

Cal State Long Beach

App Review

Week 4

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ART 305: Art Discipline Through New Tech

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The app that I am introducing is ProCreate. I first came across the app due to its rising popularity within the digital artist culture. It has been awarded with Editor's Choice and two Apple Design awards, as acknowledgment of the future potential of the application. The price of the program is a one-time payment of 9.99, unlike other drawing programs that are subscription based. Although it has multiple features, it is not as accessible to the public because it can only be purchased through the Apple store. Even with the limited user base, its artistic attributes make it competitive to the Adobe products.

Procreate is popular amongst all skill ranged artists, from novice to advanced. As a seasoned artist, its user-friendly interfaces and multiple toolbar features allow for customization of the artwork. My previous knowledge working with Adobe photoshop and illustrator helped me navigate through most of the tools and settings. I can't say that the application is easy to use, but in comparison to other drawing programs it has one of the most user-friendly interfaces. It optimizes the artist user experience by giving tools similar to other high priced programs. For example, Procreate has a variety of brushes to choose from in its extensive library. The available ranges of brushes can fit the need of the artwork, from airbrushes, watercolors, sketching, and to downloadable custom brushes. In an educational setting I can see a novice student feeling overwhelmed and needing some facilitation when using the app. Though given the popularity of procreate, there should be no difficulty in learning the program through guides and tutorials found both on the official websites and outside Youtube videos.

There is great educational potential in Procreate. Their official website has ready-made lesson plans and tutorials that fit within the school art curriculum. It teaches the students step by step in re-creating the project using the material learned.

With art classes requiring many materials and resources to provide a proper hands on experience to learn, budgeting can be a big concern for art teachers. It can become difficult to supply seven classes for each period for an entire school, let alone a single class. Being on a reusable resource, it will not require another purchase other than the initial price. Students can save work onto the ipad and create “stacks” which serve as folders. The negative aspect of working on the ipad is the limited storage space. Multiple files in the storage can add up quickly when used regularly, causing possible issues with performance when near full capacity.

Procreate is an application that can be used in any grade level. The lesson plans provided cover introductory, intermediate, and even some advanced material. Tutorials and guides are available through multiple sources. Simplicity and easy to use allows students to transition and adapt to the new system easily.

Potential problems from the application could be when students personally do not have procreate or an Ipad then they are unable to continue working on their art outside of the classroom. With limited devices tied to a classroom it would be unlikely they can rent or borrow a device to take home.

Digital art is growing more popular in the latter decade as technology is being incorporated into more businesses. This can become an essential skill that can transfer into a lifelong career.