

## AP Studio Art Concentration Preparation 2019 - 2020

### KING

A concentration is an investigation of a specific visual idea. It is a series of works connected both visually and conceptually that reflects your growth and discovery. **It is important for you to determine your concentration within the first two weeks of school so that you have enough time to create quality art works to fulfill your AP portfolio exam.** Further, your art works should show strength in its *focus and direction*. To that end, choose a concentration that reflects your passion for something—be it, literature, music, social issues, political, personal or religious. It can reflect, humor, irony, sarcasm, sweetness or any emotion you want. Whatever you choose, it should reflect a strong personal voice.

1. **Step One:** Please start your investigation by researching **THREE** artists who explore ideas that interest to you. PLEASE STAY AWAY FROM OBVIOUS ARTISTS LIKE PICASSO OR VANGOGH. 😊 Choose three artists who are relevant to you and your interests.

State the medium in which they worked and state why these artists caught your eye. 😊

*(Two of the artists must be alive and working today as practicing artists)*

### **Research Resources:**

Here are some places to start. Feel free to research anything and everything!

[www.nga.gov/content/ngaweb.html](http://www.nga.gov/content/ngaweb.html)

[www.thisiscolossal.com](http://www.thisiscolossal.com)

[www.artwhino.com](http://www.artwhino.com)

[www.johnpence.com/visuals](http://www.johnpence.com/visuals)

[www.perlow-stevensgallery.com](http://www.perlow-stevensgallery.com)

[www.lindawarallengallery.com](http://www.lindawarallengallery.com)

[www.studiogallerydc.com](http://www.studiogallerydc.com)

[www.artdaily.org](http://www.artdaily.org)

[www.theartsmap.com](http://www.theartsmap.com)

[www.art.net](http://www.art.net)

[www.artinfo.com](http://www.artinfo.com)

[www.blackbird.vcu.edu](http://www.blackbird.vcu.edu)

[www.ugallery.com](http://www.ugallery.com)

Artists: \_\_\_\_\_ (medium ) \_\_\_\_\_ (why I am interested in him/her).

1.

2.

3.

2. **Step Two:** Research and print three good examples (from the three different artists) from a series of work they have completed. Here is

an example: (*You should have nine images total, three from three different artists*)

1. Kehinde Wiley (painter)



3. **Step Three:** List three mediums that you prefer to work with:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

4. **Step Four:** List up to three mediums that you wish to learn more about or wish to become proficient at:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

5. **Step Five:** Begin to consider possible concentration themes. Please stay away from *Fruit!*

(Here are some examples of possible concentrations.)

1. A series of expressive, personal experiences.
2. Interpretive self-portraiture and figure studies that emphasize exaggeration and distortion.
3. Figurative studies that focus on an individual among crowds
4. Futuristic car design

***Please remember that if you start too specific, there is not much room to grow. This idea is not set in stone but you need to have a good starting point that focuses on a strong personal interest!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!***

**Please brainstorm by thinking of some big ideas.**

For example:

Identity	Power	Nature and Culture
Heroes	Spirituality	Relationships
Struggles	Materialism	Beauty
Stereotypes	Aging	Idealism
Conflict	Celebration	Social Order

***I WANT YOU TO FEEL FREE TO MAKE CHOICES, TO EXPLORE AND TO CREATE WITHOUT FEAR OR ANXIETY! THIS CAN SOMETIMES HAPPEN WHEN YOU WORRY TOO MUCH ABOUT WHAT YOU ARE TRYING TO COMMUNICATE!***

- 5. Step Six:** Begin sketching and creating whatever comes to mind. Please keep the previous artist research loosely available in your memory. ***Experiment with new media but also stick to what you love most.*** Try to develop a personal language of visual imagery. I. E. Imagery that you have used before, that you are drawn to or that you find relevant. Try to determine what medium will best represent your technical strengths and your ideas. ***Create at least four pages of free form drawings that come to you naturally.***
- 7. Step Seven:** ***Look at your four pages of drawings and*** think about what interests you. What is your passion??? What idea will sustain your interest for an entire year? Create a list of **4** possible concentration themes based on your passions and interests.
  - 1.
  - 2.
  - 3.
  - 4.
- 8. Step Eight:** on **four** sketchbook pages, list **one** theme at the top of each page. Create drawings of at least **5** images or symbols that you associate with that idea. Try to draw in a distinct drawing style that is your own. Use media that would best communicate the particular idea.

From the previous research, choose a potential (not set in stone) concentration idea.

**How would you develop this theme?**

Continually develop your idea by writing, sketching, brainstorming and sharing thoughts with your teacher and friends. Work at developing your theme as far as you can.

**Materials:**

Think about which medium would best portray your idea. Which media are best suited to express your theme/ big idea?

**9.Step Nine:** Develop a series of **6 thumbnail sketches** in pencil that investigate one Concentration theme. Focus on specific symbols or imagery that explore and develop your idea.

**10.Step 10:** From these 6 sketches, develop **1 finished and resolved piece in your sketchbook or on separate paper** . It is important that you show growth and progression with each work. Create one work per page. Because this summer assignment is very intensive and will impact your work for the entire school year, it is worth **400 points** and will be designated the very first grade of your school year in AP Studio Art.

**Please understand that** the more time you dedicate to this summer research work, the easier your life will be next year.

Remember, choose a concentration idea that you are **passionate** about! You will dedicate yourself to this idea for an entire year!

**Requirements and Checklist:**

- The completed research pages (three artists, three images from each artist)
- The **four** pages of free form drawings
- The **four** pages that have the proposed idea and **five** associated images
- **Six** thumbnail sketches
- **One** finished work

**All of the above needs to be completed to earn the 400 points!**

**Good Luck! Work Hard! Work Smart! Work like a true artist!!!**

**I look forward to working with you, supporting you in your art, and encouraging you in “thinking outside the box”! See you in August!**

Sincerely,

**Mr. Brett King**  
[brettking@ccs.k12.nc.us](mailto:brettking@ccs.k12.nc.us)

**3-D Studio Art Attachment: (if needed)**

**Suggested Materials and Approaches:**

*All of these approaches can be starting points for you to explore your potential concentration idea.*

- A. Using any debris from your life (clothes, papers, food containers, cosmetics, reading materials, etc.), assemble the materials into a relief sculpture or sculpture in the round. You can use any available means (tape, glue, string, staples, screws, etc.) for attaching the materials.
- B. Using only natural materials (twigs, grasses, pods, stones, leaves) and twine or string, create a container that relates to your concentration idea. The container must be at least 10 inches in one of its dimensions.
- C. Make a temporary environmental installation addressing your potential concentration idea. Document your installation in photographs and drawings (-- video an option, too). See work by Andy Goldsworthy, Robert Smithson.
- D. Concentration Idea – create three objects whose forms are related to your idea yet different from each other. Each object must be at least eight inches high. These can be vessels, figures, or abstract forms. Work in clay, and preserve for firing in August.