



The Howard County Public School System
Gifted & Talented Visual Arts
Enrichment Program
Nominations for Students
Entering Grades 4 - 8
Spring 2019

Thank you for your interest...

The Howard County's Gifted and Talent Visual Arts Saturday Enrichment Program is comprised of students identified through a countywide formal screening process. This rigorous program provides students the opportunity to explore a wide variety of art problems related to classic and contemporary fine art genres; students explore varied methods of creating artwork and develop their personal artistic voices. Field trips and guest artists' demonstrations may be scheduled to round out the enrichment experience.

The program meets on select Saturday mornings for three-hour classes (times and dates will be determined at the beginning of the academic year). There will also be an orientation meeting for students and their parents/guardians to more fully acquaint them with the expectations of the program and to introduce students and their families to the instructors and the other participants. Parents will need to ensure that their child has transportation to and from the classes.

How may you qualify?

Applying to the Gifted and Talented Art Program of Howard County requires creativity, commitment, and an above average ability in the visual arts. To start you will need to speak to your HCPSS art teacher about your interest in the program. Your art teacher is responsible for completing a recommendation and officially submitting your application materials on your behalf. Your application to the program requires that you submit a digital portfolio (your art teacher will complete the digitizing process) containing five components:

- three (3) samples of your artwork which demonstrate specific criteria outlined in this packet;
- one (1) sample of your personal artwork and the planning processes you followed to create it;
- and one (1) statement about why you would like to join the class.

Once all steps have been completed, your final eligibility will be determined by a G/T Art Committee, consisting of K-12 Howard County Public School art teachers trained in identifying gifted and talented visual art students.

Student Identification

Highly qualified students demonstrate the following characteristics:

- A genuine interest in all forms of art
- Strong perceptual/conceptual ability
- Fluency of ideas/solutions
- Evidence of genuine care given to visual/technical quality
- Perseverance and focus on working through a given problem
- Evidence of independent artwork outside of the art class
- Conveyance of personal expression
- Effective use of compositional strategies

Application Process

Portfolio

- Problem I: Observational Drawing
- Problem II: 3-Dimensional Art (Sculpture)
- Problem III: Artwork from Imagination/Memory
- Problem IV: The Artistic Practice/Creative Process

Student Statement

Video (preferred) of the student explaining why they would like to be in the program and what they want to get out of the experience.

Recommendations

Art Teacher

To Begin...

Creating your Portfolio

The information included in this packet will guide you through the required art problems and specify criteria that should be evident in your submission. To prepare your portfolio, please work closely with your art teacher. This will help to ensure that you understand and fulfill the requirements, that your portfolio reflects your very best efforts, and that it presents a rich body of work clearly demonstrating your commitment and interest in the visual arts.

Portfolio Requirements

Problem I: Observational Drawing

(ONE 2-dimensional artwork required)

An artwork (drawing, painting, or print) completed by looking at the subject*:

•still life •interior space •figure (human) •portrait or self-portrait •architecture

***DO NOT WORK FROM PHOTOGRAPH.**

Work from direct observation of objects or people. If completing a self-portrait, work from a mirror.

Jurors will be looking for...

- Your skill and confidence using the selected media
- How well/neatly you have crafted your artwork
- Unique and varied approaches to artistic problem solving
- How well you achieved accurate proportions to create a realistic representation in your drawing
- How well you used value to create a sense of form
- How well you organized space in your composition and considered the page format

Problem II: Working in 3-Dimensions

(ONE sculpture required)

An artwork (ceramic, fiber, metal, paper, etc.) that explores physical depth and is designed from all angles:

It is acceptable to submit a sculpture that has a flat side (e.g., masks, bas-relief, architectural models). However, be sure you have explored three-dimensionality in a truly remarkable way on the remaining sides.

Jurors will be looking for...

- Your skill and confidence using the selected media
- Unique and varied approaches to artistic problem solving
- How well you have crafted your artwork: *Does it stand? Are all sides considered/finished?*
- How well you explored dimension in your piece and considered all angles/viewpoints of the structure

Problem III: Working from Imagination and Memory

(ONE artwork required)

An artwork (created in any medium) that tells a story about an imaginary place, object, or person/being.

You may consider including a brief description of what is happening in the artwork in order to help your audience understand the choices you are making as the artist.

Jurors will be looking for...

- Your skill and confidence using the selected
- How well you have crafted your artwork
- Unique and varied approaches to artistic problem solving
- How well you achieved a believable image in your artwork
- Inclusion of many visual details that help tell the story
- How well you organized space in your composition and considered the page format

Problem IV: The Artistic Practice (Creative Process)

(ONE finished artwork and the planning images and notes you use to help determine your solution required)

This problem requires that you choose an artwork that you extensively planned out *before* completing it.

A: From your best work, choose an artwork in any medium. This work must be an original composition completed within the last year.

B: Include evidence of the thought processes and planning/practice you explored while organizing your ideas and experimenting with materials before completing the final artwork.

Jurors will be looking for...

A) The Finished Artwork

- Your skill and confidence using different types of media in your artwork
- How well you have presented your artwork and how well it has been crafted
- Unique and varied approaches to creative problem solving
- How well you organized space in your composition and considered the page format

B) The Planning Stages

- Multiple possible solutions to a single problem (sketchbook, lists, thumbnails, etc.)
- Visual and Verbal brainstorming (sketchbook, webs, lists, free writing, etc.)
- Evidence of editing/refinement of solutions (rough drafts, thumbnails, etc.)
- Experimentation and risk taking (ideas, media, compositions)
- Direct connections between your planning and the final artwork

Student Statement of Interest

In addition to the Portfolio, you must include a personal statement of interest. This statement should be a video of you explaining why you would like to be in the program and what you hope to gain from the experience. Consider including the following thoughts in your statement:

- "Hello my name is _____ and I am in ____ grade at _____ school.
- "I am applying because _____."
- "I think I would be a great addition to the program because _____."
- "A few of my areas of artistic interest are _____."
- "I am hoping to learn _____ in the program."
- "Thank you for your consideration/time/thought, etc."

Your video should be between 1-3 minutes. If you cannot record a video, a written statement will be acceptable.

Candidate Information and Agreement Form.

PARENTS/GUARDIANS must complete a ***Candidate Information Form***, see page 6.

PLEASE DO NOT SEND ANY ADDITIONAL WORK

Final Checklist and Important Deadlines....

By May 17, 2019

Submit to your school's Art Teacher:

- **Portfolio of Artwork**
- **Candidate Information and Agreement Form**
- **Student Video Statement**

May 24, 2019

Your Art Teacher will complete and upload:

- **Letter of Recommendation**
- **Photographing of Student Portfolio**
- **Submission of Application & Digital Images**
- **Return Portfolio to Applicant**

May 31, 2019

The G/T Visual Arts Screening Committee will:

- **Evaluate Teacher Recommendations**
- **Score Student Portfolios**
- **Determine eligibility to program.**

Following Screening students will be informed of results via US Mail.

If you have any questions during the application process, please contact your school Art teacher.

Candidate Information and Agreement Form

Please type or print

Contact Information: *Required

Student Name* Student ID#*

Street Address* Apt. #

City* Zip Code*

Home phone* Parent/Guardian Cell phone

Name of Current School* Current Grade

Current Art Teacher*

Parent/Guardian Name*

Parent Address, if different than student's.

Street Address Apt. #

City Zip Code

Parents/Guardians please read the following statements together with your child. Once you have read and discussed the expectation please sign and date the form and include the form with the portfolio for the art teacher by May 17, 2019

The Saturday Gifted and Talented Visual Arts Enrichment Program is an advanced program in which students are held to rigorous standards. These standards include a high level of commitment and responsibility, including attendance, class preparation and homework, studio participation, and perseverance to resolve given art problems. At the end of each semester/session the program's teacher(s) will jury students' performance to determine acceptance into next year's program.

Please note: Transportation to and from the studio is the responsibility of the family. Families interested may make carpooling arrangements.

Student (print) Student Signature

Parent/Guardian(print) Parent/Guardian Signature