

The Orchard Gallery of Fine Arts: Christmas Ornament display

I always post about The Orchard Gallery this time of year because it is so important to support the arts in our community. What a unique experience of looking at local art and getting into the Christmas spirit. The Orchard Gallery of Fine Arts is a wonderful little gallery located on Covington Road, right by the Mocha Lounge. It is owned, managed, and staffed by local artists. Throughout the year, a portion of the gallery is dedicated to month-long featured exhibits highlighting individual work of both members and other artists from around the region. They offer a wide range of fine art including clay, glass, jewelry, paintings of all media, photography, fine wood working, sculpture, and fabric arts.

This Christmas, they are offering a unique exhibit featuring handmade ornaments and nativities. Below is an excerpt from their website describing the show, location, and hours. The best part is all their work is for sale. It would make a perfect addition to your holiday collection or a unique gift!

November 8-December 31 Exhibition

"Art for the Holidays: Featuring Handmade Ornaments & Nativities!"

Artists from around the region show off their holiday spirit! Our ornaments will be the hit of your holiday tree or ornament exchange! All are made by American artists....many by LOCAL artists. Many new designs, plus some new artists! Three-dimensional stained glass stars, enameled snowmen ornaments by Janet Webb & knitted/felted ornaments by Jennifer Berger (colorful "monsters", plus a variety of animals). Many favorites from year's past, including fused glass stars & snowflakes by Char Behrens, Mixed metal ornaments by Greg & BJ Jordan, whimsical clay plates featuring elves by Kristy Jo Beber & Wooden ornaments with rubber stamp designs by Patricia Hecker. Blown glass ornaments by Larry Mack are great for the holiday tree & will bring cheer all year round! Colorful wooden puzzle ornaments by Russell Greenslade. And, the cutest little clay ornaments, nativities and "jointed critter" by Sue Scamihorn. Wooden nativities by Jerry Krider are also available!

All of our ornaments are handmade in the USA by real working artists (no factory produced or import items). This goes for everything at Orchard Gallery...we proudly carry work by around 70 American artists.

OPEN: Mon, Wed, Fri, Sat: 10-5. Tues & Thurs: 10-7 .

CLOSED: Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

Where: The Orchard Gallery of Fine Art
6312-A Covington Road
Fort Wayne, IN
260-436-0927
www.theorchardgallery.com

Inside the Kindergarten Classroom

We have accomplished many projects this year already in Kindergarten. In November, we finished our Klimt project and have scary "Wild Things" to share. We have also experienced how much fun it is to play with clay. The students got a feel for how to treat clay and create with it by making Christmas Ornaments which we painted. Finally, we are

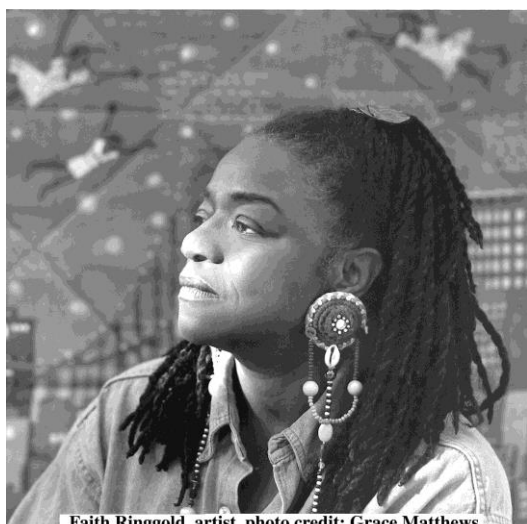


finishing off 2015 by talking about basic color theory (i.e. primary and secondary colors) by making a color wheel and by learning proper paint techniques. We are using this knowledge to develop some of our first paintings of a still life from observation!

Second Grade Fun!

After we finished our Plains Indian Vests we started a new unit on Faith Ringgold and her story quilts. Students have designed their own stories in their sketchbook and have started working on their final project. They are currently painting their design and writing on their cloth. When they finish their painting and writing, they will sew it on to a bigger piece of cloth that is the color of their choice. Stitching is a difficult skill to learn.

We will wrap up December with the artwork of Roy Lichtenstein. More to come on this later.



Faith Ringgold, artist photo credit: Grace Matthews

First Grade Happenings

We have finished our project on Adinkra Cloths of Ghana. We made stamps for this project. It was fun discovering how the stamping process works. They did a great job with this project!

We are also wrapping up our lesson on Paul Klee. The students used their knowledge of shapes to build an abstract face. They colored the face with oil pastels, painted over it with acrylic paint, and are then going to scratch the paint away to give it an antique feel.

Finally, we are going to do a project with an artist whose work ties in with Klee. We are going to work with the artist Wassily Kandinsky. We are going to be making an abstract painting and learning paint brush control.

Third Grade and Clay

We have had a very busy month. We have finished our mosaics and they will be on display in the cafeteria soon.

We have also finished our clay bowl molds. We used under glaze to help decorate these clay bowls.

In addition, we are finished our Oaxacan lizards by painting the last of the details on them to make them colorful and bright. Lots of clay work this month! My personal favorite!

We are now introduced to Grant Wood and *American Gothic*...more on that next month.

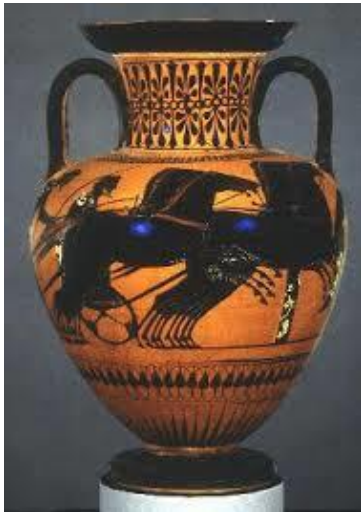
Fourth Grade Forum

We finished our projects inspired by the artist Louise Nevellson. They look great and are on display in the hallway by the cafeteria. Come down and take a look! We are now starting a discussion on Andy Warhol and Pop Art. The students will review other pop artists that they have studied, for example, Roy Lichtenstein. We will discuss Warhol's screen printing technique and are going to mimic that in our own artwork. We are creating our own simple self-portrait that we will Xerox 3 times. Then we will color them with vibrant simple, colors to mimic the screen printing technique.

Finally, after Christmas break we will discuss Navajo weavings.

Featuring Fifth Grade

We are currently still working on our puppet making. We have first split up into groups. These groups have developed a narrative with their characters, which will be their individual puppets, on how to do something of their choice. The students are going to be using their puppets to teach other students in their puppet show that we will have. Look for invitations to come home for our puppet shows! We are aiming to have the puppet show on Friday, January 5th, 2018, provided the weather cooperates!



Sixth Grade Skills

We finished up Greek Urn lesson. We discussed the importance of a Greek vessel. They are looking very nice! We made book shelves to display our Urns on. They are located in the hallway headed down to the elevator in the basement.

We have a new project this year to the 6th grade. We have started working with Op art. This is an art style that was coined in the 60s describing the way the artists used their lines, shapes, and colors to create optical illusions. We are spending the first few class periods practicing using our rulers because measure and math is important to create the illusion. We will then start our projects.

Eighth Grade Masters

We are wrapping up our clay unit. They are turning out really well! We are then moving to a print making unit. We will be carving into linoleum blocks for this project. The focus will be on creating different types of lines to show depth, value, and texture when the ink they will be using is black. They will be completing an edition of at least 3 prints.



A traditional Punch & Judy puppet show in Islington (Photo by Jonathan Lucas)

Seventh Grade Selections

The Seventh Grade finished their Jomon pots this month. They did a great job. This class really thrives in sculptures. They are on display in the stairwell on the way up to the 4th grade classrooms.

Currently, we have started working on our stained-glass windows. We are using X-acto knives for the first part of this project. I cannot express enough to the students how important safety is while using these. Most of them have experience from 6th grade with the knives. The projects are looking wonderful as they have started. Their projects are supposed to be religious based. We went to the church for a field trip and lesson on why stained-glass windows are important and how the church is a classroom in and of itself.

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We're on the Web!

See us at:

<http://seascsfw.org/>

**My link is under Art
and Kristin Spoltman**

Schedule

Monday:

6B: 7:50-8:35

6A: 8:35-9:20

8A: 11:35-12:20

8B: 12:20-1:05

3A: 1:30-2:15

3B: 2:15-3:00

Tuesday:

1A: 8:10-8:55

1B: 8:55-9:40

7B: 10:00-10:30

7A: 10:30-11:00

2B: 1:00-1:45

2A: 1:45-2:30

Wednesday:

6B: 7:50-8:35

6A: 8:35-9:20

8A: 11:35-12:20

8B: 12:20-1:05

5B: 1:10-1:55

5A: 1:55-2:40

Thursday:

7B: 9:30-10:15

7A: 10:15-11:00

4A: 12:00-12:45

4B: 12:45-1:30

HOUSE: 2:10-2:55

Friday:

KB: 8:10-8:50

Mass: 9:00-10:00

KA: 10:15-10:55

KC: 12:35-1:20

5A: 1:25-2:10

5B: 2:10-2:55

Supplies needed

Thank you so much to everyone who has sent in supplies and materials to the art room. I greatly appreciate all the donations!! If you have connections with the following supplies, please let me know. There are a few items that I need for projects coming up this school year.

* Clorox Wipes

* Masking Tape

* Large envelopes for storing student artwork.

* Newspaper

* Yarn

Electronic Art Museum and Artsonia

Many of you have discovered all that Artsonia has to offer! I hope you are enjoying the ability to be able to view and share your child's artwork. Again, if you have any questions about this program or website, please email or call me any time. You can sign up at any time, so do not worry if you have not done so yet.

Representational Vs. Abstract Art

(A review for viewing artwork)



Do you ever go to a museum and find yourself looking at artwork and wondering what it is? In a broad sense, there are two basic types of artwork. They are representational and abstract art. Loosely speaking, representational art portrays a specific, recognizable physical object. Many times it looks true to life, almost like it is a photograph. However, it does not have to be realistic, just recognizable.

Abstract art is a little more complicated. Abstract art consists of designs, shapes or colors that do not look like a

specific object. They are a lot harder to understand and you may not have any idea what you are viewing. There are two basic types of abstract art. The first form is when an artwork may portray objects that have been "abstracted." This means that although it may not look realistic, you can get a feel for what you might be seeing. The second form of abstract art is sometimes called "pure" abstract art. This is a very obtuse idea because all you may see are shapes, colors, lines, patterns, etc. It's more of a focus on some elements or principles of art.

Until the end of the 19th century, virtually all artwork was representational. However, artists such as Monet, then Kandinsky and so forth, started to experiment with color and shape to find ways to make their artwork more appealing to the eye and to make the viewer think about what they see. Although abstract art may be hard to decipher, it does stick with the viewer and makes them wonder.

**"Every artist was first an amateur"
– Ralph Waldo Emerson.**