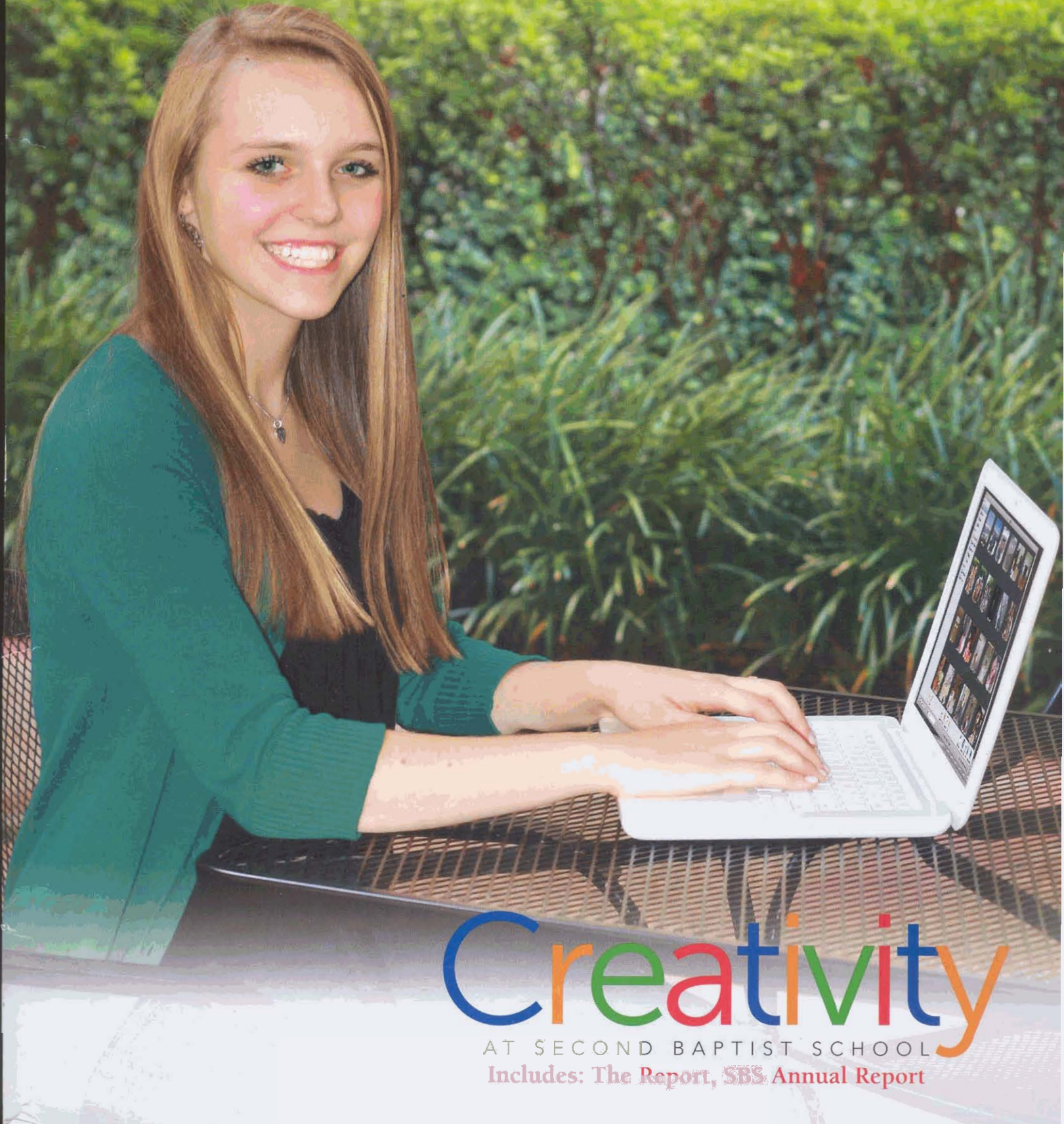


SECOND BAPTIST SCHOOL

EAGLE

FALL 2011 EAGLE REPORT



Creativity

AT SECOND BAPTIST SCHOOL

Includes: The Report, SBS Annual Report

Creativity through the Fine Arts

The Visual Arts

The visual arts program begins in the lower grades with pre-kindergarten's focus on the development of fine motor skills and continues through fifth grade's art appreciation, ceramics, pastel and watercolor work. In weekly art classes taught by skilled instructors, our youngest students find and hone their talents. In the Middle School and Upper School, students benefit from the expanded programs in sculpture, photography, ceramics, multicultural art, drawing, and Art I through Advanced Placement Art.

Learning about Impressionism

Mrs. Kim Day empowers each student with the confidence to be an artist. "I make it clear that everyone is creative regardless of how well one is able to draw. I believe this truth allows our students the freedom to express their creativity through the process by which they make art, rather than focusing on the final product," she says.

One of Mrs. Day's favorite projects to do with her students is the second grade study of the Impressionist movement, specifically Claude Monet. By comparing several works from this movement, students grasp an understanding of the style and then step into the role of Impressionist painters. Given broad guidelines on subject and brushstroke style, the students create their own scenes right out of Claude Monet's garden. "I love seeing these students creatively express what Impressionism means to them," explains Mrs. Day.

Painting in the Abstract

Eighth grade students put their imaginations to work when they create abstract paintings. They choose a small portion of a photograph and enlarge it on

the canvas. Through this project, "they get to be very creative in their subject matter and learn how to see a focal point as well as how to match colors and show shading," explains Mrs. Amy Mann, Middle School art teacher. The final paintings express the individuality of each student. "The images ultimately reveal the true spirit of creativity as God modeled for us when He created each individual uniquely in His image," she says.

Striking a Balance

In Upper School art classes, Ms. Linda Parker and Mrs. Nora Ripple strive to equip students with a deep knowledge of the elements and principles of art. Most projects emphasize these fundamentals. At the same time, students have the flexibility to create within these restrictions. "I try to strike a balance between following necessary guidelines and finding full independence as an artist," says Mrs. Ripple. Students feel a sense of security having boundaries to work within as they create. "Once they have succeeded with a project, their confidence becomes more solidified, and they are emboldened to try new things," she says.



BY BEN PFEFFER



BY MADDIE FARACE

Thoughts on Creativity by Artists

Amy Mann

Middle School Art Instructor

By definition, to be an artist you must create something that represents something else, whether it be an idea or an actual object or person. In Middle School, students are still learning the skills, tools and mediums that enable them to create. In essence, they are exploring new ways of making things. Whether it be with a paint brush or an ink pen or a colored pencil, learning to use all of these tools helps students express their creative thoughts. This creativity may be useful to them now or it may serve as a stepping stone to spark future creativity.

Nora Ripple

Upper School Art Instructor

Creativity is one of the most important skills needed in order to flourish in today's society, and it is foolish to think creativity is only needed in the realm of the arts. No matter what line of work a student decides to pursue, a creative mind that can think outside the box will prove to be imperative to success. Innovating, making unexpected connections, pushing the boundaries, and creating better ways of doing things are all part of being creative. Creativity is the edge our students must have to succeed in the global community in which we find ourselves.