

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

2-D Design:

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