

# Gordon School of Art

*has discovered the secrets of the Masters...*

Patience... Endurance... Concentration... Discipline... and a rigorous system of formal training  
*The New Masters curriculum-Dedicated to the development of a new generation of great masters.*



## *Introducing the New Masters Art Curriculum*

### **HOW MUCH "TALENT" IS REQUIRED FOR THIS CURRICULUM?**

None. Talent is a matter of training. If you are willing to do the work, we will do the rest. Unlike the elite European systems of the past and the art academies and ateliers of the present, Gordon School of Art accepts all students, regardless of their ages or demonstrated ability levels prior to instruction. This policy is the result of our long experience working with students on all skill levels and our success to date in overcoming every learning difficulty we have encountered on every level of performance. Our success is the result of our doing three basic things:

1. Breaking down the task of drawing into very small steps.
2. Insisting that each step be mastered before moving on to the next.
3. Developing teaching methods to solve all of the problems that prevent or delay the mastery of a skill.

In short, this curriculum makes professional level technical skill in drawing and painting available to everyone.

### **AM I TOO ADVANCED FOR THIS COURSE?**

If you are reading this brochure, you are probably dissatisfied with some aspect of your work. Most likely your problems are in the area of drawing. If so, they are either mechanical or psychological in nature. You may be using your hand or eyes incorrectly or using the wrong drawing strategies. Or your performance may be compromised by impatience or compulsivity. This curriculum addresses all of these things. It will help you identify and correct your problems so that you can progress from a merely talented artist to an accomplished one, a professional level performer – perhaps even a master.

*Call 1-800-210-1220*

*or email at: [gordon@newmasters.com](mailto:gordon@newmasters.com)*

*visit us on the web: [www.newmasters.com](http://www.newmasters.com)*

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## *The Curriculum*

**The New Masters curriculum** is organized into 10 levels of increasingly advanced instruction in pencil, charcoal, pen and ink, color theory, painting (tempera, oil, and watercolor), design theory, and linear perspective.

The main features on each level:

**The Foundation Course** covers the first 4 levels of a 10 level curriculum. The remaining courses cover one level each. All 7 courses contain approximately the same amount of instruction and cost approximately the same.

**Level 1:** worksheet practice on the component skills for grid drawing -- the basic hand postures, stroke patterns, drawing motions, sketching techniques, and perceptual processes that are used throughout the curriculum. (A grid is a drawing aid composed of fixed guidelines. It is used in the first two courses to postpone the problem of proportion until the more difficult skills of line shaping and positioning have been mastered.)

**Level 2:** drawing pictures composed of straight lines and learning and mastering regular curved lines on worksheets.

**Level 3:** drawing pictures composed of regular curved lines and mastering irregular lines and shapes on worksheets.

**Level 4:** drawing pictures composed of all the line types learned earlier, in addition to mastering regular and irregular shapes, learning the sketching technique, drawing in stages from rough sketch to refined line, shading uniform values in pencil, drawing small shapes and details, drawing lines with subtle changes of shape, drawing complex lines and inking lines of uniform thickness.

**Level 5:** drawing higher level grid pictures, learning basic graded pencil shading, formal pen and ink techniques, silhouette ink drawing with pen and brush, color theory, design theory, tempera and watercolor painting with uniform values, 1-point perspective drawing, inking pictures composed of lines and shapes.

**Level 6:** free-hand line drawing (no grid), basic pencil shading with light and shadow from artists' originals, stippling with pen and ink, painting graded values with watercolor, 2-point perspective drawing and drawing pictures in ink with shadows and textures.

**Level 7:** free-hand line drawing from pictures on the highest levels, line drawing from life, Advanced shading with light and shadow from artist's originals, informal hatching (using very rapid strokes) with ink, and drawing the final pictures in all of the previously started pen and ink series.

**Level 8:** basic life drawing with light and shadow, pencil shading from artists' originals, quick sketching from pictures and from life, and the duplication of high resolution photographs in pencil and charcoal.

**Level 9:** oil painting from reproductions and high resolution photographs in black and white and color, advanced life drawing in charcoal and pen and ink from plaster casts and still lifes.

**Level 10:** drawing and painting from life in the areas of still life, landscape, portraits and figures.

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## *Courses of Study*

Instruction for all students, regardless of skill level or past experience, begins with the New Masters Foundation Course. This course addresses approximately 110 of the 195 technical skill groups covered in the entire curriculum. The New Masters curriculum is offered in two formats:

### 1. A home-study format

- For self-study by adults and more independent older children (ages 13 and above).
- For the training of younger children by adults in one-on-one lessons (ages 8 and above.)

### 2. A studio or classroom format

For students aged 8 and above, conducted by trained teachers in classes of up to 12 students.

## HOME STUDY COURSES

These courses are for English speaking students anywhere in the world.

The New Masters Foundation Course for home study students includes a thorough, easy to follow instruction manual, an introductory DVD, 5 instructional DVDs, 2 mail evaluations of student work (for a maximum of 2 students each), and one year of free telephone and e-mail support. The Level 5 course and the Level 6 course are available in the same home-study format. (Visit our web site for information on bundled courses at substantial savings.)

All the remaining courses (Levels 7 through 10) will eventually be available for home study.

*(A Young Masters Foundation Course for parents to instruct children aged 3 and up is currently in the planning stages.)*

## LOCAL COURSES

Classes for children and adults in the Green Bay/Fox River Valley area of Wisconsin are available throughout the year. They are offered in four 8-week quarters and one summer session. All classes are individualized and multi-aged.

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## *How the New Masters Curriculum Works*

### **1. IT USES THE SAME SKILL-DEVELOPMENT METHOD EMPLOYED BY THE MASTERS OF THE PAST: COPYING**

The New Masters curriculum is perception-based. Students learn by drawing and painting what they see, as they see it, by duplicating artist's originals with a high degree of accuracy. Then they move on to the greater challenges of drawing and painting directly from life.

### **2. IT ADDRESSES ALL THE SKILLS INVOLVED IN THE DRAWING AND PAINTING PROCESSES.**

The New Masters curriculum is the result of one of the most thorough skills-analysis projects ever undertaken in the field of art education. The result is a series of instructional "steps" that are so small that any normal person -- gifted or not, adult or child -- can master them. These skills include even the most basic, taken for granted tasks, like how to hold a pencil, how to move the fingers, where to position the hand on the page, the speed of the drawing stroke, etc.

### **3. THE SKILLS ARE ARRANGED IN A LOGICAL INSTRUCTIONAL ORDER.**

The New Masters curriculum is designed in such a way that the worksheet exercises on one step develop the skills required for the next step's pictures. So in every lesson, you are practicing skills you will be using later and using skills you have practiced earlier.

### **4. IT APPLIES THE HIGHEST STANDARDS IN THE FIELD**

The New Masters curriculum not only provides the best available means to mastery, it insists on it - every step of the way. The standards are clearly illustrated on the videos and in the workbooks and instruction manuals. As high as our standards are, no students to date, who persisted in their efforts, have failed to meet them, although some have had to work very hard at times to do so.

### **5. IT PROVIDES ALL THE INSTRUCTION YOU WILL NEED TO SUCCEED**

Each New Masters course includes five forms of instruction: a workbook with written directions, an instruction manual, with more detailed directions, video demonstrations on DVD, free telephone support, and two mail correspondence sessions.

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