Kids @ CAM – At Home Family Projects
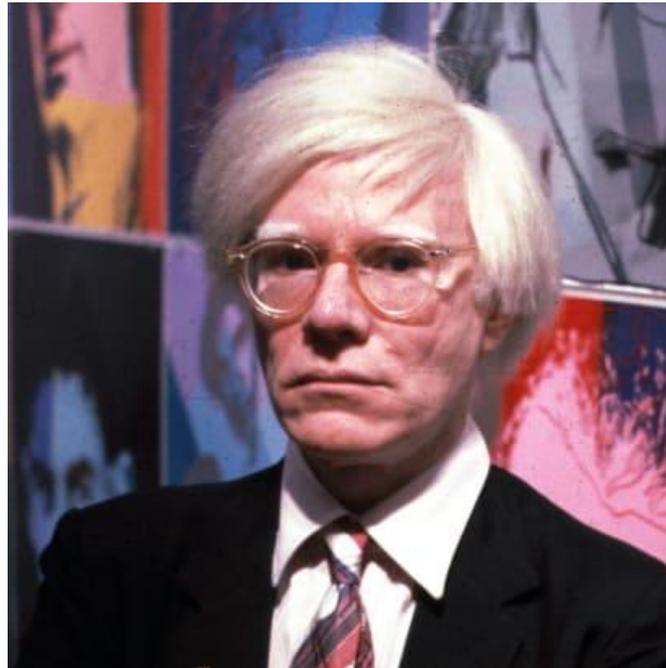
Spotlight on Art History

Andy Warhol

About the Artist:

"Art is what you can get away with." – Andy Warhol

Andy Warhol (1928 – 1927) was an American artist, film director, and producer who was a leading figure in the visual art movement known as pop art. Pop art is a style of art based on simple, bold images of everyday items, such as soup cans, painted in bright colors. Pop artists created pictures of consumer product labels and packaging, photos of celebrities, comic strips, and animals. Andy Warhol is famous for exploring popular culture in his work. Popular culture is anything from Coca Cola to pop stars to the clothes people like to wear.

Warhol liked to use bright colors and silk screen printing techniques. He liked using screen printing because he could mass-produce artworks based on photographs of celebrities, like his image of Marilyn Monroe. Sometimes Warhol would switch colors around and present a group of prints with contrasting colors together.

Warhol hung out with a group of actors, models and artists in New York city in the 1960s. Warhol's studio in New York City was called The Factory. This was a reference to the mass-produced nature of his artworks. He saw art as a product, the same as the clothes you wear and the food you eat.

ART AT HOME – POP ART YOURSELF

What you'll need:

- Phone Camera to take a picture of yourself
- Printer (if you don't have the ability to take a picture of yourself and print it at home, there is an alternate way of creating this project)
- Poster Board/Thick Paper
- Different Colors of marker or crayon
- Glue stick
- Scissors

If you can't print from home, choose a simple image that you can replicate easily by hand (ice cream cone, beach ball, cat face, etc.). Draw the same image four times on four different pieces of paper.

- Step 1 – Have someone take your picture. We recommend having your face and shoulders take up most of the frame.
- Step 2 – Print this image in black and white four times.
- Step 3 – Make sure your poster boardis large enough to later glue these four images onto.
- Step 4 – Outline your picture the same on all four images. Don't get too detailed – you want it to be almost like the way a cartoon is outlined, just focusing on the bigger parts. For example, outline the shape of your face, hair, shirt, eyes, mouth, background, etc. Make sure the outline is the same on all four images.
- Step 5 – Carefully color in the outlines, using different colors each time on all four images. Color in every part. In pop art the colors don't need to be realistic, so have fun experimenting with different crazy color combinations!
- Step 6 – Arrange your four images onto the poster board and glue them down. Be sure to smooth the paper down.
- Step 7 – Take something large and heavy (like books) and lay it on top of your picture while it's drying.
- Step 8 – Help to clean up your work area.

Tips:

- Try to use complimentary colors side by side – that tends to make the image really "pop"! These are colors that are opposite each other on the color wheel.
- If your printer has the capability, you can print four images on one sheet, and create a smaller version of the project. This eliminates the need for poster board and glue.

Questions to ask one another:

- How do the colors that you choose change the way that your image looks?
- Andy Warhol was inspired by images from popular culture – what inspires you to make art? What is your favorite thing to draw, paint, create, etc?
- If Andy Warhol was alive today, what one question would you like to ask him?

Follow Up Project Idea:

- Choose one image and draw it with simple lines on a large piece of poster board/canvas. Outline the lines with black sharpie and paint the inside with complimentary colors.