

YAM Flags across Texas!

Elementary lesson

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Big Ideas: Culture and Communication:

Culture can be expressed visually in a variety of ways through a variety of media.

How do artists express Texas culture?

Goal: Students will create a unified and balanced design for a Youth Art Month flag incorporating Texas- and Visual Arts- themes, applying a limited palette of 7 colors.

Category: Drawing, 2D, using colored pencil

Observation and Perception:

How do symbols communicate ideas about Texas culture? How do artists creatively represent the materials they use in their work? How would an artist merge these two ideas in one unified design?

Historical/Cultural Relevance:

Students will observe works in the Amon Carter, Museum of American Art, collection, Cowboy Photographer: Erwin E. Smith to make informed judgments about cowboy culture and the West, in addition to works by Remington and Russell and other Western artists.

Creative Expression:

Student will create a 2D flag design representing the Visual Arts and Texas for Youth Art Month.

1. Student will create a visual collection of Texas cultural symbols in their journal.
2. Student will create a visual collection of Visual Arts media (ie. paint cans or tubes, pencils, brushes, palette, etc.) in a variety of sizes in their journal.
3. Student will merge these two separate concepts in a unified and balanced design on one side of their journal (landscape view).
4. Student will transfer the design to the TAEA YAM Flag Design template, adding color.
5. Student will write an artist statement describing his/her use of symbols in the work, application of unity and balance in the design through the organization of the elements in the work, and his/her artist's intent.

Materials:

pencils, journal or copy paper, colored pencils, internet access via class computer or ancillary materials depicting works by Remington and Russell or other Western artists

Sources of materials:

Amon Carter Museum, Collection of Erwin E. Smith photography: <http://www.cartermuseum.org/collections/smith>

Remington and Russell Project Overview with a large collection of images:

<http://www.cartermuseum.org/remington-and-russell>

Grading Rubric:

How has the student demonstrated:

- a creative use of the limited color palette?
- a unified and balanced design?
- a use of Texas- and Visual Arts-themed symbols to represent our state and the Visual Arts for Youth Art Month?
- an understanding of the elements of art and principles of design and can justify his/her artistic intent through the artist statement?

Reflective Statement:

How did you include symbols of Texas and the Visual Arts in your design?

How did you organize the work, and why did you select those colors? Please explain.

If you could change or add something to your design, what would it be and why?

Extension:

Do a gallery-walk of the designs in your class. Use a Venn diagram to compare and contrast the flag designs. How are they similar and how are they different? Make informed judgments about each artist's intent.