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Advancing Art Education: Development of an Innovative Series of K-12 Encaustic Curriculum Modules

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Advancing Art Education:  
Development of an Innovative Series of  
K-12 Encaustic Curriculum Modules  
Christina Chin, PhD, Associate Professor of Art Education  
Instructional Development Project Grant Award 2018-19

Project Purpose

- Development, implementation, and dissemination of a series of innovative curriculum modules that introduce a novel medium and approach (encaustics: painting in hot wax) to K-12 Art Education.

- By creating this curriculum, pace WMU’s Art Education program and its students (future K-12 art teachers) with the forefront of contemporary visual arts practices.

- And underscore our program’s commitment to contextualizing artforms in meaningful ways, supported by well-informed global and historical perspectives.

Accomplishments

All deliverables for the project have been achieved:

- A safe, efficient, inspirational, and historically and globally well-informed and contextualized K-12 encaustics curriculum has been developed.

- It is a “turnkey” curriculum, designed so that it can easily and swiftly be integrated into existing K-12 art curricula at each grade level.

- Modules of this curriculum are slated for my sp’20 Art Education curricula, so that my future K-12 art teachers can embrace encaustics and teach it to their future students.

Research Emphases

- Art historical:
  - Ancient encaustics works:
    - Fayum mummy portraits
    - Pompeii & Herculaneum murals
  - Contemporary encaustics:
    - Metropolitan Museum
    - Museum of Encaustic Art

- Practical skills/techniques:
  - Workshop: Building out in relief with encaustics
  - Workshop: Screenprinting onto encaustics

Dissemination objectives have been exceeded:

- 2 articles have been accepted for publication in Art Education journal, and are in the “minor revisions” stage:
  - Flying Mummy Portraits!? An (as yet) Untapped Curricular Inspiration
  - Excavate the Fayum Mummy Portraits and Bury Ancient Egyptian Stereotypes

- 4 presentation proposals have been submitted for the National Art Education Association 2020 Conference:
  - Flying mummy portraits?!
  - Liberate yourself from lackluster lessons on Egyptian art. Discover the Fayum mummy portraits.
  - Trekking a scientific quest in art: Case of the brilliant sheen on Pompeii’s ancient murals