

Worcester Art Museum Announces Winter Studio Art Classes

*Studio classes spark creativity in students of all ages.
Sessions begin week of January 12.*

Worcester, MA - December 26, 2014 -- The Worcester Art Museum has announced its schedule of winter studio art classes, which begin the week of January 12, 2015. Courses for adults and children provide hands-on instruction and opportunities for both experienced and beginner students to engage their creativity, enhance their skills, and explore the world of art. Classes for all levels of ability include the following areas: art history, Asian brush painting, calligraphy, computer art, drawing, mixed media, painting, photography, printmaking, sculpture, watercolor, and writing.

Adult classes are offered during the day, evening, or on weekends. Classes for children and teens are held on weekends and during after-school hours. For complete course descriptions and to register for classes, visit worcesterart.org/education or call 508-799-4406.

According to Studio Classes Manager Ashley Occhino, the winter schedule includes a new two-session class, called "Swords of the Past" and a one-session "Swords" workshop. Both will provide hands-on instruction in the art of swordplay. In addition, art historian Antonella Doucette will teach a five-session class, called "Raphael and the Golden Age of the Italian High Renaissance," focusing on Raphael's [The Small Cowper Madonna](#), on exhibit at the Worcester Art Museum from January 24 through September 27, 2015. One of the finest Renaissance paintings in North America, the *Cowper Madonna* is on loan from the National Gallery of Art in Washington, DC.

Each studio class or workshop includes visits to the Museum galleries to learn more about various works of art and to provide stimulation for creativity back in the studio. "With 51 centuries of art at the Museum, as well as thought-provoking temporary exhibitions, our students have the unique opportunity to study and be inspired by the great masters and art movements," said Ms. Occhino. "It's a wonderful way to influence their own artistic development."

ABOUT THE WORCESTER ART MUSEUM:

Founded in 1898, the Worcester Art Museum serves Worcester and the broader region. The Museum houses an encyclopedic collection of paintings, sculpture, decorative arts, photography, prints, drawings, and new media. WAM's collection has historically been strongest in European Renaissance paintings, but with recent acquisitions and donations, like Veronese's *Venus Disarming Cupid* and the integration of the collection from the Higgins Armory Museum, it continues to diversify and expand its curatorial and programmatic offerings. Symbolized by the opening of the Salisbury Street doors in 2012, the Museum continues toward its goal of accessibility for all visitors.

The Worcester Art Museum, located at 55 Salisbury Street in Worcester, Mass., is open Wednesday through Friday and Sunday from 11am to 5pm; Saturday from 10am to 5pm; and every third Thursday from 11am to 8pm. Admission is \$14 for adults, \$6 for children 4-17, \$12 for seniors 65+, \$12 for college students with ID. Members and children under 4 are free. Parking is free. Admission is free from 10am to 12pm pm the first Saturday of each month. For more information, visit worcesterart.org.

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