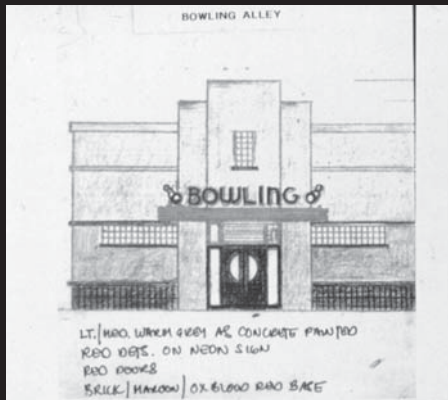




LEARNING *from* the BEST

Storyboards are a chronological layout of sketches or photographs that outline the main action of a film scene or sequence. They provide information about the physical requirements of a particular set or location as well as an outline for the action in the shot. A storyboard sketch indicates not only which characters are in a shot and their general locale, but camera angles, movement and framing as well. In addition to storyboards, production designers use detailed sketches in creating their sets. The sketches are turned into blueprints and given to construction crews to realize. Models of sets, built to scale, help the filmmakers visualize the three-dimensional space in which they will be working.

Below are storyboard sketches from *Pleasantville*, designed by Jeannine Claudia Oppewall. As a class, compare the sketches to stills of the set from the finished film:



In the previous activities, we learned about the many ways in which art direction, as envisioned by production designers, can help tell a visually stimulating story. Now it's time to look at the films that were nominated for art direction this year.

List the nominees for best art direction in the space below:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Pick one film that you would like to see from the list of nominees. As you watch, think about how the film uses architectural elements, set decoration and color to enhance the story.

After viewing the film, describe why you think the Academy chose to recognize the art direction in that film nomination and whether it was or was not appropriate.

Now using the scene you wrote in **Activity 2**, draw your own storyboard on the back of this sheet, indicating what the viewer will see in the first eight shots. In addition to your character, be sure to include as many details of your set as possible.