

WINTER/SPRING 2024 K-12 TOUR CURRICULUM

Andy Warhol: Hand-Colored Flowers

Feb 1- April 20, 2024 | East Gallery

Best known for spearheading the Pop Art Movement in America, Andy Warhol (1928-1987) is one of the foremost artists who brought screen printing into fine art spaces.

Hand-colored Flowers (1974) is a series of 10 prints in which Warhol free-handed several flower drawings inspired by those photographed in the catalog *Interpretive Flower Designs* by Mrs. Raymond Russ Stoltz (A. S. Barnes & Co., Inc., 1972). Warhol had his drawings transferred onto silk screens to produce multiples, printed by Alexander Heinrici. After the screen-printing process, the artist hand-painted each of the prints with Dr. Martin's aniline watercolor dyes.

Though the series *Hand-Colored Flowers* has multiple editions in numerous museums and institutions around the world, each set of 10 has the artist's personal touch. The AMA has editions 40/250. Donated to the Albany Museum of Art in 1984, Warhol's Flowers present part of the range of the artist's work, as these prints in particular stray from the typical subject matter in pop culture for which he is known for. Each of these works on display has an individualized nature and an alternative point of reference for the artist who usually exhibits pop culture and commercial forms in his work.



Feb 1, 2024 - January 5, 2025 | Hodges Galley

This year-long exhibition will focus on the extensive collection of Old Master Drawings donated in 1988 to the Albany Museum of Art by Randolph Shaffer, Jr. The drawings in this collection include many sophisticated preliminary studies required to perform a masterwork of a painting.

These drawings are a body of casual field notes, a glimpse into the artist's thoughts, observations, and impressions. Drawings, on purpose, are smaller samples of a larger instance of work, meant to be viewed in close range. Furthermore, these drawings are, by their nature, a more intimate experience in which viewers can see the little imperfections of the figures and last-minute decisions scrawled in with pencil or ink pen.

Shaffer was born in Albany in 1914. He became an avid collector of prints during his service in World War II when he was stationed in Paris and London. The drawings in this collection are sourced from various European artists, many of whom are lesser-known or unknown, and were collected during Shaffer's time abroad. The drawings included in this exhibition represent a selection of the approximately 150 drawings that Shaffer donated.

The selections include some of his personal notes on the works, which he painstakingly examined for higher artistic quality. Shaffer believed the quality of the drawings was more important than acquiring the name of a well-known artist.





GADOE STANDARDS TO BE MET THROUGH THIS EXHIBITIONS

The relationship of these exhibitions to Social Studies, English/Language Arts, and Visual Arts, are presented in Georgia's Standards of Excellence. This exhibition gives students the opportunity to grow an appreciation and understanding of various printing and drawing styles, explore how art, human connection and language merge together, gain critical thinking skills, and visual critique and literacy. A full list of standards addressed though this exhibition for your specific class are avaible upon request.

Old Master Drawings from the Shaffer Collection:

- Educational Value: The exhibition focuses on Old Master Drawings, providing students with an opportunity to learn about art history. They can observe the preliminary studies required for creating masterpieces, gaining insights into the artistic process.
- Connection to Local History: Randolph Shaffer, Jr., the donor of the collection, was born in Albany. This adds a local connection, allowing students to learn about individuals from their community who have contributed to the arts.
- Intimate Art Experience: The nature of drawings being smaller samples of larger works allows for a more intimate viewing experience. Students can closely examine the details, imperfections, and last-minute decisions made by the artists, fostering a deeper appreciation for the artistic process.
- Cultural Exposure: The drawings are sourced from various European artists, providing students with exposure to different cultures and artistic styles. This can broaden their understanding of art beyond their immediate surroundings.
- Collector's Perspective: Shaffer's personal notes on the works and his emphasis on artistic quality over the fame of the artist offer a unique perspective. This can lead to discussions about art appreciation and subjective judgments.

Andy Warhol: Hand-Colored Flowers:

- Introduction to Art History: The exhibition provides an opportunity for elementary students to learn about the Pop Art Movement and its key figure, Andy Warhol. It introduces them to the concept of screen printing in fine art and the artistic techniques used by Warhol.
- Artistic Process: The description of the Hand-Colored Flowers series explains Warhol's creative process, from free-hand drawing to screen printing and handpainting. This can help students understand the steps involved in creating art and appreciate the craftsmanship behind each piece.
- Connection to Literature: Mention of the source of inspiration, "Interpretive Flower Designs by Mrs. Raymond Russ Stoltz," connects the exhibition to literature. Teachers could integrate this into cross-curricular activities, combining art and literature studies.
- Individualized Nature of Art: The description emphasizes that each set of prints has the artist's personal touch, highlighting the individualized nature of the works. This can prompt discussions about artistic expression and how artists infuse their unique perspectives into their creations.
- Contrast with Typical Subject Matter: The fact that these prints stray from Warhol's typical pop culture subject matter opens up discussions about artistic diversity and the ability of artists to explore different themes and styles.

• Understanding Donations and Museum Collections: The information about the prints being donated to the Albany Museum of Art in 1988 introduces the concept of art donations and the role of museums in preserving and displaying art for public education.