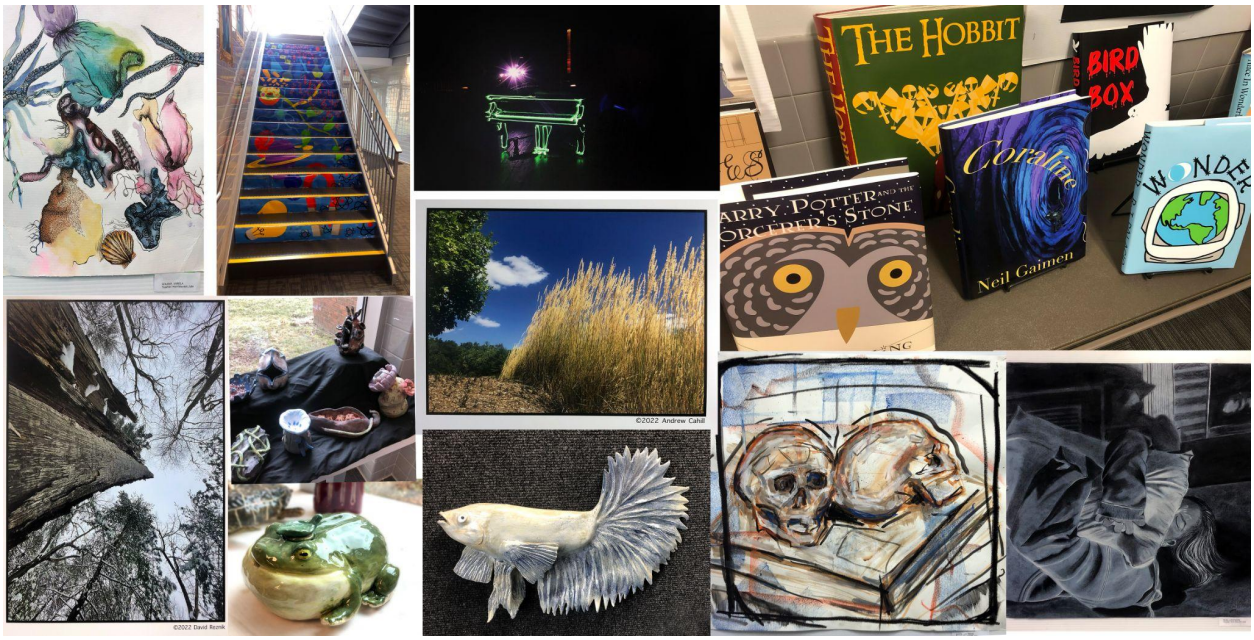
Weston High School Art Department presents...

The Winter Art Show

March 2023

March is National Youth Art Month!



Welcome to the Weston High School Winter Art Show!

Each year we exhibit a selection of student work from the Fall semester in the WHS Science Wing. In lieu of a formal opening, we would like to invite you to come and see the show at your convenience. The show will be on display now through the end of March. This newsletter will provide a few examples of the work from our array of course offerings that explore a variety of media including drawing and painting, graphic design, ceramics, and photography. (Video Production and Printmaking will be included in the K-12 Art Show in May.) For each selected work, I will provide a brief description of the significance of the project and the process.

Drawing and Painting

In addition to rendering with accuracy, drawing and painting students are encouraged to explore abstraction in Art 1-4. This Art 2 project has students start with random blobs of color and then find and describe a theme in detailed ink overlay.

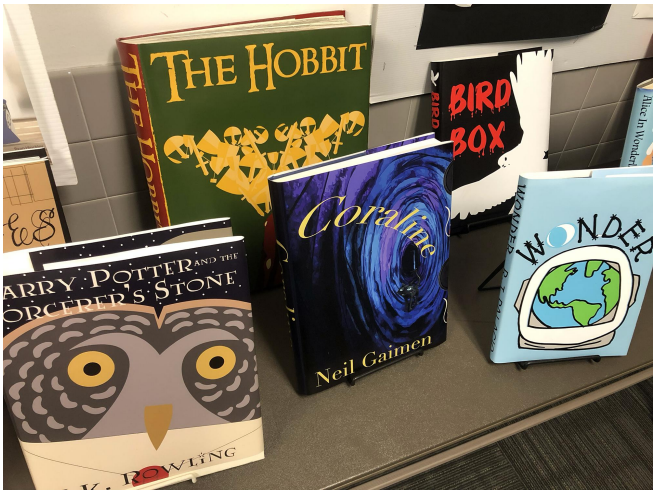
This drawing combines abstraction with observation and realistic representation, a highly-developed skill, even in Art 4. The loose marks define the forms, show volume and dimension, and also reveal confidence and bravery and refer to a contemporary graffiti style.

Light and shadow as well as emotion and self-expression are explored in this dramatic charcoal drawing. Notice how well the artist captured the harsh light from a single source close to the floor. The control and touch required to work with this particular medium is impressive.

Photography has a unique ability to transport the viewer to another time and place. Composition, light, and the moment all must come together to make a visually pleasing photograph. Seeing the beauty in the everyday enhances our daily experience. The cloud appears to move from behind the tree creating a moment of unique anticipation and enhancing the interesting negative space shape of blue sky.

Photography can also record things not possibly seen with the human eye, like this light painting. Holding open the shutter for an extended time allows the photographer to draw with light in a darkened room, creating a neon-like drawing. This successful image was made after much trial and error.

The practice of photography can also help us to stop and look around and truly see the world in new ways.



Graphic Design teaches students to make creative images and texts and apply them in visually-pleasing ways. The age-old adage that one shouldn't judge a book by its cover doesn't mean we can't appreciate great book cover design. Will you see your favorite book on display? The stairs of the Science Wing offer a wonderful opportunity for graphic design students to create site-specific art work that beautifies and enhances a very mundane space.

Ceramics is perhaps one of the most tactile experiences in Weston High School. Students must develop a sense of touch and learn how to control this unique medium along with all humans from the past 40,000 years. In addition to making functional work like mugs and bowls (and we have many wonderful examples on display) students explore creative exploration like these unusual sculptures. Inspired by seed pods, pollen, diatoms and other tiny to microscopic objects in our world, they allow students to challenge traditional shapes and the assumption that ceramics must be functional. Creative colorful underglaze and raku glazes are also employed to complete the project.

This adorable clay frog is actually a functional teapot! The leaf on its head can be removed to fill the vessel and one can just make out the pour spout between the lips. It is fun and exciting to realize a sculptural form might actually be functional and at that moment the viewer realizes the creativity and engineering involved in the making of this object. Come see the rest of these creative teapots!

This Clay 2 project has become a student favorite: the fish portrait. Designed to hang on the wall, a feature usually thought exclusive to 2-D artwork, capturing the proportions, color, and texture of a specific fish is very challenging. These betta fish fins appear fluid and flowing and the glaze application enhances the texture while beautifully capturing the color.

We hope you enjoy the Winter Art Show at WHS in the Science Wing and all the wonderful pieces on display. We hope this guide encourages you to experience the show for yourself and gives you some new ways to think about the work. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Chris Fehl @ fehlc@weston.org.

Sincerely,

The Weston High School Art Department

Additional WPS Art Show Opening Dates:

Field School: March 1, 2023 @ 5:30-7:30pm *One night only!

Middle School: March 28, 2023 @ 5-7:30pm

K-12 Art Show: May 16, 2023 @ 5-7:30pm

Selections: Juried Exhibition @ Weston COA, Rec.Center: June 7. 2023 @ 2:30pm