

# We *are* artistic

## Students find independence in Fine Arts



**“Art is a great chance for me to bond with students I would never have interacted with otherwise.”**  
-Senior Benjamin Konstan



**“Art is my favorite class because it’s less structured and more independent.”**  
-Sophomore Ashley Su



**“Art is a nice relaxing way to express myself.”**  
-Senior Duke Nguyen



**“I really like doing art and the art wing is a groovy place to do it. I’ve really enjoyed drawing portraits this year.”**  
-9th grader Isobel Alm



**“My favorite subject is ceramics because you get to use your hands to create things.”**  
-Junior Jonathan Pomerantz

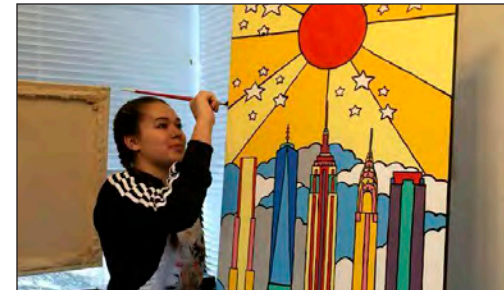


**“When I came to SPA I didn’t think I liked art but I’ve realized how calming it can be. They… leave it up to your creativity.”**  
- Junior Isabel Dieperink



IBID PHOTO: Koji Gutzmann

**Juniors Jasper Green, Jane Brunell, and Elizabeth Nowakowski and seniors Isabelle Denny, Libby Woodson, and Erin McNamer listen to instructions as part of their beginning drawing class.**



IBID PHOTO: Dianne Caravela

**Senior Marlo Graham puts the finishing touches on her painting for Senior Art Seminar.**

## Test Yourself!

1. What part of the school used to be located below the art wing?

- A. The math department
- B. The teacher’s lounge
- C. The lunchroom
- D. The music department

2. True or false: pottery and glass are made from the same raw materials.

3. Which of these is one of fine arts teacher Marty Nash’s favorite subject to depict?

- A. Bears
- B. Trees
- C. Porcupines
- D. Babies

4. In photography, the amount of light passing through the camera lens is called the:

- A. Shutter speed
- B. Lens speed
- C. Exposure
- D. Aperture

Answers: 1. D, 2. True, 3. A, 4. D



**Senior Stephanie Frisch drops ink into a tank for her Senior Art Seminar project. “I’m using ink to illustrate pollution because climate change is a very important issue to me,” shes said.**

IBID PHOTO: Anna Commers

## Marty Nash reflects on creative process



**“Currently, there is a great deal more emphasis placed on experiential learning—the process we in the art department have always practiced.”** -Marty Nash

The 2017-2018 school year marks Marty Nash’s thirty-third year teaching art at SPA. Over the decades she has spent working with SPA students, Nash has taught drawing, painting, sculpture, printmaking, ceramics, and yearbook to both middle and upper school students. For eleven years, until this year, Nash was the Fine Arts department chair.

Although she has seen changes in the SPA culture since her first year, Nash says that the challenging academics have been a constant over the 30-plus years she has worked here.

“Currently, there is a great deal more emphasis placed on experiential learning—the process we in the art department have always practiced,” Nash said. “The culture of the school generally, embraces the idea of ‘the whole child’ much more comprehensively in comparison to 30 years ago.”

In addition to adopting a wider view of what kids should learn during their high school years, Nash has seen the school pay more attention to diversity and how it plays out within the walls of the school.

“Over the last decade, the [SPA] community has become truly engaged in the process of acknowledging, comprehending and taking necessary actions around the complex it presents,” Nash said.

On the less serious side of high school life, Nash has observed some of the lighter sides of SPA: “As far as senior pranks go, it may be hard to top advertising the school for sale in the newspapers, complete with a sign on the front lawn,” Nash said.

Reflecting on her many years at SPA, Nash said, “I have been so lucky to be able to share my first love, art, in a career working with such a dedicated, often brilliant and always empathetic group of children and adults.