

Wooten School

Choice Based

Art Studio



Dear Wooten Parents and Families,

Welcome back to the new school year!

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself to the new members of the Wooten School community. My name is Ms. Cruz-Schindler and I am honored to be your child's art teacher. I'm a Native Austinite, Graduate of U.T. and have been teaching in Austin since 1999. I'm looking forward to a fun and creative year in art class!



I want to share some exciting news about a visual arts program. This will be the pilot year for a style of choice based art education based on the principles of T.A.B. (teaching for artistic Behavior). The Philosophy of TAB can be summed up in these three sentences...

What do artists do?

The child is the artist.

The art room is the child's studio.

(Douglas and Jaquith, 2018)

In a tab classroom students are viewed as authentic artists in groups of materials are made available and introduced to the student one by one rather than copying the idea of the art teacher in which the topic materials & final products have already been determined. The students create art based on their own ideas and personal experiences. They make choices about what materials and methods to use to create their art. My role is to facilitate their learning by introducing concepts, materials and artists throughout history that are aligned with the Texas Visual Arts Frameworks. I will encourage and support my students as artists to build their confidence and to develop their creative mind.

Over the summer the art room has been organized into Studio centers which include drawing, painting, collage, sculpture, fiber and architecture. These are the main centers in which students will explore and create their art throughout the year; other temporary centers will be introduced such as printmaking, clay and paper mache.

Artfully yours,

Ms. Cruz-Schindler

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Source:

1. Engaging Learners through art-making choice-based ART education in the classroom by Katherine and Diane B Jacques 2009

To learn more about TAB visit www.teachingforartisticbehavior.org

The 8 Studio Habits of Mind

Heartland, Winner, Veenema, & Sheridan 2007

The following great ways that artists approach learning and art making. These were developed at project zero Harvard Research Center the studio habits guide our daily practice.

1. **Developed Craft** “I can learn to use tools materials in the practices of an art form”
2. **Engaging Persist** “I can learn to embrace problems of importance and develop focus in my work.”
3. **Envision** “I can learn to mentally picture the next step in my work.”
4. **Express** “I can learn to create work that conveys an idea, a feeling, or a meaning.
5. **Observe** “ I can learn to look more closely and see things that may otherwise not be seen.”
6. **Reflect** “I can learn to talk about the process of working and honestly assess my work / process.
7. **Stretch and Explore** I can learn to reach beyond my capacity and embrace the opportunity to learn from my mistakes
8. **Understand art world** I can learn about our history and learn to interact as an artist with other artists

1. Studio thinking to the real benefits of Visual Arts education by Luis Holland Ellen winner Shirley and Kimberly Sheridan 2013

A new aesthetic for child-directed art

You may notice the art your child is bringing home a look different from previous years. This is because the art is your child's own unique art and not "adult art" in which the art has already been chosen by the teacher. Much of the art created in the choice based art program is not created for an art show. The students are exploring and experimenting with their ideas and the art mediums and materials, so some work may even look unfinished. Just like in drawing, children progress through development stages such as the scribble stage. These are equally important as a finished piece because they are learning to use new materials, take risks and problem solve. They are developing their creative ability

and students will be creating finished pieces for annual Fine Art Exhibit in the spring and in the first



half of the year will be spent exploring and developing skills in the art studio and moving through the natural development phases of authentic art making

ART Room Wish list

The students are always so grateful for donated supplies that they can use in the studio.

The following is a list of items you may have in your home that will be useful in the art room. You can send them in with your child any time throughout the year,

**Thank you for the support-
Wooten Artists**

Small paper lunch bags
Paper
Aluminum foil
Plastic Ziploc storage bags
Small cardboard tubes
Colorful Plastic bottle caps
Old C.D.s
Artificial flowers
Unwanted plastic toys
Animal models for our drawing
Center
Craft items buttons beads
Ribbons shells
Colorful yarn
Embroidery floss
Duck color mask while
Unwanted or broken jewelry

Empty Altoid Tins
Small smooth wood pieces
Popsicle sticks
Fabrics fabric scrap
Soft foam
(no plastic milk containers
metal or glass please)