

# BAUHAUS: ART AND EDUCATION UNDER ONE ROOF





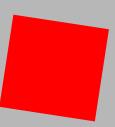
Join us as we explore the **Bauhaus** in your house, during our 'stay-at-home' order. The **Bauhaus** was an art school whose teaching style and curriculum revolutionized the way schools teach art and design. For example, STEM/STEAM approaches are popular in today's curriculum, especially as lessons are taught inside the home, instead of in the classroom.

Previous page: Anni Albers Carpet for a children's bedroom Teppich für ein Kinderzimmer 1923 Wolle, handgesponnen und -geknüpft / Nachwebung durch Christopher Farr 2014 Institut für Auslandsbeziehungen.

Left: Kurt Schmidt, Construction for fireworks, from the Stage Workshop, 1923, © Foto: ifa, A. Körner, bildhübsche Fotografie



Installation of The Whole World A Bauhaus, Elmhurst Art Museum, Spring 2019. Photographed by Steven Koch.



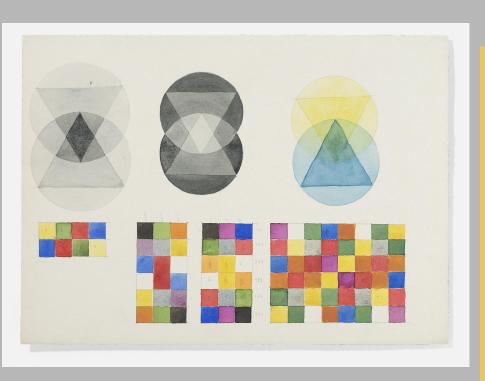
### BAUHAUS at The Elmhurst Art Museum

In Spring 2019, the Elmhurst Art Museum was the only U.S. host for the internationally exhibition, *The Whole World A Bauhaus*. This exhibition was organized in eight chapters exploring the work and life of one of the most important art academics of the twentieth century on its 100th anniversary.



### What is the Bauhaus?

The **Bauhaus** was one of the most influential modernist art school in Germany from 1919 to 1933. Founded by Walter Gropius, the school eventually morphed into its own modern art movement characterized by its unique approach to architecture and design. Located in the cities of Weimar, Dessau, and then Berlin, it was a lively school of ideas and a field for experimenting in the free and applied arts, design, architecture and educational methods. Its approach to teaching, and to the relationship between art, society, and technology, had a major impact both in Europe and in the United States long after its closure under Nazi pressure in 1933. The **Bauhaus** sought to train a new generation of committed designers with all-round skills. Today, its influence can be found in art and design all over the world, whether within the walls of a museum or on a suburban street.

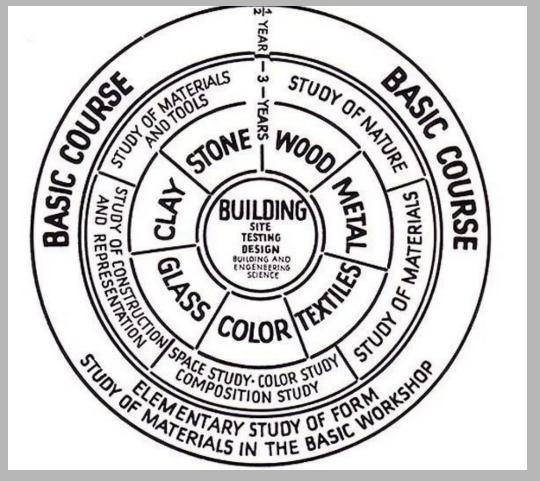


Marianne Ahlfeld- Heymann (attributed), exercise from the class "pictorial form theory" by Paul Klee, 1923–24, © Foto: ifa, A. Körner, bildhübsche Fotografie



We now recognize the **Bauhaus** as one of the most innovative and influential art schools of the twentieth century. Walter Gropius, the first director and founder, recognized the need to balance the teaching of practical skills and formal design. This meant that each course was joint-taught by a "work master" and a "form master", which was maintained until the school moved to Dessau.

Hannes Meyer continued to reevaluate curriculum as he stepped into the role as the second director of the **Bauhaus**. With this change, many workshops were combined to increase the period of study and scientists were brought in to conduct lectures. This shift helped shape the architecture department, and provided a "scientifically founded design".

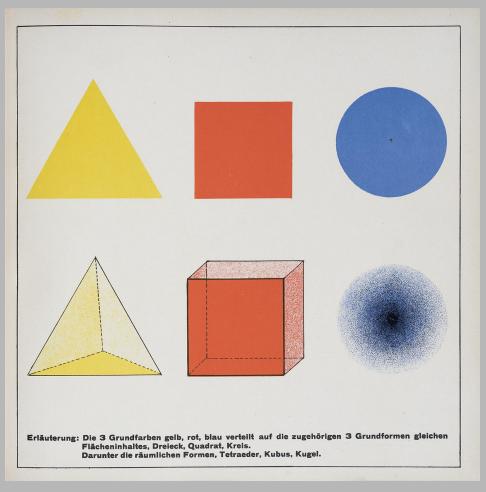


Unknown Designer, Scheme of teaching, from the publication "State Bauhaus Weimar 1919–1923, 1923" 1923, © Foto: ifa, A. Körner, bildhübsche Fotografie



### **Bauhaus Curriculum Structure**

The outer ring indicates a preliminary 6-month course in basic materials and involved painting and rudimentary experiments in form-making. The inner two rings indicate a 3-year period where students were introduced to workshop training conducted by two masters: one artist, and one craftsman. The center of the wheel references building construction, engineering, and architecture, which was studied in theory and then skills learned would put into practice by working on the actual constructions of buildings.



### **Reshaping Curriculum**

The balance of design and technical skill is still very much part of our current educational system. Often called STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, and math), educators today embrace interdisciplinary learning.

In the time of COVID-19, educators are having to adapt quickly to find creative solutions to reshape their curriculum. Through technology, students are able to continue learning at home. Teachers and parents are able to find real-life applications for lessons, which is inherently **Bauhaus!** 

Color panel from the colors seminar with Ludwig Hirshfeld-Mack, from the publication "State Bauhaus Weimar 1919-23, 1923"



Pius Pahl, Ludwig Mies van der Rohe at class in the Dessau Bauhaus with students, Annemarie Wilke (front), Heinrich Neuy, Ludwig Mies van der Rohe (middle), Hermann Klumpp, 1930 / 31, Stiftung Bauhaus Dessau



### **Master & Student**

Gropius was also very interested in the living community of masters and students. Not only were relationships formed in the classroom, but teachers and students also shared leisure activities and even parties together.

In fact, the aspect of community was a guiding principle for the school. The third director, Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, stated "...relations between teachers and students in Dessau have gained a far greater quality of cooperation than can be achieved in any other German university".





In many ways, learning during COVID-19 has made us all learn and live in close proximity. Parents are becoming more involved in their child's education, and even adults are learning new skills through online content.

If you are finding new DIY's or crafts during this time, you are carrying on the tradition of **Bauhaus!** 

Installation of *Whole World A Bauhaus*, Elmhurst Art Museum, Spring 2019. Photographed by Steven Koch.



Bauhaus in Your World

Today, we take things for granted that were influenced by the **Bauhaus**. For instance, modern skyscrapers, the sleek design of the iPhone, and even the seat you are sitting in right now, were influenced by **Bauhaus**.

Architecture Lab Magazine- What is Bauhaus and Where it is Today?

**BBC-** The Endless Influence of the Bauhaus

Amara- 100 Years of Bauhaus: What it is and How It Shaped Today's Design Industry





**ELMHURST ART MUSEUM** 

ART, EDUCATION \* ARCHITECTURE

<u>The Whole World A</u>
<u>Bauhaus exhibition page</u>

The Whole World A
Bauhaus exhibition
brochure



### EAM TEEN ART COUNCIL Performance

In Spring 2019, the Elmhurst Art Museum's Teen Art Council collaborated with Could Be Architecture designers Joseph Altshuler and Zack Morrison to re-stage Oskar Schlemmer's seminal *Triadic Ballet* one century after its original debut at the Bauhaus.



The costumes and stage-pieces riffed upon the triadic components of the original: rectangular, triangular, and circular geometry; yellow, pink, and grayscale color; cheerful, festive, and mystical tones of voice. A performance brought the costumes to life, and solicits an ongoing mix-up of the animate and the inert, suggesting multiple and overlapping relationships between human and nonhuman charisma. The performance staged architecture's capacity to usher nonhuman qualities into our everyday social space, all while putting on a show that sparks entertainment, play, and laughter.



This project was created as collaboration between Could Be Architecture and the Elmhurst Art Museum's Teen Art Council lead by Joseph Hladik. Could Be Architecture is a Chicago and Elmhurst-based design practice directed by Joseph Altshuler and Zack Morrison. The Teen Art Council includes Arianna Denning, Kendall Dirks, April Fatheree, Mallori Hecker, Isabel Jones, Hannah Lonergan, Addison Mcclary, Matthew Milani, Savannah Nichols.

Teen Art
Council
Performance
Watch Here

Behind the
Scenes with
EAM's Teen Art
Council
Watch Here

Previous page and left: Installation of EAM Teen Art Council Bauhaus Models, Elmhurst Art Museum, Spring 2019. Photographed by Steven Koch.

## Virtual Bauhaus

In conjunction with *The Whole World A Bauhaus* exhibition at the museum, we offered a virtual reality experience *Virtual Bauhaus*. Developed by the Goethe-Institut Boston in cooperation with Cologne Game Lab (CGL) at TH Köln and Bauhaus advisors Jordan Troeller and Robert Huber (zukunftsgeraeusche GbR), *Virtual Bauhaus* used innovative VR technology to allow viewers to experience the essence of the iconic Bauhaus school in Dessau, Germany, as well as the products, ideas and general environment of the Bauhaus. The user could visit a selection of locations in the building and experience curated interactive, atmospheric as well as educational elements.

Virtual Bauhaus exhibition page

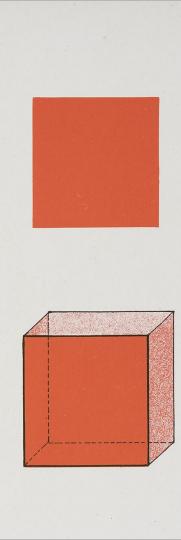
Preview of Virtual Bauhaus VR experience

<u>Virtual Bauhaus in Boston</u>



Virtual Bauhaus is developed by the Goethe-Institut Boston in cooperation with Cologne Game Lab (CGL) at TH Köln and a team of Bauhaus advisors.

This exhibition is part of the Year of German-American Friendship initiated by the German Federal Foreign Office and the Goethe-Institut, and supported by the Federation of German Industries (BDI).



### Press Highlights for The Whole World A Bauhaus at EAM:

<u>Chicago Tribune</u> - The Bauhaus at 100: Deep dive into German design school that sought to remake world, from cradle to great buildings

**Curbed** - Bauhaus turns 100: Here are the 13 best exhibitions to check out

WBEZ - International Exhibit of Bauhaus School of Design Comes to Elmhurst

<u>Time Out Chicago</u> - If you love minimalist design, check out this Bauhaus exhibit at the Elmhurst Art Museum

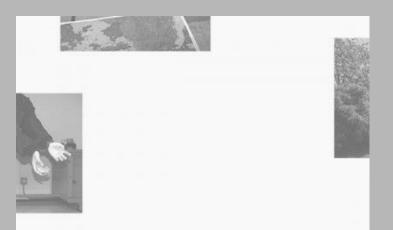
Chicago Sun-Times - Bauhaus centennial exhibit shines art movement's light on world, Chicago

Newcity - One Hundred Years of Bauhaus: How a Short-lived German Art School Influenced International Design and Shaped Chicago

The Arts Section - Bauhaus 100 + Living in a Museum

<u>Third Coast Review</u> - The Whole World a Bauhaus Celebrates 100th Anniversary of Iconic German and Chicago Design School

(detail) Color panel from the colors seminar with Ludwig Hirshfeld-Mack, from the publication "State Bauhaus Weimar 1919-23, 1923"



### A LITTLE PIECE OF BAUHAUS





GOETH

### **MUSEUM STORE**

Item of the Week

2017: 80 years of the New Bauhaus in Chicago—2019: 100 years of the Bauhaus in Germany. In connection with these two anniversaries, the Goethe-Institut in Chicago organized a series of exhibitions from 2016 to 2018. Starting from the interdisciplinary Bauhaus idea, ten artists from Chicago and Germany were invited to create A Little Piece of Bauhaus / Ein Stück Bauhaus in a situational and site-specific way. The Goethe-Institut thus became an open platform for boundary-transcending artistic dialogues between the "old" and "new" Bauhaus, between past and future.

Artists: Heike Albrecht, Assaf Evron, Doug Fogelson, Anke Loh, Luftwerk, Christina Wildgrube, Rebecca Wilton, Serene Wise, Monika Wulfers

Online Museum Store





#### Museum of Design, Bauhaus Archive, Berlin

The Goethe-Institut is celebrating 100 years of Bauhaus

#### **100 Years of Bauhaus Documentary**

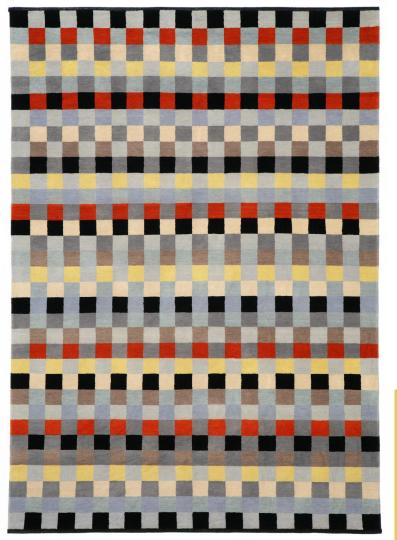
Part 1: The Code
Part 2: The Effect
Part 3: Utopia

### **BBC Documentary-**

BAUHAUS 100: 100 Years of Bauhaus

### **Drone Footage of Bauhaus in Dessau Today**

Moses Mirkin, "Contrast of the means of expression rough-smooth, rhythmical contrast," exercise to observe the similarities of expression while using different means of representation, from the Preliminary Course of Johannes Itten 1920, © Foto: ifa, A. Körner, bildhübsche Fotografie



The Whole World A Bauhaus exhibition at the museum was part of the Year of German-American Friendship initiated by the German Federal Foreign Office and the Goethe-Institut, and supported by the Federation of German Industries (BDI)





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