**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_High School Art Dept.**

**Class \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Ms. Elizabeth Griffin**

**Phone:** (303) 726-9007

**Email:** [lgriffin1210@gmail.com](mailto:lgriffin1210@gmail.com)

**Availability:** Before school everyday @ 7:00 am

After school everyday until 4:30

**Class Description**

We will be spending time planning, creating, and reflecting on several artworks made throughout the semester. In addition to that we will research art movements from throughout time, historical and contemporary artists, and several individual works of art. We are all artists, and the class will be structured as so. I expect that each student will dive into exploring each medium while integrating who they are as individuals in their work. Artists learn about themselves and the world around them by taking risks and putting their hearts into their work. I can’t wait to learn about each and every one of you and be a guide to you.

**Attendance/Grading**

**Projects:** 50% of your grade

Each student will be set up for success and given everything they need to know to succeed with a project. Overall, try your best and have fun with each one.

\*LATE PROJECTS WILL BE ACCEPTED FOR HALF CREDIT, AND WILL BE ACCEPTED NO LATER THAN ONE WEEK AFTER IT’S DUE\*

**Performance and Attendance:** 25% of your grade

You will be given 10 points each day by showing up on time, with all supplies, and working diligently from bell to bell.

*-*TARDIES:

>Excused Tardy: If you’re late and have a note from your previous teacher, you will receive credit for the day.

>Unexcused Tardy: An unexcused tardy will result in a loss of your 10 daily performance points.

-ABSENCES:

>Excused Absence: Every once and a while things get in the way of school. As long as you have been excused by the office, you and I will work together to get you caught up.

>Unexcused Absence: Unexcused absences are regarded according to school policy, and are not accepted.

**Sketchbook, Homework, Critiques, Bulb:** 25% of your grade

*-Sketchbooks:* Each student will have a sketchbook and will bring it to class each day. They will be used for notes, planning, homework, experiments, drawing/doodling, etc. They will be checked from time to time for credit. I will let you know what need to be in them to receive a grade. \*These are creative outlets for you, a place to put your thoughts. Use them to your advantage ☺\*

*-Homework:* There will be a few assignments in your sketchbook, as well as instances of working on projects outside of class.

*-Critiques:* Critiques will occur at the end of each project, and occasionally mid-way through. Critiques are vital to how artists grow and learn from their work. Most of the time, they will be held in class as a group activity so we can benefit from our peers.

*-Bulb Accounts:* Each student will create and maintain a Bulb account. These will be used regularly to reflect on our work and for various writing assignments.

**Classroom Culture**

Above all else, along with the school policy, the following will be expected:

**Respect and Kindness.** Art making is a form of self-expression. This classroom is a place where students will feel able and confident to be who they are, and in turn express themselves freely. Let’s all provide an environment of acceptance, as well as support, for one another.

**Integrity.** Hold yourself accountable for your work and how you act. With privilege comes responsibility. Making art is a fun, positive experience, and I hope for the classroom to be a space that provides that for everyone.

**Materials**

Sketchbook

Pencils, paintbrushes, etc. (whatever applies to the class)

Other utensils

Hello Parents and Students!

Before we dive into (insert class), I wanted to introduce myself, speak a bit about my classroom, and relay my excitement to teach! I was born and raised in Denver, CO, and graduated from Colorado State University in 2017 with a degree in Art Education. I am a nature geek and a dog lover. I believe that everyone is an artist, and art provides a framework to learn about ourselves and the world around us. It also allows us to yield pertinent skills, such as critical thinking, independent problem solving, and multi-tasking.

I’ve found my niche in being a mentor to younger generations and teaching what I know. My experience includes teaching 1st grade art, teens and adults with special needs, and several practicums that integrated me within the classroom. Teaching is on-going journey that I learn more about everyday!

As far as the way the class will be structured, I will do my best to set your student up for success. We will go into depth with each project and learn several techniques for each student to choose suitable for them. We will also research movements in art history, contemporary and historical artists, and several individual artworks that will lead into what we’ll be creating for that project. Grading will be focused primarily on projects, but also on sketchbook assignments and critiques. I will expect each student to have integrity in their behavior and their work. The classroom will be a place of mutual respect between me and each student.

Please contact me if you have any questions regarding this letter, or throughout the year. I look forward to staying in contact with you!

Elizabeth Griffin

[lgriffin1210@gmail.com](mailto:Lgriffin1210@gmail.com)

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