

# AP Studio Art: Exploring Low, Medium, and High Scoring Portfolios to Help Students Leap to the Next Level

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## Step 1: What *is* the next level?

- Identify artistic goals.
  - *What is the central idea of your concentration?* What is the idea you want to express or communicate? How do you want viewers to respond to your work – what do you want them to think and feel?
- Evaluate current work.
  - *How does the work in your concentration demonstrate exploration of your idea?* How do you use the following features of your work to support your ideas and elicit a specific response from viewers?
    - ✓ Elements and principles/composition
    - ✓ Materials, techniques, and style
    - ✓ Content: what is the story you are telling?

## Step 2. Make a plan to get to the next level.

- What's working well (ideas + skills)?
- What can be improved?
- How can improvements be made?

## Step 3. Use your goals and your plan to guide your work.

- Practice skills.
  - Do the materials, techniques, and style you're using support your ideas?
  - How can you further develop specific skills and techniques and/or learn new ones? What are some resources that might be helpful to you?
- Develop and refine ideas.
  - How can you expand your ideas to tell a richer "story" within your work? Can other senses be activated?

- What happened before in the image you're portraying? Afterward? What are the contributing or supporting factors?
- What is in opposition to your idea? How can you push your idea to its ultimate, most intense outcome?
- What information can you seek to extend and strengthen the concepts you are working with? How can you intensify and sustain the viewer response you want?

#### **Step 4: Assess progress.**

- How has your work improved (idea + skill)?
- How was the improvement accomplished?
- What's next?

#### **Step 5: Update the plan.**

- Reflect on your work and progress.
  - Do you want to continue working with the same goals, or modify (add to, increase focus, diverge from) them?
  - How does your most recent work demonstrate your growth as an artist?
  - Which obstacles do you face, and how can you address them?
  - What would you like to accomplish with your next few pieces?
  - Which features of your artworks will lead to the appearance of a unified body of work?

#### **Resources**

AP Studio Art Course Description

AP Studio Art Poster

AP Studio Art Scoring Guidelines

AP Studio Art Online Teacher Community

AP Studio Art Sample Portfolios

Drawing:

[http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/apc/members/exam/exam\\_information/220229.html#sample1](http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/apc/members/exam/exam_information/220229.html#sample1)

2-D Design:

[http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/apc/members/exam/exam\\_information/220098.html#sample1](http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/apc/members/exam/exam_information/220098.html#sample1)

3-D Design:

[http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/apc/members/exam/exam\\_information/220099.html#sample1](http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/apc/members/exam/exam_information/220099.html#sample1)