Digital Design (Computer Art)

Course Description and Objectives:

This course is designed to develop the entry-level skills required for careers in digital design. The content includes computer skills; digital publishing concepts and operations; layout, design, and measurement activities; digital imaging; communication, collaboration and decision-making activities; critical thinking and problem-solving.

After successfully completing this course, the student will:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of digital publishing concepts and basic digital imaging
2. Demonstrate proficiency in the safe and ethical use of the Internet to locate information
3. Identify project requirements, define project planning, and understand the design process
4. Perform page layout and measurement activities
5. Demonstrate an understanding of color and its role in digital design as well as an understanding of typography and elements & principles of design
6. Demonstrate basic skill in digital photography, the use of raster software applications, the use of vector software applications, desktop publishing application
7. Develop an awareness of the emerging technologies associated with digital design
8. Demonstrate an understanding of career opportunities and requirements in the field of digital design
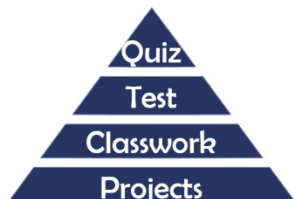
Required Supplies:
1. Mead or similar STRONG PLASTIC Pocket Folder with Metal Prongs
2. Notebook paper
3. No. 2 Pencils
4. Wired Earbuds (OR I have a class set of headphones)
5. OPTIONAL FlashDrive (OneDrive is an option for all Graphic Design work)

Sample Projects:
Students in Digital Design will work on the following: File Management, Organization Skills, Graphics Presentations, Logos, Post Cards, Flyers, Menus, Backstage Passes and more.
We have full access to the Adobe Suite. Level 1 students will focus on Photoshop.

Grading Procedures: We will utilize a point-based grading system.

Quiz — Students will take 1 Quiz for each 9 weeks. The least amount of points.

Test — Students will take 1 Test for each 9 weeks.

Classwork — There are several class work assignments that support each project.

Projects — We create 4-8 projects each 9 weeks. The most amount of points.

Duration: Full School Year

- **1st 9 weeks:** Photoshop basics: interface, pixel editing, layers, type & gradients, and adjustment layers.

- **2nd 9 weeks:** Design essentials: blending modes, filters, production techniques, image distortion, and special effects with type.

- **3rd 9 weeks:** Advanced Photoshop: image retouching, multi-image design, shapes & vector masks, smart objects, artboards, libraries, and complex effects.

- **4th 9 weeks:** Skill development and application through extended projects, project refinement, portfolio building, and year-end review.

Classroom Expectations

- **Attendance:** Regular attendance is crucial for success in this practical course. Please be on time.
- **Participation:** Active participation in class discussions and group work is expected.
- **Deadlines:** Assignments must be submitted on time. Late submissions will incur a penalty.
- **Plagiarism:** Claiming work that is not yours or cheating will result in a "0" on the assignment and a referral.
- **Safety:** Follow all safety procedures when using equipment. Food (candy, snacks or gum) are not allowed in my room. Only bottles that can close. We want to treat our computers with care.
- **Restroom Visits:** You may use the restroom during class, but only 1 person may leave at a time. Please sign out on the sheet next to the door.
- **Respect:** Show respect to classmates, teachers, and equipment at all times. Please remove hats while indoors. Do NOT wear earbuds in your ears while I am teaching.

Cell Phone Policy

- Upon entering the classroom, please ensure all cell phones are set to silent mode and stored securely in your backpack.
- Recording video or taking photos during instruction is strictly prohibited without prior consent from the teacher. (This includes sharing or posting any recorded content via messaging platforms or online.)
- Cell phones may only be used for class-related learning activities explicitly approved by the teacher.
- On designated days when cell phone use is permitted for learning, phones must remain on silent mode.
- Should a cell phone cause a distraction:
    - First offense: Verbal warning
    - Second offense: Lunch detention
    - Third offense: Referral to administration

Parent Signature _____   Date _____

Student Name _____   Period _____

(Scan this QR Code for the PARENT SURVEY) ➡