Lesson Title: Painting a Glass of Water

Activity: Students will learn to use shadow and highlight to paint a glass half filled with water

Grade level: 9-12

Time: 4x45 min. periods

Objectives: By the end of this lesson, the class will have made a point-to-point blow up drawing of a glass of water and each student will create a gouache or watercolor painting of a glass of water on a surface

Materials: For each student:
1 piece of drawing paper (6”x6”)
1 piece of watercolor paper (approx. 12x15)
1 set watercolors or gouache

For the class as a whole:
1 black and white photo of a glass half filled with water, enlarged to 9x12
Assorted drawing pencils (ebony, 4B, 2B, HB, 2H)
Vine Charcoal
White Conte’ crayon, or White Conte’ pencil, White Charcoal Pencil, or white soft Pastel
Blending stumps, or tissue
Erasers
Watercolor Brushes
Water cups
Several glasses to be filled with water for observation
Pencils (various hardness) and erasers

Additional Resources: YouTube videos:
How to Draw a Glass of Water, Narrated Step by Step
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lf8Iwkpu44s&feature=youtu.be

Gouache Techniques: Tiling, Grisaille, and Mid-tone Methods (beginning at 3:56)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gnFTfmCexBM

Vocabulary: Value, highlight, shadow, mid-tone, abstract, gouache, grisaille
**Inspiration:** Julia Jaquette is among a group of painters who have developed a keen ability to paint liquid in glass, or glass by itself. Another is Janet Fish. Doing so requires carefully observing highlights and shadows on the surface of the glass and on the surface of the liquid. By learning to first draw a glass of water in black and white, you will be able to paint a very realistic glass of water.

**Procedure/Activity:**

**Period 1**
- Review images from Julia Jaquette and Janet Fish
  - Discussion questions:
    - What are some of the ways that the artists create the illusion of clear glass and clear or transparent liquids?
    - What role do highlight and shadow play?
- Students work as a class to begin a point-to-point blow up an image of a glass of water (provided).
- Print two copies of the attached image of a glass of water (or other image selected by teacher)
- On one copy, draw a grid of 12 squares (each section of the grid will be approx. 3”x3”)
- Number the sections of the grid on the back of the page
- Cut the grided drawing into squares
- Distribute 1 3”x3” square to each student
- Students will study the patterns of light and dark and reproduce the image on the 3”x3” square on to a 6”x6” piece of paper using pencil

**Period 2**
- Point-to-Point Blow Up drawing continued.
  - Teacher distributes reference images and 6”x6” drawings started in previous period.
  - Students continue working on 6”x6” sections.
  - When all students are finished, the 6”x6” squares can be re-assembled into an 18x24 group drawing

**Discussion:** The role of value (shadow, mid-tone and highlight), the importance seeing glass, water and light as a series of abstract patterns

**Periods 3 and 4**
- Place glasses with water in the studio where students can observe them
- Discuss where students see highlights and shadows
  - Refer to insights from Activity #1
- Watch YouTube Videos
  - How to Draw a Glass of Water, Narrated Step by Step
  - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lf8lwku44s&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lf8lwku44s&feature=youtu.be)
Gouache Techniques: Tiling, Grisaille, and Mid-tone Methods (beginning at 3:56)
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- Students use pencil and/or charcoal, erasers and white tools to create a drawing of a glass of water.

- Using gouache or watercolor, students create at least 3 values of a single color or related colors and apply the values as suggested by the under drawing. If using watercolor, (value can be built up in layers of wash and highlights can be protected with frisket, or other masking fluid—rubber cement can be used as a substitute for masking fluid)

Standards:

New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards for Visual and Performing Arts

1.3.12.D.2: Culturally and historically diverse art media, art mediums, techniques, and styles impact originality and interpretation of the artistic statement.

1.4.12.B.2: The cohesiveness of a work of art and its ability to communicate a theme or narrative can be directly affected by the artist’s technical proficiency as well as by the manner and physical context in which it is performed or shown.

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Images: (To be stored as separate files)

Julia Jaquette
Cognac
2011
Oil on linen
76x93in
http://www.juliaJaquette.net/water-liquor-hair/enq4jcmq1tmjew1l8hp7k3dcotr5lz
Bourbon Straight

2009
Oil on wood panel
8x8in

http://www.juliaJaquette.net/water-liquor-hair/v2I5ysk9wnrchshta4mejbxckgi70b
Janet Fish (American, born 1938)

_Six glasses of water_,
1974–1974
Pastel
56 x 94.3 cm. (22 x 37.1 in.)

http://www.artnet.com/artists/janet-fish/six-glasses-of-water-S6jESj1TNt54DUmCOLvSg2
Afternoon Reflections, June and September, 1978
Oil on canvas
152.4 x 121.9 cm. (60 x 48 in.)
http://www.artnet.com/artists/janet-fish/afternoon-reflections-june-and-september-kX5h2Te0Qa5uGygqpMJKdQ2
Beer and Brandy Glasses,
1975
Oil on canvas
117 x 101.5 cm. (46.1 x 40 in.)
Glass of Water for Activity #1

http://vignette2.wikia.nocookie.net/creepypasta/images/1/11/Glass-of-water.jpg/revision/latest/scale-to-width-down/800?cb=20120408000856