

# INTRO TO DRAWING: ARTISTIC ANATOMY

MICHAEL M. HENSLEY

Artistic Human, Animal, and Avian Anatomy

## MISSION

It is the mission of the Artistic Anatomy drawing program to use art as a vehicle for positive change in the lives of today's youth.

The Artistic Human and Comparative Animal Anatomy drawing program combines both art instruction and life skills education. Activities help the youth in our community come into a greater awareness of their intellectual being through self-expression and creative reasoning. Youth are also encouraged to make healthy life choices for their futures while at the same time feeling a sense of community.

Many of the area youth come from disadvantaged situations due to a complex variety of social and economic factors. The Artistic Human and Comparative Animal Anatomy program strives to fill a void in youth art education where there is a lack of access to quality art instruction and art studio opportunities.

## GOALS

The Artistic Human and Comparative Animal Anatomy drawing program aspires to foster the intellectual, creative and emotional development of youth through the love of art at all levels of age and ability.

Reflection, imagination, and the realization of possibilities extend beyond the studio and are core elements in the success of this program. Activities reinforce the lifelong practices of persistence and self-discipline, critical thinking, courage and risk-taking.

Furthermore, it is the aim of the Artistic Human and Comparative Animal Anatomy drawing program to create and harbor an art environment that develops confident, technically skilled, creative artisans who have a life long passion and love for the arts.

## HUMANS, CREATURES & CORVIDS

Throughout history, artists have devoted vast amounts of time to the study of human, avian and animal anatomy. Drawing inspiration from nature, the human, avian and the animal forms are some of the most enduring themes in the history of fine art and accurately depicting these forms is arguably the most difficult task an artist will come across.

The correlation of Art, Science, and Mathematics are essential to the study of classical art forms. It is in these underlying universal truths that the burgeoning artist builds their foundation. Each student seeks to master these elements in their quest to understand the intricacies of drawing the human, avian and animal form. The drawings included in this exhibition are representations of each student's unique inquiry into the universal truths of gesture drawing, artistic anatomy, and idealized proportion.

It is the credo of Michael Hensley's Artistic Anatomy class that, "True Art, inspired by nature, should aspire to be timeless and universal."

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