



## Visual Art At Manzanita

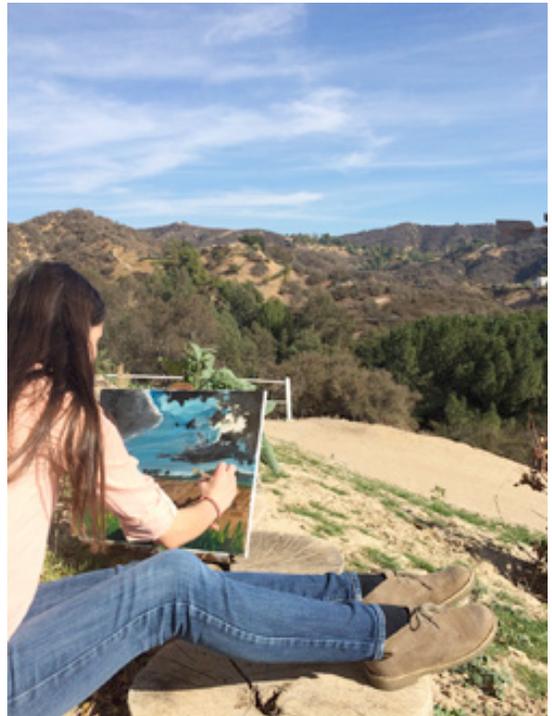
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Nature has long been a profound source of inspiration for artists. From the first cave paintings to contemporary art installations, how we human beings capture images and express what seems inexpressible, is rooted in our human experience. We can watch any young child with a lump of clay or a stick of charcoal, and witness neither hesitation nor judgment in how they express themselves. Too often, this inborn love of art is ‘taught’ out of people. Along their way, students too often decide that they are “no good at art,” as if visual and creative expression was limited to some uncanny ability to render objects realistically.

Art has the power to change how we see. As natural artists, we engage the play of light and shadow, the patterns and shapes of the land, the reading of human emotion and the imaginary, the ever-changing shapes in the clouds. When we spend time really looking at our world, our relationship with it is forever changed.

Adolescents have rich, emotional lives and perspectives. At times, this inner landscape can only be expressed visually. The study of art enriches our lives with a vocabulary we can carry with us no matter where we go. A student’s experiences with materials, colors, shapes and craftsmanship will create the opportunity to grow skills that translate into a creatively richer life, one that is more nuanced, and that will enhance sensitivity to the human experience.



### The visual art program at Manzanita will include the following courses:

- Environmental Art and Photography
- Drawing and Painting in Nature
  - Sculpture and Organic form
  - Contemporary Mixed Media
- Art Installation and Transformation

Students will study art through experiences, appreciation, visual vocabulary building, as well as through more traditional skill building.