

Hero Portrait using DecoArt's Wax Effects
Middle School (6-8 grades)



National Visual Arts Standards:

Grades 6-8

Creating

1.1, 1.2, 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 3.1

Responding

7.1, 7.2, 8.1

Objectives

- The students create a portrait.
- The students experiment with new media.
- The students use words to reinforce their portraits' meaning.

Materials:

DecoArt Wax Effects Paint

12 x 18" heavy art paper

Black and white photo image of person of choice - xerox copy, magazine photo, drawing, etc.

Word cutouts from printed materials

Scissors

Paintbrushes

Water

Black permanent markers

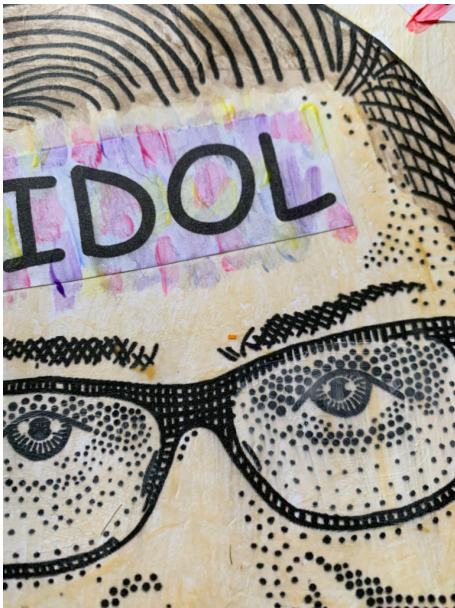
Various objects to decoupage: feathers, leaves, flowers, etc.

Stencils

Scraping tools: paper clips, pens, etc.

The lesson begins by discussing what a portrait is and what the portrait can be used to communicate. Artists can show their feelings about a person by how they choose to portray them. The teacher instructs the students to choose someone they admire to make a portrait of them. They are going to get a print of their person in black and white . They are also going to get words to highlight their person and add to their artwork. The students may get words from magazines, printed materials, writing the words themselves, etc. The teacher will encourage students to think of the words as creative aspects of their portrait and should vary the words by font, size, etc. The students will be using DecoArt's Wax Effects Paint which simulates encaustic painting.

1. The students will attach the photos of their person on the large 12 x 18" piece of paper. Students may orient their paper vertically or horizontally. They are going to decide how to compose their portrait using the photograph and words before they put everything together. Students will be able to use the Wax Effects paint to decoupage their words onto their paper. Students will also be able to use black permanent markers to add design details to their paper.



2. Next, the students will choose colors of DecoArt's Wax Effects paint to complete their portraits. Students will be able to layer the Wax Effects paint because of its translucent qualities. They can layer colors on top of colors allowing them to dry between coats.

3. Other qualities of the Wax Effects Paint the students can experiment with is the ability to scratch or carve into the wet paint in areas of their choice. The paints can also be applied in heavy layers or built up to create impasto. Also, flat objects can be applied to their portraits with the Wax Effects paint such as feathers, flowers, or leaves. Different design elements can be added by using stencils with the paint, too.



4. The teacher will encourage students to experiment with different techniques they can use with DecoArts Wax Effect paints. Students will choose color and detail to enhance the meaning of their portrait.

Vocabulary

Portrait

Encaustic

Impasto

Decoupage