

# Young Artists Studio

June 30 to Aug. 19, 2010

Students who participate in this month-long, visual arts-intensive workshop have opportunities to sculpt, paint, draw and create in a variety of media. Student's create:

## Picasso Portraits



Spanish artist, Pablo Picasso, spent much of his time painting portraits of friends and family. These paintings were a flurry of color and design. He often transformed facial features into geometric shapes and replaced them on the face in an unrealistic manner. For the time, this type of abstraction was completely new and different. Picasso's unique style helped to change the way the world approached and appreciated art.

## Metal Fish

Texture is the main focus of this two-dimensional art project. The Young Artists learned that the ancient Mayan people were expert metal workers and often used flattened pieces of metal to create decorative objects. Examples of Mayan death masks can be seen in museums today and were worked with gold and precious gems to adorn the face of the deceased individual. The Young Artists' fish were textured with many different tools to create changing impressions on thin metal sheets.

## Animal Warhol

Andy Warhol was one of the leaders of the Pop Art movement of the 1960s. Pop artists elevated everyday objects into fine art such as Warhol's images of Campbell's soup cans and Brillo soap boxes. The Young

artists also used bright colors in their images just as Pop artists recognized how bright colors in commercial advertising grab viewers' attention.

## Bamboo Mandala

Throughout history the circle has been an important symbol that reflects shapes and meanings from the world, such as the moon, the earth, cycles of nature, the atom and all things celestial. Buddhists often use the circle as a tool to mediate and believe the complicated geometric designs allow for deeper thought and understanding.

## Scratch Resist Calaveras

In many regions of Mexico and the United States, Nov. 1 is known as the Day of the Dead or "Dia de los Muertos." It is a tradition that has roots in ancient Meso-American and Aztec cultures going back more than 3,000 years. Over the generations, the tradition has also evolved to include elements from Western cultures and Christianity. The Young Artists learned about Day of the Dead history, traditions and imagery as a tradition for celebrating the circle of life and death. Today, many people celebrate the holiday and honor loved ones with offering gifts of food, clothes, flowers, drink and artwork that features skeletons, known as "Calaveras."



Sketchbook

# Young Artists Studio

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## Mondrian Magnets

Piet Mondrian was one of the most famous abstract painters of the 20th century. He was not interested in showing the realistic or natural world. In fact, he eliminated all curved lines and organic shapes in his paintings. His work is recognizable by its short straight black lines that divide the compositions into squares and rectangles. His primary color palette was black, white, red, yellow and blue. The Young Artists also used straight lines to divide their compositions and used a limited color palette.

## Mayan Glyph

The Maya invented one of the most advanced forms of writing in the ancient Americas. The Mayas used nearly 700 glyphs (a picture used to represent a sound or word). They were known to cover big stone slabs, or “stelae,” with glyphs to tell stories about special events. Then Young Artists created their own “stelae.” The Young Artists created their own glyphs with layers of corrugated cardboard and aged it with colored chalks.

## Red Basin Design

An 18th century red-lacquered wood basin from the Phoenix Art Museum collection inspired this project. The piece is from Mexico and is an example of “chinoiserie,” which is a French term for a Chinese decorative style. The Phoenix Art Museum piece includes hand-painted fanciful scenes of Chinese musicians and imaginary creatures amid flowers. Young Artists created their own scenes with permanent markers and then “lacquered” the designs.

## Woven Bowl

Baskets are woven in many cultures around the world. The Young Artists looked at traditional baskets by Native Americans and contemporary baskets woven by the Zulu in Africa. Both cultures used materials at hand such as natural fibers, recycled telephone wire and polypropylene bags from grain bags. The Young Artists used warm or cool colors to create a radial pattern in the center of the basket. They then used textural brayers and yarn to transform a plate into a woven bowl.

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Red Basin Design



Paisley Painting

### **Paisley Painting**

The kidney-shaped paisley resembles a twisted teardrop and is Persian and Indian in origin. Its western name derives from the town of Paisley, in central Scotland. The Young Artists learned about the use of the paisley pattern in everyday life. Then they created their own paisley paintings. They used a variety of templates as well as freehand drawings to create the main shapes. They filled the interiors, exteriors and negative space with designs made of oil pastels and used tempera paint to add additional colors. The Young Artists added bead details, lending an individual twist to the paisley designs.

### **Cityscapes**

Using multiple paintings and photographs as inspiration, the Young Artists used one color of construction paper and layered white tissue between layers to create urban skylines. They were asked to focus on the foreground, middle ground and background and the effects of spatial perspective.

### **Sun**

The Bella Coola were North American Indians who lived in a narrow valley in what is now central British Columbia. The valley measured just two to three miles wide and had tall snow-packed mountains on either side. The sun was the main character in their mythology. The Young Artists looked at a Bella Coola carved wooden sun mask for inspiration. They used a similar design layout for their own sun images. Then they drew with glue on black paper and filled the spaces with chalk pastels, using a complementary pair, white and one other color.