

So you want to paint a mural!

by Kat Morris

This class is for older students (8th grade - up) who have exhibited an interest in, and some level of talent in art. Students will select from presented topics to create their own mural, on a surface provided by or procured by their school and learn how to: 1) transfer their design to the wall. 2) learn some painting technique and tips/tricks for professional implementation. 3) Paint the design voted on by the class onto the provided surface.

- Lesson 1: Presentation of class contents, Kat's background
Talk about surface to be painted: dimensions, surface texture, access, indoor/outdoor, et al
Talk about drawings being proportionate / grid method of transfer - Michelangelo
Talk about 80/20 prep/implementation
Depending on size of class/group, students will be divided into work groups
Students will select topic from pre-approved list for mural, then break down into groups to talk about how this would look/play out in a mural
Start sketching ideas if they are flowing / teacher assistance is anyone is stuck.
Homework is for each group to come to Lesson 2 with a sketches
Discuss - each group will end up with one sketch to be presented to class so that entire class can vote on ideas to paint or combine for final mural idea
- Lesson 2: Brief discussion about sketches/ issues/challenges
Groups gather to discuss sketches to combine ideas, and to present idea to rest of class.
Final ideas presented to class/voted on/tweaked/ possible homework for final design
- Lesson 3: Class selects final mural idea
Learning the grid method of GOING BIG (handout)
Grid on acetate as guide on orig printed art
How to estimate paints needed
Talk about brush strokes/brush care
Be prepared to paint on the next lesson
- Lesson 4: Transferring the design to the wall
Measuring for/popping the grid
Transferring the design / projector if possible
- Lesson 5: Assign mural areas
Start painting
- Lesson 6: Complete painting the mural
Review