

Cascade High School  
Intro. To Art  
Livia Dalton  
[LDalton@everettsd.org](mailto:LDalton@everettsd.org)

Dear Parents and Guardians,

My name is **Ms. Livia Dalton**. I am excited to have the opportunity to be a part of your student's creative experience and creative growth. I look forward to helping your student develop a **21st century creative mind and become a sustained, self-directed learner.**

I would like to share with you some important information about your students Introduction to art class. I believe it is helpful for you to know the basic grading structure and project information.

**Grading:** In this course we use **standards-based grading**. Standards-based grading (**SBG**) communicates how students are performing on a set of clearly defined learning targets called standards. The purpose of standards-based grading is to identify what a student knows, or is able to do, in relation to pre-establish learning targets, as opposed to simply averaging grades/scores over the course of a grading period, which can mask what a student has learned, or not learned, in a specific course. It also allows for a student to become a more self-directed learner. Please draw a star next to the date signed at end of the letter.

**Assessment policy:** Each student is graded on an individual basis. No cross-class comparisons will be made. Students will be graded using **National Art Common Core Standards.**

**Creating** - Organize and develop artistic ideas and work.

**Presenting** - Convey meaning through the presentation of artistic work.

**Responding** - Interpret intent and meaning in artistic work.

**Connecting** – Relate artistic ideas and works with societal, cultural, and historical context to deepen understanding

**Grading is on a 4-point scale with half grades being used when moving between mastery levels. What will each of the numbers in the 4-point scale represent?**

**Grading rubric**

**4 = Exemplary** - The student demonstrates exceptional skills and knowledge above the standard. Student consistently and independently meets all expectations of the learning target and proves mastery of the content.

**3 = Mastery** - The student demonstrates proficiency of the standard. Student frequently demonstrates an in-depth understanding of concepts, skills, and processes.

**2 = Approaching Mastery** - Student occasionally demonstrates an in-depth understanding of concepts, skills, and processes. (Place a triangle by printed name at end of letter.)

**1 = No Mastery** - Student is making minimal progress toward meeting the standard. Student rarely demonstrates an in-depth understanding of concepts, skills, and processes.

**0 = No attempt** - The student has not demonstrated learning of the standard. Student will be required to complete the assessment before a score is entered.

**Students are always welcome to rework or redo a project to receive a higher grade.**

**Projects:** Students will be completing at least 5 major projects during a semester. They will also be creating a digital portfolio to document their work throughout the semester for the purpose of grading and artistic response. Once students have digitally documented their projects they will be on display for a short time. Students can then take the project home. I always encourage students to value their work, celebrate their success and share it with you. I hope you take time to ask them what projects they are working on in class and when they will be bringing it home. After reading this put a smiley face by your signature.

I also remind them art is a great gift!

If you ever have any questions for me the best way to contact me for the fastest response is through email, [Ldalton@everettsd.org](mailto:Ldalton@everettsd.org)

Here's to a great year!

Livia Dalton

-----  
-----

**Please sign and return this portion by Sept. 28th to indicate that you have read and understand the grading structure for this class.**

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Student name (please print)

-----

Student Signature

-----

Parent/Guardian name (please print)

-----

Parent/Guardian signature

-----