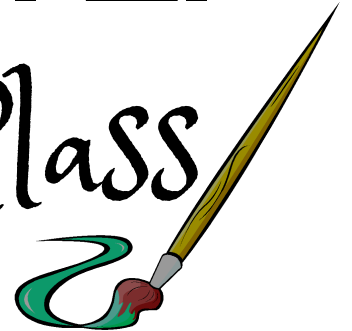




Welcome to BRMS and Bragg's...

C. H. O. I. C. E.

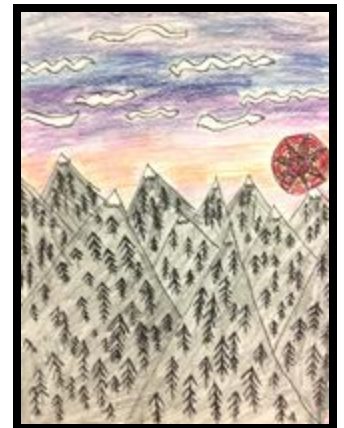
Studio Art Class



Art class this year is really exciting! Read on to see how we are encouraging 21st century artists in Bragg and BRMS!

What is "C.H.O.I.C.E.-Based Art"?

Parents will notice that the artwork their children bring home might look different than in previous years. You will no longer see hallways filled with slight variations of the same project. **C.H.O.I.C.E. stands for Children Having Original, Individualized, Creative Experiences.** This Visual Arts program at Bragg and BRMS is based on the principles and practices of the nationally recognized and research-backed "Choice-Based Art Education", and "The Teaching for Artistic Behavior (TAB) Partnership". **The idea is simple: Students are artists and the classroom is their studio.** Children are offered real choices for responding to their *own* ideas and interests through the making of art. When given the chance to explore their own ideas, passions, and interests, children often find greater meaning and relevance in their work.



Since choice-based art education puts the student in charge of choosing media and subject matter, there will be an extremely wide variety of projects coming out of the same classroom. It is important to note that children's inspiration should come from their personal experiences and perspectives of the world around them. To most children the process of creating something is in itself the work of art. A child's world is quite different from our own... their art should truly be "childlike" and reflective of a young artist.

The teacher plays a vital role in teaching the students how to behave like and think like an artist. The teacher may:

- Plan in-depth art-making skill building lessons & create guided resources for students to access their learning independently

- Instruct how to goal set and plan their authentic art making ideas
- Lead the class in aesthetics, writing about art, and introduce master artists
- Encourage artistic behaviors in students, such as authentic artmaking, developing artmaking skills, communicating, risk-taking, self-reflecting, and exploring the art world
- Plan instruction with all the NJ State Art Standards and National Art Standards in mind



The students are regarded then as artists, and are free to make their own choices concerning subject matter and materials. Independence and responsibility are encouraged, and students are taught and expected to: set up their own workspace, explore, experiment, refine skills, create authentic art, and reflect upon their experience in their portfolio.

What does a 21st Century art room look like?

In Bragg, the studio is arranged into carefully organized “centers” to promote artistic behaviors, goal setting, skill-building, and creative experiences. Our young, budding artists use sketchbooks for skill building exercises and brainstorming projects. Lessons are created that not only encourage developing art skills, but also learning from masters, and communicating like an artist. Bragg students plan long term independent art projects within their area of interest that showcases their new skills and personal creative vision.



In BRMS, students grow as an artist in an environment that encourages creative thinking, long term planning, research, and self-reliance as well as exploring a diverse set of art mediums. Advanced skills are learned through mini workshops and challenges. Students are then given the freedom to design their own project to demonstrate creatively what they’ve learned. They also develop technical drawing skills and explore art history through sketchbook assignments.

In Bragg and BRMS artists have access to iPads. Students are able to access class information from the Artist Toolbox (BRMS) website or the Art Lab (Bragg) website that is filled with teacher created resources and recorded lessons for skill building workshops. Throughout the semester students maintain digital art journals and portfolios to help guide their learning, reflect on their process, and upload images of their artwork.

We look forward to showcasing your young artist’s talents online and around our schools.

Thank you for all you do to support your child’s experiences in art class!
For more information please visit our websites:

Mrs. Lori Vilagos, Bragg - <http://braggschoolartlab.weebly.com/>
Mrs. Sarah Smith, BRMS - www.chester-nj.org/webpages/ssmith

