American Schools of Art

Period	Description	Key Artists
PRIMITIVE Mid-1800s	 Artisan rather than artist. Naive yet innate decorative sense. Some itinerant portrait painters how disappeared with advent of camera. 	Hicks
HUDSON RIVER SCHOOL 1850-1890	 Romantic, majestic views of American landscapes. Rooted in Impressionism 	Bierstadt
19 TH CENTURY WESTERN ART	 Western life portrayed as worthy subject matter for artist. Depictions of cowboys, Indians, and settling of the west. 	Remington Russell
ASH CAN SCHOOL 1890-1910	 Named by critic who did not like their work. Also called "The 8" after eight Philadelphia artists who founded it. Formed to champion native themes as worthy of subject matter. Spontaneous depictions sketched like "newspaper artist" Depicted life "as she is led." Appreciated qualities of light used by Impressionists. 	Bellows
AMERICAN SCENE 1930-1945	 Social Realism/Urban Realism Reflected character of American people, especially working class. 	Davis Evergood Hopper Hassam's cityscapes
PRECISIONISTS	Depicted rural and small town life realistically in form and content	Wyeth Rockwell
POP 1950-1960	 Reaction again abstract expressionism. Portrayal of aggressively contemporary objects taken from media. Art comes down to earth and back to manner 	