teacher recommendation from a previous high school art teacher.
3. **OR**, at least three sections of a semester art course in previous years and had a grade average of the three sections at a 'B' or better.

**AP STUDIO ART**  
**Full Year/Full Time**  
**Grade 11/12**

**No. 6011**  
**AP Wt.**  
**Credit 1.0**

This course offers an in-depth study and structure of portfolio building for college preparatory students. It is designed to meet the demands of the AP STUDIO Art Syllabus published by the College Board. Students will be prepared to take and pass the AP Studio Art exam in the Drawing Portfolio and/or 2D Design Portfolio. Students will work with a variety of media, as well as personally selected media while preparing to complete a sequential portfolio of art work. The work meets the criteria of AP Studio Art portfolios and will also double as college entry portfolio application requirements. Students express their ideas and understanding of their artwork in a written commentary that accompanies the artworks. Regular critique sessions provide guidance and an opportunity to clarify and express ideas about their work. Art Journals and sketchbooks will be used on an everyday basis for the development of a personal artistic vision. Students will be challenged to use independent thinking skills in the development of concepts in which they have a compelling interest. The involvement of a "concentration" or a body of work is a true college-level approach that will prove to be of value regardless of the students' future pursuits. This course is valuable to the student for the experience alone.

Students enrolled in this course are not required to take the AP exam but is it recommended. Passing scores on the AP Studio Art exam depends upon the college which the student plans to attend. Please contact the specific colleges or university in which you are interested to find out its policy on this matter. Students who earn a grade of 'B' or better can choose to earn three college credits for a fee by participating in the "Scholars" program through LaRoche College. This course enables the student to meet all the State Academic Standards for Visual Arts.

**Criteria for Selection -**

1. To be accepted, you must have a 'B' in a previous full year art course of Honors Art, or Drawing and Painting III, or a minimum of four sections of a semester art course in previous years.
2. **OR**, a recommendation from a High School Art teacher and submission to the AP Teacher of 4-6 recent works and a Journal/sketchbook.
3. Teacher recommendation from the previous semester or year course.

**JEWELRY and METALSMITHING**  
**Semester/Full Time**  
**Grades 11, 12**

**No. 6912**  
**Credit .5**

Students will be taught both basic and advanced techniques of jewelry making, including processes of fabrication, photoetching, "lost wax" casting, stone setting, enameling, and glass casting. As students create projects such as rings, earrings, neckpieces, and ornaments, the emphasis will be on design and how to design successfully. Materials used will include: copper, nu-gold, nickel silver, contemporary plastic, and glass. Students have the option to purchase precious metals and gemstones to incorporate into their

work. This course enables the student to meet all the State Academic Standards for Visual Arts.

**Criteria for Selection - None.**

**COMPUTER MULTI-MEDIA ARTS**  
**One Semester**  
**Grades 11, 12**

**No. 6201**  
**Credit .5**

In this course, the students design and create original media rich web sites and computer multimedia presentations that include animation, video, photography, graphics, sound, and music. Students shoot, edit, montage, and apply special digital darkroom effects in Photoshop. Students shoot, edit, composite, and create special effects in video using Final Cut Pro software. Students learn sound recording, editing and design, and compose MIDI music using Garage Band. Students create animation and dynamic web content using Flash software.

In the independent final project, students are encouraged to work to their interests and strengths, emphasizing a particular subject or artistic discipline. Projects have included digital art or music portfolios, web site development, online exhibits, learning games, multimedia stage performances, videos, and interactive presentations on a variety of topics.

The course emphasizes conception and planning, solving design challenges, personal artistic expression, and communication through new media technology. The course provides a foundation for those planning for careers in the growing field of web and multimedia design as well as for the casual user. The course is taught by art and music faculty.

More course information and student work can be found online at: [northallegheeny.org/academics/art/multimedia/](http://northallegheeny.org/academics/art/multimedia/).

This course enables the student to meet all the State Academic Standards for Visual Arts.

**Criteria for Selection - None.**