



Art for the Healer

Vita Litvak
Manager of Adult Programs 215-922-3456 x312 vlitvak@fleisher.org

Medical School Partner:

Sidney Kimmel Medical College Jefferson (Philadelphia University + Thomas Jefferson University)
Megan Voeller, Director of Humanities Megan.Voeller@jefferson.edu

Description

Fleisher Art Memorial in partnership with the Humanities Program at Jefferson University's Sydney Kimmel Medical College offers a five week summer workshop - *Art for the Healer*, designed for medical students and practicing professionals. Taking place on Fleisher's campus, the five-week workshop serves as an introduction to the visual principals and elements of art and design. Informed by Bauhaus *Vorkurs* pedagogy and maintaining an emphasis on observation, the course introduces students to technical skills in different media while encouraging intuitive self-expression. Lessons are tailored to serve medical professionals particularly, encompassing goals of increasing empathy, strengthening crucial perceptual skills, and studying anatomical structures.

The majority of class time is devoted to inquiry-based exercises that provide hands-on experience with graphite, ink, paint, and clay, and encourage learning through playful experimentation. Additionally, students are exposed to the ideas and works of artists past and present through presentations, a field trip to the Rodin Museum, and supplemental readings.

Learning Outcomes

- Students gain familiarity with universal elements (shape, line, form, space, value, color, texture) and principles (emphasis, balance, harmony, contrast, rhythm, movement, proportion, variety) of visual art.
- Students learn the basics of manipulating graphite, ink, paint, and clay.
- Students hone observational skills, with the goal of improving patient observation and image-reading.
 - recognizing subtle shifts in color, value, and pattern
 - truly seeing vs. assuming what is before your eyes
- Students become more acutely aware of typical body proportions, and gain familiarity with the visual aspects of particular anatomical structures, including the hand and head.

- Students engage in thoughtful consideration of their peers' artistic decisions through group critiques, practicing empathy skills.
- Students gain insights into historical and contemporary artists' works through presentations, a field trip to the Rodin Museum, supplemental readings, and guided discussions.
- Students express emotions, arising independently or through empathy with subjects, through visual language.

Course Outline

Classes will take place on Fleisher Art Memorial's campus
719 Catharine St.
Philadelphia PA 19144

Weekly sessions on Tuesday evenings
July 10th through July 31st
6:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

Tuesday 7/10: Observation and Line with Santiago Galeas

- slow, focused observation: pencil contour drawing
- intuition & experimentation: large-scale ink drawings
- critique/group discussion
- Reading: Elizabeth Prelinger, *Kollwitz Reconsidered*, from *Kathe Kollwitz*, Yale University Press, 1992. Please read pages 38-44.

<https://www.nga.gov/content/dam/ngaweb/research/publications/pdfs/kathe-kollwitz.pdf>

Tuesday 7/17: The Body: Gesture & Proportion with Martin Campos

- figure drawing
- empathizing with the subject: capturing gesture
- seeing shape and proportion, drawing the model in proportion

7/21: Rodin Museum with Martin Campos 1 – 4pm

Tuesday 7/24: Visualizing Form with Darla Jackson

- clay modeling from a bust and/or skull
- Resource: Podcast – *The Sculptor's Funeral*, Episode 3, October 19, 2014

<http://www.thesculptorsfuneral.com/episodes/2014/10/18/episode-03-what-is-clay>

Tuesday 7/31: Emotion Through Color Marie Elcin

- recognizing subtle shifts in color and in value: acrylic color studies
- exploring how visual elements express emotion: creating an abstract painting based on a piece of music
- Reading: The Conversation, *We Can Use Color To Communicate How We Feel*, January 22, 2018

<https://theconversation.com/we-can-use-colour-to-communicate-how-we-feel-heres-how-90157>

- *Vibrations in the Soul: Moe Brooker's Sacred Paintings*. Nikki A. Greene (Spring 2018)
<http://journalpanorama.org/vibrations-in-the-soul/>