TACOMA ART MUSEUM

1701 Pacific Avenue Tacoma, WA 98402

T 253-272-4258 F 253-627-1898 www.TacomaArtMuseum.org

Tools of Expression Secondary (6th-12th Grade)

"Tools of Expression" helps students investigate the elements of art and principles of design, basic building blocks of artistic expression. In the tour, students explore works of art in a variety of different media, identifying the effect of artist's choices about elements and principles in each work. A museum educator guides students through Visual Thinking Strategies, Artful Thinking Routines, and activities from Harvard's Project Zero.

Essential Question:

How do artists' choices about the elements of art and principles of design create meaning in their artwork?

Learning Targets:

- 1. Students can identify the elements of art and principles of design in a work of art.
- 2. Students can discuss the meaning created by an artist's use of a particular element of art or principle of design in a work of art.

Success Criteria:

- Collaboratively, students can name and describe each of the elements of art and principles of design in a given work of art.
- Students can describe the ideas or mood conveyed by a work of art and identify how the use of an element of art or principle of design helps convey that idea or mood.

Standards Alignment

Washington State Visual Arts

6th Grade

- Re8.1 Interpret art by distinguishing between relevant and non-relevant contextual information and analyzing subject matter, characteristics of form and structure, and use of media to identify ideas and mood conveyed.

7th Grade

- Re8.1 Interpret art by analyzing art-making approaches, the characteristics of form and structure, relevant contextual information, subject matter, and use of media to identify ideas and mood conveyed.

8th Grade



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- Re8.1 Interpret art by analyzing how the interaction of subject matter, characteristics of form and structure, use of media, art-making approaches, and relevant contextual information contributes to understanding messages or ideas and mood conveyed.

High School Proficient

- Re8.1 Interpret an artwork or collection of works, supported by relevant and sufficient evidence found in the work and its various contexts.

High School Accomplished

- Anchor Standard 8 Interpret intent and meaning in an artistic work.

High School Advanced

- Re8.1 Analyze differing interpretations of an artwork or collection of works in order to select and defend a plausible critical analysis.