

Visual Art

SEGMENT 3 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Jan Wilson
27 years teaching

Brooke Barrie
Curator, Grounds For Sculpture

About the School

Nottingham High School
Hamilton, NJ

Type:
Suburban/Comprehensive

Grades:
9-12

Students:
1,450
Very mixed socio-economic status

Arts Requirement:
New Jersey has a 5-credit (one full year) graduation requirement in Visual Art, Music, Dance, or Theatre

About the Visual Art Program

Faculty:
2 full-time

Students:
220

Facilities:
Below Average in Area
• 1 full-time art studio
• 1 shared studio space

Required Courses:
Art Fundamentals or Advanced Fundamentals (first-year students working at an accelerated pace)

Elective Courses:
Drawing & Painting I, Advanced Drawing & Painting II, Sculpture and Ceramics, Mixed Media, Commercial Design and Illustration, and Honors Studio

About the Featured Class

Sculpture Garden Project:

Students from the Sculpture class and the Advanced Architecture class worked cooperatively to design the garden. They established an ongoing relationship with Grounds For Sculpture, a local foundation featuring over 200 contemporary sculptures on beautiful landscaped grounds. Last year's students and this year's mix of students are installing the garden and beginning to create work to be displayed in it.

Preparations/Prerequisites:

Each of these students is taking Sculpture, has taken Sculpture, or is enrolled in the Honors program.

Student Motivation:
High

Student Level:
Intermediate/Advanced

In the Teacher's Words

What is the "perpetual garden" your students are creating? What are the materials they are using?

Since much of the school year does not coincide with ideal "flowering" time, we thought about ways to keep the garden flowering all the time. The answer was to create 3-5' high flowers using copper and brazing techniques. One of the flowers is a cascade of stars, another a tennis racquet, another a caricature of Bob Marley.