

Pre-kindergarten | Elementary | Middle school | **High school** | District 75

H.S. 630 High School of Art and Design

1075 Second Avenue NEW YORK, NY 10022

Phone: (212) 752-4340 | Fax: (212) 752-4945 Principal: Mr. John Lachky

Parent Coordinator: Janeen Johnson (347) 563-5186

At a Glance

Grade levels: 9 to 12

Class size: 28-34

Enrollment: 1364

Ethnicity %: 13 W 30 B 51 H 7 A

Attendance: 92%

Graduation rate: 73.1%

7-year graduation rate: 83.6%

College admissions: fair

Region 9

Neighborhood: Midtown

Admissions: audition

[More info](#)

Our Review

What's special: A major in "medical illustration" and a course in architectural aesthetics.
Downside: A few teachers should have retired long ago.

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If you choose your courses carefully, you can learn things at the High School of Art and Design that you simply won't learn anywhere else. There's a course in architectural design that includes a history of the great architects of the Italian Renaissance -- and a chance to design buildings that are beautiful as well as sturdy. (Graduates of the architecture program have been admitted to Cornell, Rhode Island School of Design, and Pratt.) You can major in "medical illustration," combining classes in anatomy with portrait painting to learn the craft of drawing illustrations of the human body or human organs for medical textbooks or pharmaceutical companies. (Art and Design is the only high school in the country to have a medical illustration program.) In an advanced placement studio art class, you can work in oil or acrylic and have your paintings displayed (and even sold) in a professional art gallery. There are also courses in fashion illustration, design, and construction. (About one-quarter of the seniors in that program are admitted to the selective fashion design program at Fashion Institute of Technology.) Students who major in animation go on to colleges such as the School of Visual Arts and the Philadelphia School of the Arts.

Located in the heart of Midtown (next to Bloomingdales), Art and Design is adjacent to the prosperous residential neighborhood of Sutton Place. People from that neighborhood, including many retired people, have formed the "Friends of Art and Design" that has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for the school and offers one-on-one tutoring to kids who need academic help. Despite the group's generosity, the school still has the shabby feel of many public high schools, particularly in the vocational programs. Desks are fifty years old. Halls are gloomy and poorly lit. The photography lab has no digital cameras. And, while there are some lively, imaginative teachers, a few have been here far too long. Administrators complain it's almost impossible to remove incompetent senior teachers who have received satisfactory ratings in the past.

Once segregated from the rest of the school, students receiving **special education** services are now integrated whenever possible into regular classes. The school serves students with learning disabilities, speech and language delays and impaired hearing as well as those with emotional problems. The school has a good record of college admissions, and most students go on to art schools. (Clara Hemphill, 2002)

Your Comments

Student Tashaunna writes, "The students [at the High School of Art and Design] are very talented in that school." (May 2005)

An alumna writes that she "loved" the school. She writes: "It's a very diverse environment. I was majoring [in] Medical Illustration. It was the selected few that got into that class. Mr. Pakter, the teacher for that class, was a great teacher. That class was a class I don't think ANY art high school can live up to AT ALL. Mr. Pakter wanted the very best from everyone and that was what he got. ... That class was not only a medical illustration class which studied the human anatomy and drew it, but he took it a few steps forward. We would have a different project every week and it would be enhanced incredibly by computers -- the stuff that you would see from the students was just unbelievable!!!!!! You would think that

they were real medical illustrators." She adds: "I just want to compliment the school and especially the new principal that currently took office. Even though I was a senior when she first came, she still did more improvements than the other principal that was there my 10 and 11th years of high school." (November 2004)

"There are approximately 11 different majors ... everything from advertising to photography," writes the alumni association vice president. He notes that the school's art teachers, who are required to have industry experience, continue to produce their own art in addition to teaching. He praises the school's spring arts festival and writes, "this school deserves recognition for helping students develop their artistic skills, problem solving minds, college readiness, and career focus." (June 2003)

A graduate of the High School of Art and Design who continued her education at Parsons School of Design writes, "I am currently a successful self-employed graphic designer for the past 10 years. This would not have been possible if it wasn't for Art and Design. I learned self-discipline, focus and professionalism. I also agree the academics should have been stronger. I think the enrollment applications should be more selective -- it is very disappointing to see the percentages of the current enrollment. One final note -- I owe my success to Art and Design. I only hope the current students appreciate the unique atmosphere and school." (February 2003)

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Click [here](#) to send a compliment, complaint, or request *directly to this school*.

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David L. Pakter, M.A., M.F.A.

MASTER PORTRAIT PAINTER

OLD MASTER COPIES
(212) TR9-7200

900 PARK AVENUE
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10021

A ONCE IN A LIFETIME OPPORTUNITY

Dear Honor Roll Student:

I am contacting you and your parents at this time to congratulate you on your outstanding achievement of attaining such an excellent academic record at the High School of Art and Design. I know that you had to work very hard to attain this noteworthy achievement of being on the Honor Roll that includes so many highly difficult and challenging subjects. You and your parents have much to be proud of and please accept my own best wishes as well for a job well done.

It gives me great pleasure to inform you that your outstanding achievement brings with it additional rewards that include the fact that you now qualify to be included in Art and Design's highly prestigious MEDICAL ILLUSTRATION Program- a college level art program open only to the Best and the Brightest of our students.

As you probably already know, your current Art Teacher will soon be asking you to fill out a form on which you will indicate your choice of Art Major for your Junior and Senior years. This will be one of the most important and far reaching decisions you and your parents will ever make. It will not only affect the remainder of your High School career but will also affect the type of College to which you are ultimately accepted.

While the High School of Art and Design offers a multitude of Art Majors including three different fields of Illustration, the MEDICAL ILLUSTRATION Program differs from all the rest in a number of ways.

- 1) This SPECIAL Program is ONLY open to the highest achieving Honor Roll students in the school.
- 2) The MEDICAL ILLUSTRATION Program is an Interdisciplinary Art Program in which you will become a Master Artist, proficient in every area of Fine Art AND Commercial Art and including Human and Animal Anatomy, Design and Layout, Human Portraiture and of course the exciting world of MEDICAL ILLUSTRATION. This Major makes learning about the Human Body a thrilling and MIND EXPANDING Experience. In addition the Literary and Intellectual Projects and Pursuits, are all taught in a way that relates every field of human knowledge into one DYNAMIC whole. Year after year when my MEDICAL ILLUSTRATION students go for their College Interviews with their portfolios, the College Interviewer is literally BLOWN AWAY. In the past ten days alone three MEDICAL ILLUSTRATION students received their Official ACCEPTANCE Letters to R.I.T- The Rochester Institute of Technology which ranks among the Top Ten Hardest To Get Into Universities in America. Other Colleges to which MEDICAL ILLUSTRATION Students have been Accepted include Columbia, NYU,

CUNY Biomedical Sciences Honors College, Syracuse, Marymount College, Hunter, Parsons, FIT, The School of Visual Arts and the list goes on and on.

3) The MEDICAL ILLUSTRATION Program is taught by a highly successful Master Portrait Painter and well-known Designer who is also the ONLY member of the Art Faculty who possesses three college degrees that include Masters Degrees in Fine Art, Art History and Human and Animal Anatomy.

4) The class is specifically geared for students who wish to enjoy the excitement and challenge of experiencing a college level course while still in high school and starting in their Junior year. In addition it is the perfect environment for SUPER-ACHIEVERS who find it stimulating and challenging to be around students who possess the same high standards and aspirations to succeed in Life as they do. This is particularly CRITICAL in a high school where only one year of Foreign Language is offered (ALL First Tier Colleges expect to see a MINIMUM of TWO Years of Foreign Language on Student Transcripts and find it disturbing if they do not!). Being in the MEDICAL ILLUSTRATION Program partially compensates for the fact that Art and Design offers such a limited and frankly lamentable curriculum that offers NO CHOICE of Foreign Language, NO MUSIC and ONLY a LIMITED number of Honor and Advanced Placement courses.

5) The MEDICAL ILLUSTRATION Program was personally created, designed and is supervised by one of ONLY two Art and Design Faculty Members in the history of the school to be Honored as a "Teacher of the Year" for Outstanding Achievement. In addition David Pakter, M.A., M.F.A. was honored this year by being informed his name will appear in the next Edition of "WHO'S WHO AMONG AMERICA'S BEST TEACHERS".

I have attached my Professional Biography and hope you will take the time to read it carefully. In addition you will find it a most informative, as well as pleasurable experience, to visit my Website and learn more about my world reknowned expertise regarding the oil painting techniques of the Great Masters at: www.oldmasterportraits.com

Some opportunities present themselves ONLY ONCE in a lifetime. For that very reason one must be that much more alert and prepared to seize them when they do come along. The MEDICAL ILLUSTRATION Program has your FUTURE SUCCESS, at College and beyond, as its PRIMARY goal. Year after year, the Graduates of this elite program- the ONLY one of its kind in the Nation, rave about the way in which the Program quite literally CHANGED their life.

As there are always more applicants for this College Level Program than can be accepted, I urge you to contact me as soon as possible if you are interested in being included in next year's MEDICAL ILLUSTRATION class. It will be my pleasure to fill you in on the Program in more detail so that you and your parents can make an informed choice as to the selection of your Art Major for the next TWO years. I can say without hesitation that it would be nothing short of a tragedy for an HONOR-ROLL student reflecting your level of achievement NOT to be included in the MEDICAL ILLUSTRATION Program which constitutes a literally LIFE-ENHANCING

experience. Of course you and your parent are most welcome to contact me by phone at 212-879-7200, if you require further information. If I am not available, please leave a message and I will return your call as soon as possible.

In any event it is most important that you visit my room (316) any day after school or during school hours, if you work after school so that I can be sure I have the information necessary to include you in this Program.

Allow me to end this letter by stating that I have been blessed with a phenomenal degree of success during my life. I would welcome the opportunity to show you how I can make you equally successful in your own life.

Once again let me say that each year the Senior MEDICAL ILLUSTRATION class students are accepted to more Tier One Colleges than the students in all the other Art Majors combined (and receive more Scholarships). In a world in which more and more companies and global corporations are down-sizing and out-sourcing their best job positions off-shore to foreign countries, it is all the more mandatory that students capable of pursuing a rigorous Academic High School and College level program, do so. Advanced Degrees are your best protection and your most valuable asset as you move forward in your Life and into an uncertain Future.

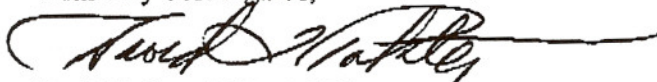
The MEDICAL ILLUSTRATION Program is intended to address the serious lack of sufficient rigorous courses for SUPER-ACHIEVING students such as yourself. It is intended to prepare you to gain access to the BEST Colleges in the Nation and mold your Character, Sense of Self and Confidence in the process. At the same time you will be amazed at the way I use all the skills reflected in the works of art on my website to take you further than you ever thought you could go, as an Artist and as a Contributing Member of Society.

I urge you and your Parent to give the most careful consideration as to which Art Major offered at the High School of Art and Design will play the biggest role and have the most impact on your one and only Future.

For Honor Roll Students such as yourself, I submit that the MEDICAL ILLUSTRATION Program is the clear and BEST CHOICE. Please remember that you MUST get in touch with me personally to be included.

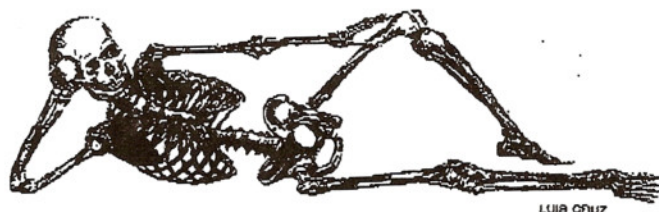
Wishing you continued success as we near the end of the Spring Term I remain

With very best regards,



David Pakter, M.A., M.F.A.

MEDICAL ILLUSTRATION



The Medical Illustration program provides our students with the opportunity to master all the basic skills of the professional Medical illustrator. In addition this college level course also meets the needs of students wishing to pursue a career in human biology, medicine and physical therapy. Beginning with a general introduction to the human skeleton (osteology), the students proceed to acquire an in depth understanding of the muscle system (myology) as well as a familiarity with surface morphology.

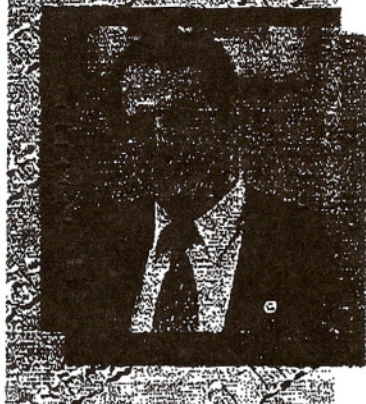
Along the way students develop an appreciation for the masters of Anatomical Illustration, both classic and modern.

As students advance through the Medical Illustration program they learn how to depict a wide variety of medical situations as they gain an understanding of the elements and principles of artistic design. This understanding in turn is combined with a continuously expanding information base, relating to all the wondrous systems of the human body.

In their senior year as they move into advanced color and illustration techniques the students have the opportunity to begin developing their own sense of style and a personal form of expression on which they will continue to expand as they advance to the university and graduate school level.

At all times the students aim at the two fold goal of acquiring not only the technical facility a Medical Illustrator must possess in order to succeed , but also the ability to organize a project so that it meets a firm pre-agreed time schedule. If our students can learn the meaning of responsibility, they will surely flourish and thrive whatever their eventual career goals. For my unforgettable and fabulously talented Medical Illustration students, who offered me the honor and extreme pleasure of helping them on their way, I anticipate unlimited success, great satisfaction and well deserved health and happiness at college and beyond. We shared many wonderful times and I wish each and every one of them good luck and Godspeed in the years ahead.

David L. Pakter, M.A. , M.F.A.
Instructor
Medical Illustration



David L. Pakter, M.A., M.F.A.

David Pakter, an American portrait painter who is also recognized as one of the world's greatest experts on the oil painting techniques of the Old Masters, was born and makes his principal residence in New York. He has created exact replicas of some of the world's most famous paintings including works by Michelangelo, Raphael, Rubens, Van Dyck, Rembrandt and Velazquez to name a few. These grandmaster replicas now hang in numerous private collections both in the United States and Europe. On occasion his services have been enlisted by such prestigious international auction houses as Christie's in New York.

During his early career he both studied and acted as studio assistant for such well known artists as Jean Liberte, Edwin Dickinson and Sidney E. Dickinson. He also served as an assistant to Isaac Soyer, David Leffel, John Howard Sanden and Hananiah Harari. During this period he also spent several years mastering human anatomy with Robert Beverly Hale at the Art Students League as well as in the Graduate School of the City University of New York under Hans Jellinck. Upon graduating from college, an extreme interest in the drawing and painting techniques of the Renaissance masters led Mr. Pakter to pursue additional study in Europe. Following extensive research and travel abroad, including working in museums in London, Paris, Florence, Rome, Venice and Madrid, Mr. Pakter eventually returned to the United States where he earned Masters Degrees in Art History, Painting and Human and Animal Anatomy.

The portraits and masterpiece replicas of David Pakter have been seen by over thirty million people internationally via the CNN worldwide news network. Articles about him have appeared in such prestigious newspapers as The New York Times, the Japanese daily The New York Yomiuri and The Observer. As a designer and design consultant, Mr. Pakter has created new products and programs for numerous American and international corporations. He has supervised product development, including packaging, from drawing board to final production. His innovations in design have resulted in patents and copyrights being issued in the United States, Canada, Great Britain, Switzerland, Germany as well as in Japan. Design concepts have been developed for and marketed throughout the world, by such clients as American Express, Avon Cosmetics, Timex Corporation and Walt Disney Productions.

Mr. Pakter received his education at the High School of Music and Art, The Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art, The City College and New York University. In addition he has been the recipient of numerous awards and scholarships presented to him by The Art Students League, Pratt Institute, The National Academy of Design and The Ford Foundation. In 1997, at a City Hall ceremony, Rudolph W. Giuliani, Mayor of the City of New York, presented Mr. Pakter with a Certificate of Recognition Award for Outstanding Achievement in the field of education. Mr. Pakter designed and initiated the first Medical Illustration program in the nation on the Secondary School level.

David Pakter is represented world-wide by "Portraits Inc." on Park Avenue in New York.

THE ABOVE INFORMATION MAY NOT BE ALTERED WITHOUT PERMISSION

Board of Education



City of New York

The High School of Art & Design

presents this

Certificate of Merit

to

MEDICAL ILLUSTRATION

Date



The Mayor of the City of New York
Rudolph W. Giuliani

requests the pleasure of your company
 at a ceremony to honor

New York City Vocational School Teachers

Wednesday, June 4, 1997

4:30 p.m. until 6:30 p.m.

Public Hearing Chamber
 City Hall

Please respond by phone (212) 788-2555
 (This invitation serves as your admission ticket)

Reception Immediately Following

Invitation Non-Transferable

event code: 4512

City Hall and the Tweed Building are accessible by public transportation.

Subway: #4, #5, #6 trains to City Hall/Brooklyn Bridge
 #2, #3 trains to Park Place
 #N, #R trains to City Hall
 Bus: M15 to City Hall/Park Row

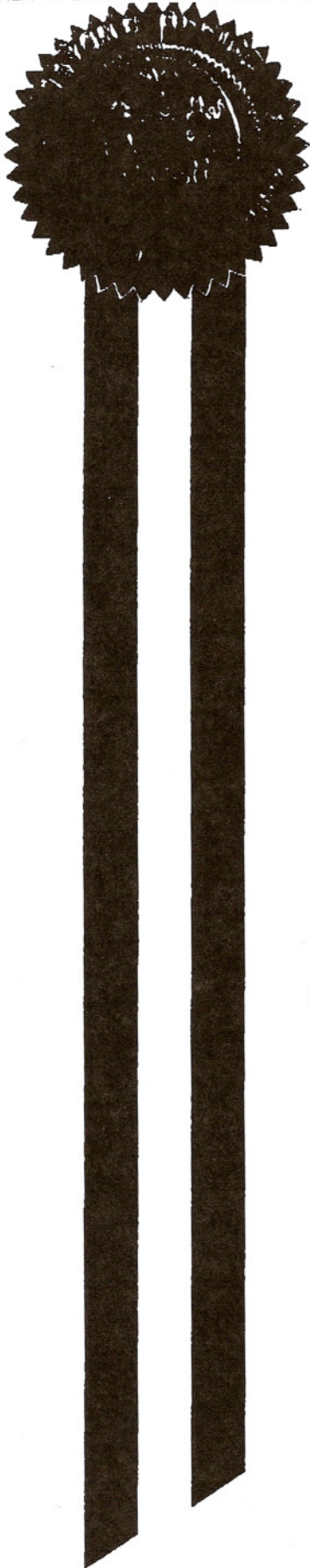
There is no parking in the immediate vicinity of City Hall and the Tweed Building. The following list of garages is included for your convenience.

Kinney Parking
 (Municipal Parking)
 103 Park Row
 (212) 285-9088

GGMC Parking Lot
 91 Murray Street
 (corner of Greenwich Street)
 (212) 962-9630

Broad Church Parking Corp. ♦
 73-75 Reade Street
 (bet. Church St. & Broadway)
 (212) 577-9039

Realty Assoc. Parking Garage
 57 Ann Street
 (bet. Nassau & William St.)
 (212) 732-2942



The City of New York

Certificate of Recognition

Know ye by these presents that I

Rudolph W. Giuliani

Mayor of the City of New York

do hereby present this award

to

David Pakter

For outstanding achievement as a vocational school teacher in our City's Public Schools, your work with parents and with the community, your solid and innovative teaching methods, and your ability to create a stimulating learning environment.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of New York to be affixed this fourth day of June, 1997.

Mayor



THE CITY OF NEW YORK
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10007

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Wednesday, June 4, 1997

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www.ci.nyc.ny.us

CONTACT: Colleen Roche (212)788-2958
Nydia Negron (212) 788-9263

**MAYOR GIULIANI HONORS 35 NEW YORK CITY VOCATIONAL TEACHERS
AT CITY HALL CEREMONY**

Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani this evening presented 35 New York City vocational school teachers with the Mayor's *Vocational School Teachers Award* in honor of their outstanding work with students both in and out of the classroom.

"Today we recognize the best vocational teachers in the City," said Mayor Giuliani. "You are the most dedicated members of a group whose work often goes unheralded. You help fulfill young people's dreams and channel their energy into constructive enterprises. Teachers like you in the public school system teach students for a lifetime. For this we are honoring you here tonight."

Joining the Mayor at a City Hall ceremony and reception were Deputy Mayor Ninfa Segarra, Deputy Chancellor for Instruction Dr. Judith Rizzo and Vice-President of Vocational Schools for the United Federation of Teachers Frank Carucci. Tiffany & Co. and Emily's Restaurant sponsored the event.

"Vocational education is an essential but often neglected need in our educational system," the Mayor added. "Whether it is teaching students carpentry, electronics or computers, instilling in them an entrepreneurial spirit, or bringing special education and practical skills together, vocational educators have brought the real world to the classroom. Those of you here tonight have acted as mentors for your students, passing on your knowledge to future generations."

(OVER)



THE CITY OF NEW YORK
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10007

NINFA SEGARRA
DEPUTY MAYOR
EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES

May 23, 1997

Mr. David Pakter
Art & Design High School
1075 Second Avenue
New York, NY 10022

Dear Mr. Pakter:

I am writing to inform you that you have been selected as a recipient of the Mayor's Award of Recognition for Vocational School Teachers. Congratulations on being one of approximately 30 vocational school teachers chosen for their extraordinary efforts during and beyond normal class hours. Your commitment to our City's students will be honored at a ceremony on June 4, 1997 from 5:00-7:00 p.m. in the Public Hearing Chamber of City Hall.

You will be receiving a formal invitation in the mail shortly. These invitations will allow you to bring up to 8 family members and friends to the ceremony and reception to follow (please remember to r.s.v.p. to Special Projects at 212-788-2555). We will also invite your principal, superintendent, Board of Education members and staff as well as UFT officials. Since the bulk of the audience will be your guests, please feel free to use your allotted amount.

We are very proud of your achievements and look forward to meeting you on June 4.

Sincerely,

Ninfa Segarra
Deputy Mayor