

## VISUAL ARTS STANDARDS – GRADE 6-8

### Big Idea: CRITICAL THINKING AND REFLECTION

Enduring Understanding 1: Cognition and reflection are required to appreciate, interpret, and create with artistic intent.

BENCHMARK CODE	BENCHMARK
VA.68.C.1.1	Apply a range of interests and contextual connections to influence the art-making and self-reflection processes.
VA.68.C.1.2	Use visual evidence and prior knowledge to reflect on multiple interpretations of works of art.
VA.68.C.1.3	Identify qualities of exemplary artworks that are evident and transferable to the judgment of personal work.

Enduring Understanding 2: Assessing our own and others' artistic work, using critical-thinking, problem-solving, and decision-making skills, is central to artistic growth.

BENCHMARK CODE	BENCHMARK
VA.68.C.2.1	Assess personal artwork during production to determine areas of success and needed change for achieving self-directed or specified goals.
VA.68.C.2.2	Evaluate artwork objectively during group assessment to determine areas for refinement.
VA.68.C.2.3	Examine artworks to form ideas and criteria by which to judge/assess and inspire personal works and artistic growth.
VA.68.C.2.4	Use constructive criticism as a purposeful tool for artistic growth.

Enduring Understanding 3: The processes of critiquing works of art lead to development of critical-thinking skills transferable to other contexts.

BENCHMARK CODE	BENCHMARK
VA.68.C.3.1	Incorporate accurate art vocabulary during the analysis process to describe the structural elements of art and organizational principles of design.
VA.68.C.3.2	Examine and compare the qualities of artworks and utilitarian objects to determine their aesthetic significance.
VA.68.C.3.3	Use analytical skills to understand meaning and explain connections with other contexts.
VA.68.C.3.4	Compare the uses for artwork and utilitarian objects to determine their significance in society.

## Big Idea: SKILLS, TECHNIQUES, AND PROCESSES

Enduring Understanding 1: The arts are inherently experiential and actively engage learners in the processes of creating, interpreting, and responding to art.

BENCHMARK CODE	BENCHMARK
VA.68.S.1.1	Manipulate content, media, techniques, and processes to achieve communication with artistic intent.
VA.68.S.1.2	Use media, technology, and other resources to derive ideas for personal art-making.
VA.68.S.1.3	Use ideas from cultural, historical, and artistic references to create personal responses in personal artwork.
VA.68.S.1.4	Use accurate art vocabulary to explain the creative and art-making processes.
VA.68.S.1.5	Explore various subject matter, themes, and historical or cultural events to develop an image that communicates artistic intent.

Enduring Understanding 2: Development of skills, techniques, and processes in the arts strengthens our ability to remember, focus on, process, and sequence information.

BENCHMARK CODE	BENCHMARK
VA.68.S.2.1	Organize the structural elements of art to achieve artistic goals when producing personal works of art.
VA.68.S.2.2	Create artwork requiring sequentially ordered procedures and specified media to achieve intended results.
VA.68.S.2.3	Use visual-thinking and problem-solving skills in a sketchbook or journal to identify, practice, develop ideas, and resolve challenges in the creative process.

Enduring Understanding 3: Through purposeful practice, artists learn to manage, master, and refine simple, then complex, skills and techniques.

BENCHMARK CODE	BENCHMARK
VA.68.S.3.1	Use two-dimensional or three-dimensional art materials and tools to understand the potential and limitations of each.
VA.68.S.3.2	Develop spontaneity and visual unity in artwork through repeated practice and refined craftsmanship.
VA.68.S.3.3	Demonstrate understanding of safety protocols for media, tools, processes, and techniques.
VA.68.S.3.4	Demonstrate respect for copyright laws and intellectual property ownership when creating and producing works of art.
VA.68.S.3.5	Apply two-dimensional techniques and media to create or enhance three-dimensional artwork.

## Big Idea: ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

Enduring Understanding 1: Understanding the organizational structure of an art form provides a foundation for appreciation of artistic works and respect for the creative process.

BENCHMARK CODE	BENCHMARK
VA.68.O.1.1	Make connections between the structural elements of art and the organizational principles of design to understand how artwork is unified.
VA.68.O.1.2	Identify the function of structural elements of art and organizational principles of design to create and reflect on artwork.
VA.68.O.1.3	Combine creative and technical knowledge to produce visually strong works of art.
VA.68.O.1.4	Create artworks that demonstrate skilled use of media to convey personal vision.

Enduring Understanding 2: The structural rules and conventions of an art form serve as both a foundation and departure point for creativity.

BENCHMARK CODE	BENCHMARK
VA.68.O.2.1	Create new meaning in artworks through shared language, expressive content, and ideation.
VA.68.O.2.2	Investigate the problem-solving qualities of divergent thinking as a source for new visual symbols and images.
VA.68.O.2.3	Create a work of personal art using various media to solve an open-ended artistic problem.
VA.68.O.2.4	Select various media and techniques to communicate personal symbols and ideas through the organization of the structural elements of art.

Enduring Understanding 3: Every art form uses its own unique language, verbal and non-verbal, to document and communicate with the world.

BENCHMARK CODE	BENCHMARK
VA.68.O.3.1	Select and use the structural elements of art and organizational principles of design to document images in various formats for public audiences.
VA.68.O.3.2	Discuss the communicative differences between specific two- and three-dimensional works of art.

## Big Idea: HISTORICAL AND GLOBAL CONNECTIONS

Enduring Understanding 1: Through study in the arts, we learn about and honor others and the worlds in which they live(d).

BENCHMARK CODE	BENCHMARK
VA.68.H.1.1	Describe social, ecological, economic, religious, and/or political conditions reflected in works of art.
VA.68.H.1.2	Identify suitable audience behavior needed to view or experience artworks found in school, art exhibits, museums, and/or community cultural venues.
VA.68.H.1.3	Analyze and describe the significance of artwork from a selected group or culture to explain its importance to the population.
VA.68.H.1.4	Explain the significance of personal artwork, noting the connections between the creative process, the artist, and the artist's own history.

Enduring Understanding 2: The arts reflect and document cultural trends and historical events, and help explain how new directions in the arts have emerged.

BENCHMARK CODE	BENCHMARK
VA.68.H.2.1	Describe how previous cultural trends have led to the development of new art styles.
VA.68.H.2.2	Explain the impact artwork and utilitarian objects have on the human experience.
VA.68.H.2.3	Describe the rationale for creating, collecting, exhibiting, and owning works of art.
VA.68.H.2.4	Explain the purpose of public art in the community.

Enduring Understanding 3: Connections among the arts and other disciplines strengthen learning and the ability to transfer knowledge and skills to and from other fields.

BENCHMARK CODE	BENCHMARK
VA.68.H.3.1	Discuss how knowledge and skills learned through the art-making and analysis processes are used to solve problems in non-art contexts.
VA.68.H.3.2	Discuss the use of background knowledge and critical-thinking skills, learned in the visual arts, to understand varying concepts, viewpoints, and solutions.
VA.68.H.3.3	Create imaginative works to include background knowledge or information from other subjects.

## Big Idea: INNOVATION, TECHNOLOGY, AND THE FUTURE

Enduring Understanding 1: Creating, interpreting, and responding in the arts stimulate the imagination and encourage innovation and creative risk-taking.

BENCHMARK CODE	BENCHMARK
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VA.68.F.1.1	Use non-traditional thinking and various techniques to create two-, three-, and/or four-dimensional artworks.
VA.68.F.1.2	Use creative risk-taking strategies learned from artists' works to incorporate artistic solutions in the creation of new personal artworks.
VA.68.F.1.3	Investigate and describe how technology inspires and affects new applications and adaptations in art.
VA.68.F.1.4	Use technology skills to create an imaginative and unique work of art.

Enduring Understanding 2: Careers in and related to the arts significantly and positively impact local and global economies.

BENCHMARK CODE	BENCHMARK
VA.68.F.2.1	Investigate career opportunities available in the visual arts to determine requisite skills and qualifications for each field.
VA.68.F.2.2	Identify careers in support industries related to the art-making process, industrial design, digital media, and/or graphic design.
VA.68.F.2.3	Identify art careers that have a financial impact on local communities.
VA.68.F.2.4	Present research on the works of local artists and designers to understand the significance of art in the community.
VA.68.F.2.5	Create an artist statement to reflect on personal artwork for a portfolio or exhibition.

Enduring Understanding 3: The 21st-century skills necessary for success as citizens, workers, and leaders in a global economy are embedded in the study of the arts.

BENCHMARK CODE	BENCHMARK
VA.68.F.3.1	Use technology applications through the art-making process to express community or global concerns.
VA.68.F.3.2	Analyze the procedural and divergent thinking skills developed in visual art to identify a purpose for the communication of art ideas.
VA.68.F.3.3	Collaborate with peers to complete an art task and develop leadership skills.
VA.68.F.3.4	Follow directions and complete art tasks in a timely manner to show development of 21st-century skills.