Content Goals

The Lower School aligns its art program with the Core Knowledge curriculum. One of the goals of this program is to introduce students to important artists and their works. The artists covered in each grade are outlined in The Core Knowledge Sequence. At the beginning of each lesson, students will learn about the artist whose work is being presented. I will give them some information about the artwork, then ask follow-up questions in the interests of engaging them around what they have learned. Next, they will explore the artist and technique through a hands-on activity. For example, first graders may be presented with a Cezanne still-life painting. They will learn what a still-life painting is and how the artist uses contrasting colors to make the fruit in his painting easy to see. Students will then create their own still-life of simple objects using contrasting colors. My goal is to have students develop fundamental art skills and vocabulary such as line, shape, form, and composition, while at the same time becoming familiar with important artists and works of art.

Expectations for Students

Students will be expected to think about and discuss artworks and the artists who created them. Participation in these discussions is very important. They will also be expected to actively engage with the ideas covered during class discussion in the hands-on art activities. Older students may also be asked to critique their own artwork. Students are expected to be courteous, attentive, and respectful in class.

Homework Requirements

There will be no homework for Lower School students, though I may occasionally ask them to bring in an item from home to be used in a project the following week.

Contacting the Teacher

If you have any questions or concerns, my e-mail is tina.nadeau@crossroadsacademy.org. My phone number at school is 795-3111 (ext. 128).