



The visual arts standards in the middle school years build on the general art knowledge and skills developed at the elementary level. In addition, students explore and examine the role of design and technology in making, documenting, and presenting works of art. Students create, discuss, reflect on, and compare works of art—across historical periods and cultures—using materials, processes, tools, and vocabulary in more complex ways. Art careers and art-depicting issues that are important to communities are also examined. At this level, middle school art students extend their artistic vision beyond self and look at their artistic practice as part of a much larger community.

#### Expectations for 8th Grade Students:

- **Observe and Learn to Comprehend (Know/Comprehend):** Consider sources for and of inspiration; use historical and contemporary art to inform and support ideas and plans to create art.
- **Envision and Critique to Reflect (Critique/Evaluate/Refine):** Investigate and talk about the meaning of works of art considering multiple points of view; explain how art is personally relevant and of significance to the artist.
- **Invent and Discover to Create (Create/Present):** Develop proficiency in handling art materials, tools, processes, and technologies when planning and creating art.
- **Relate and Connect to Transfer (Connect/Apply/Transfer):** Explain the relationship between art and design in everyday life; discuss the impact art can have on the way we understand and function in the world.

#### Throughout 8th Grade You May Find Students:

- Describing and defending the intent and purpose of art using appropriate art vocabulary (the composition of stark contrasting colors represents the artist's intent to share a strong emotion).
- Investigating and debating quality in art and design.
- Explaining the reasons for creating a work of art; recognizing the influence of culture on artistic decisions.
- Describing and debating persuasive techniques used in print and electronic media to influence an audience.
- Creating innovative works of art that depict personal, social, cultural, and/or political viewpoints as well as other interests.
- Researching and describing real-world applications of art.