

## Marriotts Ridge Visual Arts Department

*When thinking about your future, consider the Visual Arts!*

### Important Facts...

- **We live in a visual age.** Most children and youth spend 10 hours per day in front of screens composed of not just word but **visual images**.
- **The arts provide jobs.** 1.25 million Americans currently work in the visual arts. Jobs for artists and designers are predicted to increase by 43% by 2016. Jobs in the creative sector that benefit from or require a strong foundation in the visual arts include:
  - Architecture and interior and furniture design...
  - Fashion, graphic and game design
  - Industrial, product/packaging, and automotive design
  - Art education
  - Fine Arts\*
- **Art education equips students** to think visually, a skill that scientists, doctors, engineers, and architects, as well as artists and designers use to find unique solutions to difficult problems and that inventors use to envision new ideas/questions.
- **Art education requires students** to use their eyes and hands to give form to ideas generated in the brain—a discipline that Nobel Prize winner Eric Kandel demonstrated boosts brainpower. ([www.arteducators.org](http://www.arteducators.org))



### So how does taking art at MRHS foster student achievement?

- Art I students discover that hard work, perseverance, and being open to multiple solutions - not just the first idea that pops into your head - are the keys to success, not only in art but in all other classes.
- Students find the satisfaction that comes from making and doing, not just memorizing.
- Portfolios, they are not just for art students! They are great additions to any college or university application, highlighting creative problem solving, the ability to focus, and solve complex visual problems, and have resulted in additional scholarship money for non-art majors.
- Art is one of the few courses that is multi-grade. Students are encouraged to interact, share ideas and viewpoints, and build skills in effective social interaction.
- Art teaches students to make critical judgments rather than just find the right answer.
- The Visual Arts department provides a community for students through the National Art Honor Society and art club, fostering leadership skills and independence.

**Up to the challenge? See courses offered on the back...** *For an in-depth description, and*

*prerequisites class consult the **Approved High School Courses** handbook.*

**Art I: Foundations of Studio Art** The prerequisite course for the comprehensive high school art program.

**Art II: Developing Ideas in Media – Honors:** Students who continue at this level to refine their skills in fine arts media and creative problem solving.

**Art II: Developing Ideas in Media - G/T:** This course challenges students who continue at this level to refine their skills in fine arts media and creative problem solving. This course is recommended for students who have demonstrated an ability to work successfully at a demanding pace.



**Art III: Portfolio Development** –This course challenges students to take risks, experiment with new art media, and explore new ideas through researching traditional and contemporary art from diverse cultures

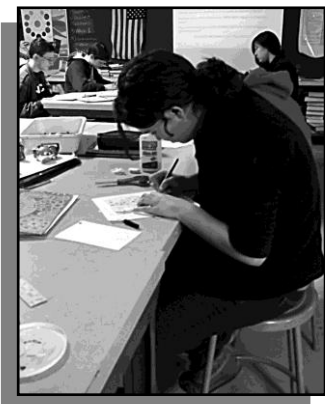
**Art III: Portfolio Development - AP G/T:** This course begins the development of the body of work leading to the Advanced Placement Examination. It is recommended for students who have demonstrated an ability to complete challenging work successfully at a demanding pace

**Art IV: Personal Directions in Art Studio – Honors:** In this course, students develop a body of work informed by research of contemporary and master artists, cultural exemplars, and peer dialogue .

**Art IV: Personal Directions in Art Studio - AP G/T:** In this course, students develop a portfolio of work informed by research of contemporary and master artists, cultural exemplars and peer dialogue. Students defends the portfolio in a personal artist’s statement

**Photography I:** In this course, students apply the language of art in producing fine art photographs. Primary experiences will center on the use of a 35mm single lens reflex camera,

**Photography II: Portfolio Development:** In this course, students refine and master technical skills as well as experiment with alternative approaches and materials as they compose unique photographs .



**Photography II: Portfolio Development – AP G/T** This course begins the development of a body of work leading to the Advanced Placement Examination

**Photography III: Personal Directions in Photography – Honors Grade** In this course students will develop a thematic body of work that can be used for college admissions, scholarships and student exhibitions

**Photography III: Personal Directions in Photography - AP G/T** In this course each student will develop a thematic body of work that can be used for the Advanced Placement portfolio,

**New Forms in Art:** Students will research the work of contemporary artists employing studio processes such as collaboration, digital technology, installation, mixed-media, performance and site-specific works.

**AP Art History:** This course is designed to provide the same benefits to high school students as those provided by an introductory college course in art history. In this course, students examine major forms of artistic expression from the past as well as the present and from a variety of cultures.