



MANIFEST DRAWING CENTER

Sculpting the Portrait: Unlocking Form to Elevate Your Drawing Fundamentals

Sundays, 1:30–4:30 pm

Course Description

“The sculptor must search with passionate intensity for the underlying principle of the organization of mass and tension - the meaning of gesture and the structure of rhythm.” — Barbara Hepworth

Because of its undeniable role in communication and identity, the human face continues to be one of the most important motifs for many artists - drawers and sculptors alike. Paramount to any investigation of this subject is an understanding of the anatomy and structure of the head, and in this course, we'll explore those topics through a primarily tactile, 3-dimensional experience designed to elevate our drawing and painting portraiture work as well.

While figurative sculpting can be intimidating, the goal of this class is to keep the form, materials, and techniques accessible (and affordable)—not just to simply introduce portrait sculpting to the students but to encourage a lifelong engagement with sculpting as a means of seeing more completely.

This class will cover the following topics:

- Constructing an armature
- Taking measurements from a live model
- How to properly use photo references
- Studying basic human head anatomy
- Techniques for observing and replicating three-dimensional form
- Using sculpting materials and tools

Materials List:

- 1 lb. Super Sculpey - Beige
- 1 pair of Needle Nose Pliers with a wire cutter built into them

The Drawing Center or instructor will provide all other required materials, including wooden boards, armature wire, and small sculpting tools. Students may choose to supplement their coursework/practice with their own equipment in consultation with the instructor.