Pruitt Philosophy of teaching

Since graduating from Emory & Henry College with degrees in Studio Art and English Literature, Ms. Pruitt has work as an illustrator and educator. Ms. Pruitt’s personal art work is inherently narrative and hinges on her ability to create a dialogue with her audience. For this reason, narratives and storytelling are a big part of Ms. Pruitt’s classroom. With a relaxed narrative lecture format, the class material is contextualized through discussions of relevant figures and periods of art history. Both Ms. Pruitt and Ms. Hocutt focus on enriching their students’ art education by cultivating a solid foundation in art history. Through these discussions of artists and art history, TA students are asked to enter into an active dialogue with their teacher and the material. When possible, students are encouraged to pull from their personal lives and interests. Allowing students to tell their own stories, even in foundational classes such as Art 1, ground the concepts of the class for them in the world outside of academia.

Pruitt Bio

Educator, writer, and illustrator, Mary Ruth Pruitt graduated from Emory & Henry College with a Bachelor of Arts in Studio Art and English Literature in 2014 and in 2017 she received her Master of Fine Arts from Memphis College of Art. In 2017, Pruitt began teaching illustration and writing intensive classes at the Memphis College of Art; simultaneously illustrating and publishing the children’s book *Bennie Goes Up! Up! Up!* in the fall of 2017 and spring of 2018. In the last ten years, Pruitt has also taught English to elementary summer-school students, taught stage combat to high school, undergraduate, and graduate level students for the University of Alabama’s summer Opera Workshop and Crimson Voice Camp, and now is thrilled to be teaching Art, English, and Speech in the Tuscaloosa Academy Upper School.

Pruitt Website:

<https://www.maryruthpruitt.com/>