Lesson Plan: Pixelated Paintings
Grade Level: 3-8
Subject: Art /Artist Study
Time: 90 Minutes (3- 30 min. sessions)

Standards:

5.5.2.3.1 3. Create original artistic work. 1. Using artistic foundations, create art that redesigns artworks, objects, places or systems.

5.6.2.3.1 3. Create original artistic work. 1. Employ abstraction, symbolism, or naturalism when making a work of art.

Objective: To understand the concepts of pixels within a digital image and to recreate an image using this style of art.

Assessment Rubric:
4- Standards are exceeded
3- Standards are met
2- Standards are partially met
1- Standards are not met

Materials: A photo of each student (take a picture of each student, change the transparency to make the image more transparent, and print it out on grid paper), tempera paint, paint brushes

Procedure:

Day 1: Start by showing students the following “David Dobbs- Painter” video. https://video.lptv.org/video/david-dobbs-painter-ykhnoi/

Discussion Questions:
What is one thing you thought was important about this video? What do you know of pixels and technology? What different techniques did David Dobbs use when creating his art?

Day 2: Hand out all materials to each student.

Step 1 - Have students outline different colors with a pencil so that they can plan out which colors they can use on the different parts of their pictures. They will choose a color for their background that stands out from their other paint colors.

Step 2 - Once they have planned out their colors they can begin to mix paint to make colors that will be used. Remind students that each square has to be a solid color- no angles. This will make the image look pixelated.

Day 3 - Students will continue to paint until all squares have been painted.
Follow-up Discussion:
What inspires this type of art? What is interesting about pixelated paintings?

Differentiation-
For younger students- use bigger grid paper (½ inch grid)
For older students- use smaller grid paper (¼ inch or ⅛ inch grid)

Additional Resources: