

Excellence in Teaching

Lynne Rainwater

Art Education



Educational Background

- Graduated with a BA degree from Linfield College in 1966. Taught Language Arts at the High School and Middle School levels before taking time off to raise four children.
- Returned to teaching at Monmouth Elementary School in 1987 with an Elementary Certification and Reading Endorsement from Western Oregon University.
- Earned a Master's Degree from Western Oregon University in 1992.
- Received a NEH Fellowship in 1994 for an eight week study in Stratford, England.
- Advanced educational training: 100+ hours at WOU, Pacific University and Antioch University
 - Supervised student teachers from the Willamette University MAT program from 1996-2003
 - Taught 18 years at Monmouth Elementary. Retired from full time teaching in 2003.

Experiences Specific To Teaching Art

- 18 years of developing and teaching Art curriculum (and integrating art throughout the curriculum) in the classroom
- Mentor ed teachers and student teachers by modeling/teaching lessons and sharing created art lesson plans and units (from kindergarten to college classes)
- Volunteer teaching art classes at Monmouth Elementary School

Teaching At WOU

I knew there were two things that I would miss most when I retired from teaching in the public schools; my student teachers and teaching art. When this teaching position at WOU opened up, I knew that this was absolutely and exactly what I wanted to do!

For me, teaching Art Education is to be a part of the process that provides our future teachers with an opportunity to be creative in their learning and to leave this class excited and confident about teaching art.

I believe art in the elementary classroom is such a powerful and important part in the education of all students. It brings me great joy to share my experience and resources with others and I love the fact that I am actively learning along with my students.

I am always so impressed by the quality and commitment of the students in the Education Program. They give us all good reason to be hopeful about the future of education.

Outside of WOU

My husband and I are grateful to enjoy a rural life and to be close to our adult children and three grandchildren. I love spending time with family and friends, gardening, walking the dogs, reading, giving tea parties in the summer, watching movies and travelling.

What Defines a "Great Teacher"?

A great teacher inspires students to greatness by being the kind of role model that explains the process and demonstrates the joys of learning. A great teacher creates a classroom environment that celebrates originality, creativity, risk taking, the acceptance of others, individual growth and group achievement. A great teacher is passionate about learning and teaching. A great teacher knows that...

"nothing great was ever accomplished without enthusiasm"

Final Art Product

The goal of this assignment is to provide you with an opportunity to:

- utilize the painted and patterned papers you've created in class. Markers, crayons, watercolor paints, etc., may be used to embellish the overall design.
- make evident your artistic confidence, originality and creativity
- be clear about artistic choices (objective and non objective, realistic or abstract, artistic styles and in your knowledge of a particular artist/illustrator, art technique or method)
- demonstrate your ability to create a strong sense of UNITY in this art product through your selection and application of selected Principles of Design qualities
- show that you can produce a product with a clean design and good craftsmanship
- write a reflective paragraph on your art work in a thoughtful and descriptive manner



Copy of Student work

Title: Student in the Vortex of Dead Week

The choice to create this piece came from what I was feeling so it is a form of expressionism. I chose a Picasso like abstract style to portray a self portrait. I used organic shapes with some geometric lines. Part of the background color and one side of the face are close in hue because I wanted to create a feeling of being swallowed by something greater. The texture and color of the face suggests part of me is still hanging on, in control.

The strong color of the border is in contrast to the muted swirly effect of the overall background. It gives the picture the weight it needs to anchor it and moves the eye to the center. The background moves the eye around and around, to give the observer a feeling of unease. The rhythm is meant to be disjointed, disconcerting. The colors unify the piece with the border, the face and the eyes balance the muted greens and blues.

Yes, artistry is in the process and I feel a tremendous relief in expressing the unrest I feel. I feel I successfully created a Picassolike rendition, which was my intent.



Copy of Student work

Horses in my Dreams

I envisioned a landscape, as in an abstract, organic Georgia O'Keeffe. The materials were perfect for the Eric Carle collage technique. I began with a cut circle for the sun, then strong green shapes for hills placed in front of the sun. Contrasting brown but similar shapes with a running brown fence completed the background. The blue river and lake connected the background and the middle ground. The painted horses running across the paper became the focal point. A yellow zigzag strip, along with embellished brown marks, defined the foreground and anchored the horses.

The repeating colors and shapes create a sense of Unity to this art work. Texture is everywhere in the organic shapes. There is also an obvious sense of space. There is strong movement with the horses racing across the landscape and the artist's eye moving in a pleasing oval pattern. The repetition and rhythm of the hills, the horses and the foreground give this art work a strong sense of Unity.

I love how the frame can't contain the horses or the landscape! It is dynamic and energetic. I feel successful both personally and artistically.



Copy of Student work

What students say about Lynne:

She knows what she is talking about and does a great job helping students. She is always making sure we understand.

Her class is amazing. What we create in our portfolios will be a great asset in the classroom. She is an excellent teacher, empathetic, enthusiastic and knowledgeable. I have learned more about art and artists in 10 weeks than in years of occasional classes.

Every day I learned a new thing.