

## **Visual Arts Program**

Mercy's four-year visual arts program is for students with a serious interest in and talent for developing their artistic skills. Many graduates of the visual arts program pursue the visual arts in college or find a career path in the visual arts.

Art students explore the elements and principles of art and design and the history of art. Students will develop their skills and learn to work in a variety of media. The sequence of classes assists artists in the creation of a portfolio to be submitted for Advanced Placement Studio Art credit in the senior year.

### **Requirements:**

<b>9th Grade</b>	Introduction to Drawing (.50 credit)
<b>10th Grade</b>	Basic Design (.50 credit)
<b>11th Grade</b>	Introduction to Studio Techniques: Mark Making (full year course)
<b>12th Grade</b>	Introduction to Painting (full year course); Independent Study Studio Art (optional)

## **The Law and Social Action Program**

The Law and Social Action program provides students with opportunities to evaluate how interdependence, as well as political, legal, social and economic change, affect all communities, with a focus on both globalization and sustainable development. A study of social change through governance, social and legal policy, and justice provides students with an understanding of both individual and systemic power; she will be encouraged to engage in innovative, responsible action.

## Requirements:

- Year 1:
- Students are required to attend three or four Symposiums
  - Students keep a journal with a reflective assignment after each symposium
  - 9th Grade – Project through a Social Justice and Public Policy lens.
  - Students in the first year of the program are expected to be active participants of one-two clubs/organizations\*
- Year 2:
- Students are required to attend four Symposiums
  - Students participate in three or four field trips focused on public policy
  - Students keep a journal with a reflective assignment after each symposium
  - Applicable and rigorous coursework especially in Social Studies
  - 10th grade Personal Project related to action research/critical concern
  - Students are expected to continue participation in one-two clubs/organizations
- Years 3 and 4:
- Year 3 and 4 students work in collaboration to present material for Symposiums
  - Coursework:
    - Participation in the Mentor Program (Encouraged)
    - Global Politics
    - Baltimore: A study of historical and contemporary legal and social policy
    - Law and Social Justice
    - World Language
    - Additional Electives that complement the program
  - Students are expected to take on a leadership position in one of the two clubs/organizations.
  - Students may take advantage of possible internship opportunities.
  - Juniors and Seniors in the Law and Social Action program are encouraged to participate in the following:
    - Mercy Girl Effect Conference
    - Ignatian Family Teach-In
    - Baltimore Student Diversity Leadership Conference (AIMS)
    - Summer programs supported by the American Bar Association
    - Internships
  - Students will report on their experience at a Law and Social Action Consortium