



August 2018

There is no absolute measure of the importance to recognizing and appreciating the developing artist. For more than 15 years Art QUEST has provided students with an opportunity to explore, create, and extend their artistic knowledge and skills through participating in Art QUEST. Fifth grade students who demonstrate a passion and are interested in being considered for Art QUEST are required to complete a Student Self-Nomination Form and submit a portfolio for review for Art QUEST 2018-2019.

A Portfolio Review Committee of certified teachers and practicing artists will convene in September to make the selection of 30-35 students to participate in Art QUEST 2018-2019. The committee is comprised of art teachers from West Hartford elementary and middle schools.

Last June you received a letter outlining the program. Details are also included in this letter describing the program, as well as how you go about preparing your portfolio. The Art QUEST Nomination Form must be completed in order to enter the student's portfolio. Once the form is complete, submit it to the QUEST office (see nomination form attached).

Details of the program are as follows:

Population: 30-35 fifth grade students from West Hartford's Public Schools

Locations: King Philip Middle School for students who will attend that school in 2019-2020. Bristow Middle School for students who will be attending Sedgwick Middle School in 2019-2020. Prospective Bristow Middle School students will attend the Art QUEST site corresponding to the middle school they would have attended based on district guidelines.

When: Classes for Session I (October 1, 2018 ~ December 10, 2018) and Session II (January 7, 2019 ~ March 25, 2019) will be **Monday** afternoons from 3:50 pm – 5:30 pm. Each session consists of 10 classes.

Transportation: Participating students are picked up at their elementary schools by bus and taken to their Art QUEST location. Parents are asked to please pick up their child promptly at **5:30 pm** at the Art QUEST designated location.

Important Dates:

Tuesday, September 11 2018: Art QUEST Nomination Forms are due to the QUEST Office, Town Hall, Room 327, 50 South Main Street, West Hartford, CT 06107, fax 860.561.6913, or scan and email to Karen_kosovsky@whps.org

*50 South Main Street, West Hartford, Connecticut 06107 * Telephone 860.561.6608 * Fax 860.561.6913*

Monday, September 24, 2018: *Portfolios are due at King Philip Middle School, Main Office, 100 King Philip Drive.*

Thursday, September 28, 2017: Student notification letters will be sent home from the QUEST Office. *Confirmation calls will be made to parents of accepted students on Friday.*

Monday, October 1, 2018: Classes begin.

Student Portfolios will contain:

1. A self-portrait completed independently outside of school. Media: pencil, pastel, pen and ink, collage. Choose one or combine.
2. An art piece, free choice of subject matter, in color, completed at home. Media: paint (water color, tempera, acrylic).
3. A drawing of a bicycle, a sneaker, or a shoe in a setting of the student's choice. Media: pencil (black and white drawing).
4. An art piece exploring the theme "Magic of Adventure." Media: mixed, in color, not to exceed 12"x18".
5. **A writing sample:** Please write a detailed paragraph using 4-6 complete sentences to analyze your work "Magic of Adventure." Please make sure you talk about how the use of materials that you have chosen connects to your overall concept of art and what particular Elements of Art concepts from 4th grade art are used to create this work in a meaningful and detailed way. Do not just list. The Elements of Art are: Line, Shape, Color, Space, Form, Texture and Value.

Portfolios should be delivered in a large folder or envelope. Please do not fold artwork. The students' name and school should be on the back of all art pieces. Each portfolio should include only the 4 requested works. Portfolios will be returned to students.

The "how-to" of developing a portfolio may be discussed with the art teacher in your elementary school. Further, it is important that students understand that Art QUEST is instructional time, and that the work in which students will engage represents diverse selections of visual arts media and styles.

Please be sure that your portfolio is at King Philip Middle School Main Office by Monday, September 24, 2018 by 4:00 pm. Art Classes begin Monday, October 1, 2018. If you have any further questions feel free to contact the QUEST office. The Art QUEST teachers and I are anxiously awaiting the arrival of nomination forms and student portfolios. We hope that you will be amongst them.

Sincerely,

M. Thompson

M. Thompson
Director of Gifted and Talented

C: Pam Murphy
Elementary and Middle School Principals
Elementary and Middle School Art Teachers
QUEST Teachers
Transportation

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