

# Fresco Painting

For this lab, we created a fresco painting by taking a dull tile and applying a lime plaster, which is made up of quicklime (calcium oxide) and water, and combines with carbon dioxide as it dries to form limestone. While the plaster coat is still wet, we applied pigments mixed with water to the surface of the plaster-coated tile and the pigment particles became trapped in the plaster and bound to the surface, becoming a part of it.



When deciding what to paint on my tile, I decided to paint a penguin because I've always enjoyed them and thought it was fascinating how the male penguins help with the incubation of their young. In addition, though, I was thinking of the cold weather and how penguins huddle together to keep warm and look out for one another. I think it's especially important during these cold months to not let the weather get us down and to help one another out.

Fresco paintings have been used throughout history and one of the most well-known fresco paintings is in the Sistine Chapel and was painted by Michelangelo. Another example of a popular fresco painting is *The School of Athens* painted by Raphael.



Michelangelo. *The Last Judgment*. 1541. Sistine Chapel, Vatican City.

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