Honey's Effect on Watercolor, Acrylic, and Oil Paint

Boelhower, Jacie (School: Adams Central Jr.-Sr. High School)

There are flaws with both old and modern paintings because of the type of paint they use, which can include dull paint colors and difficulty conserving the artworks. Honey has been used in a few watercolor brands with reports that honey improves the saturation and thickness levels in the paint. It was hypothesized that honey could also improve the saturation and value rates of oil, acrylic, and watercolor, too. Red, blue, and yellow watercolor, acrylic, and oil paint were tested. 3 drops of honey were mixed into 3 grams of red, blue, and yellow acrylic and 2 drops of honey into 2 grams of oil and watercolor. Squares of honey mixed paint and normal paint were painted in side by side to compare color. Canvases with honeyed paint and normal paint were also painted in before being rubbed with dirt and cleaned for restoration tests. For the color test, the lightest color and the darkest color of each square were found and the saturation and value rates were measured. After running the results through a T-Test, there was no statistical difference ($P > 0.05$) between the honey and normal paint. The restoration tests had no significant difference between them, as well. A small amount of honey hasn’t proven to produce considerable results, but a greater amount could affect paint much more.

Awards Won: