

Vocabulary

Key words and terms related to artists, art styles, techniques, materials, events and places related to the featured artworks on this website

A

Abstract: a style of art that shows objects as simple shapes and lines, it is sometimes geometric, and emphasizes design; also an image that is not realistic, though may be based on an actual subject.

Abstract Expressionism: an art style that existed between 1945 and 1960. Abstract expressionist artists applied paint freely to huge canvases to suggest ideas, feelings, and emotions. Many artists use slashing, active brushstrokes and techniques such as dripping, pouring, and spattering paint on canvas. Some of the most famous Abstract Expressionist artists include Jackson Pollock, Willelm DeKooning, Cy Twombly, and Mark Rothko.

Academic art: refers to the style of painting and sculpture produced under the influence of formal academies, where many artists received their formal training.

Academy board: masonite, or another board or surface on which artists paint.

Acrylic paint: a water based "plastic" paint valued for its versatility and can be cleaned up with soap and water.

Activist: an individual who is extensively and vigorously involved in political activity, either within or outside the governmental system.

Additive process: the process used primarily in sculpture of adding material, such as clay, to a surface.

Aerial: having to do with the air. Aerial may also refer to a view of something as seen from an aircraft.

Aerodynamics: the science of flight; the study of how air moves around objects, and of how objects travel through moving air.

African Methodist Episcopal Church: is the first major religious denomination in the Western World that had its origin over sociological rather than theological beliefs and differences. The Church was born in protest against slavery—against dehumanization of African people, brought to the American continent as cheap labor.

Agriculture: the occupation, business, or science of cultivating the land, producing crops, and raising livestock.



American Scene Painting: an art movement in the 1930s in the United States that rejected European Modernism. Artists were interested in devoting their subject matter to strictly American subjects. This style of painting expresses a sense of nationalism and romanticism in its portrayal of American life. This movement also came from an interest in celebrating the democratic ideals of America, which included subject matter that was understandable to everyone, such as American cities, small towns, and rural landscapes. This movement can be loosely divided into two groups – the Regionalists and the Social Realists.

Anatomy: the science that focuses on the structure of the human body.

Angle: the figure formed by two lines diverging from a common point.

Antiquarian: a person who studies antiquities or objects from the past.

Apprentice: someone who works under a skilled professional to learn an art.

Archaeology: the scientific study of past human cultures by analyzing the sites and artifacts that people left behind.

Architecture: the art and science of designing and constructing buildings.

Architectural: relating to the style of buildings or the job of designing them.

Area: the number of square units that cover a shape or figure.

Art: the creation of beautiful or thought provoking works, for example, in painting, music, or writing. Art is also work produced through creative activity.

Art conservator: somebody who is responsible for looking after or restoring artwork in a museum or a collection.

Art Nouveau: a painting, printmaking, decorative design, and architectural style developed in England in the 1880's. Art Nouveau features graceful, cursive lines, interlaced patterns, flowers, plants, insects and other designs inspired by nature.

Artist: a man, woman, or child who creates art.

Artists proof: a single print taken in the printmaking process to check on the quality of the printed image and the quality of the plate while the plate is being worked on by the artist.

Art on the Move: a collaborative outreach program between the James A. Michener Art Museum and the Bucks County Intermediate Unit #22 that brings original works of art to schools in Bucks County along with education materials. The collection of artwork is owned by the BCIU #22, and maintained in partnership with the James A. Michener Art Museum. Funding for this project has been supported by private, state and federal



sponsorships.

Art Students League: an organization founded in 1875 by a group of artists almost all of whom were women students at the National Academy of Design in New York City. The underlying principles set by the league's founders have remained unchanged which include: emphasizing the importance of artistic creativity, maintaining the greatest respect for artists who devote their lives to art, and educating students in the process of making art in an environment where anyone who wishes to pursue an art education can realize his or her full potential.

Asa-no-ha: is a popular geometrical traditional pattern often seen on the Japanese kimono which represents overlapping hemp leaves. Because hemp was known for its rapid growth, the pattern was often used for clothes of newborn children, and it was believed to bring good fortune to the wearer. It is also a pattern used in Japanese woodwork and architecture.

The Eight/Ash-Can School: an art movement in the United States in the early 20th century that included artworks that realistically represented gritty scenes of daily life in New York's poorer neighborhoods. Artists sought to paint real life and depict the harsh realities of urban life. This movement is also associated with the group of artists known as *The Eight*. Artists include William Glackens, Robert Henri, George Luks, John Sloan and Everitt Shinn, along with Arthur Davies, Ernest Lawson, and Maurice Prendergast.

Asp: a cobra used by the Pharaohs in Egypt as a symbol of their power over life and death

Assemblage: an artistic composition of materials and objects pasted onto a flat (collage) or three-dimensional surface

Asymmetrical: different on either side of a central axis; not the same on both sides

Atmospheric perspective: any number of techniques used by an artist to give his or her work of art the illusion of space or depth. The most common methods include:

- Overlapping – objects on top are in front, objects at bottom are in distance
- Placement : objects placed higher on a two-dimensional surface are farther away than those placed lower on the picture plane
- Details and colors fade in the distance
- Size change – objects that are smaller are farther away than those that are nearer

Avant-garde: term in French means “advance guard”, or “vanguard”. People often use the term to refer to people or works that are novel or experimental, particularly with respect to art, culture and politics

Avebury: the site of an enormous henge and stone circles in the English county of Wiltshire, surrounding a village of the same name. It is one of the finest and largest Neolithic monuments in Europe dating to around 5000 years ago. It is older than the



megalithic stages of Stonehenge, which is located about 20 miles to the south, although the two monuments are broadly contemporary overall.

B

Babylonian Code of Hammurabi: the 282 laws that Hammurabi, a Babylonian leader, instituted to rule over his people. Hammurabi's code was important because it set rules for the way people in a very large empire should live. Hammurabi's kingdom began to crumble after his death in 1750 B.C.E.

Background: the part of a painting that is most distant from the viewer. It is located highest on the picture plane and is behind the middleground and the foreground; objects in the background appear small to scale.

Balance: a state in which elements form a harmonious whole, where proportions and colors and shapes are all equal to one another in an artistic image. Balance in art can mean stability, symmetry or restfulness.

Barcelona, Spain: is the capital of the region of Catalonia, located on the Mediterranean coast in the east of Spain. Barcelona is famous for its ties with artists Pablo Picasso, Joan Miro and Antonio Gaudi.

Barbizon School: a group of French landscape painters who worked and lived in the French village of Barbizon from 1830 to 1880. They were the first artists to paint landscapes from nature rather than from memory. Their ideas paved the way for Impressionism.

Barrel vault: a series of arches that touch each other and are roofed to create a tunnel.

Bas-relief: a sculpture in which the subject matter projects slightly from the background, as opposed to sculpture in the round.

Basilica: the archetype of the early Cathedral form; usually a central area with a nave and aisles on two sides.

Batik: a method of dyeing cloth that involves the use of removable wax to repel (resist) the dye on parts of the design where dye is not desired. Batik originated in Indonesia, where its production continues to thrive.

Battle of Trenton: a battle that involved George Washington and the Continental Army against the Hessians camped at Trenton. Washington surprised and routed the Hessians, providing his army with its first victory.

Bauhaus: German art school in existence from 1919 to 1933, best known for its influence on design, leadership in art education, and a radically innovative philosophy of applying design principles to machine technology and mass production.



Belt courses: a continuous row or layer of stones, tile, brick or shingles in a wall that projects outward and runs horizontally along the face of a building.

Big Business: a term usually used as a negative reference to the significant economic and political power which large and powerful corporations (especially multi-national corporations) are supposed to hold.

Blarney Stone: a legendary block of limestone built into the battlements of Blarney Castle, near Cork, Ireland. Supposedly, kissing the stone endows the kisser with great eloquence. The stone was set into a tower of the castle in 1446.

Blending: in artwork, a technique to merge colors applied to a surface, whether with a brush, crayon, colored pencil, or other media; also called feathering.

Blind contour drawing: a continuous line drawing done of the outline of an object or figure without looking at the paper.

Blue Mask: a store and gallery in New Hope operated by modernist painter C.F. Ramsey and his wife.

Blues: a song or instrumental piece of music in the style of a type of popular music that developed from African American folk songs in the early 20th century, consisting mainly of slow sad songs often performed over a repeating harmonic pattern

Bracket: a support designed to strengthen a beam

Book of Isaiah: a book of the Hebrew Bible as well as the Christian Old Testament, containing prophecies attributed to Isaiah.

Box-and-whisker plot: a type of data plot that displays the quartiles and range of a data set.

Brand: a mark burned into the hide of a range animal to identify it as the property of a particular ranch, farm, or owner; also a group of goods identified by name as the product of a single company or manufacturer

Brass: a metal made of copper and zinc, often used by artist to make sculptures, jewelry or other utensils

Brayer: a tool used to roll ink onto a surface often used in the printmaking process.

Bronze: a hard yellowish-brown metal made from the combination of copper and tin, sometimes containing small amounts of other metals. Bronze is harder than copper and is often cast to make statues.



Brushstrokes: marks made by brushes used to apply paint. They may be large and visible or small and invisible depending on the size and shape of the brush and the artist's technique.

Bucks County, Pennsylvania: One of the original, three counties established by William Penn in 17th century in southeastern Pennsylvania. Bucks County is situated within the bustling New York -Washington corridor, bounded by the Delaware River and Trenton, NJ to the east, and the historic city of Philadelphia to the southeast.

Buffalo jump: a cliff formation that Native Americans historically used to kill Plains bison by herding the bison toward and over the cliff.

Bust: a sculpture showing the head and shoulders of a person.

Butter press: a small, carved device made of wood and used for pressing a design into butter.

Byzantine Art: the art and architecture of the Eastern Roman Empire from about AD 330 to 1450. The style itself is mostly religious. Pieces are characterized by a strong use of colors and figures. The figures seem to be flat with prominent eyes and backgrounds that are golden in tone. Most works of the period tend to be clear and simple, probably for an effective presentation of the intended religious lesson.

C

Canal lock: a gated section of a waterway in which the gate is lifted or opened to allow water to pass through, thus equalizing the level of the water; allows movement of boats through waters of unequal depths.

Cancer: a term that can mean a malignant tumor or growth caused when cells multiply uncontrollably, destroying healthy tissue. Cancer also refers to the illness or condition that is caused by the presence of a malignant tumor. Cancer is also a metaphor for something negative that develops or spreads quickly and usually destructively, like a rumor that is very hurtful.

Cantonese: Chinese dialect spoken in the environs of Canton, now known as Guangzhou, near the South China Sea; the dialect of many of the early Chinese immigrants to the United States in the 1840s to 1870s; also the principal dialect of Hong Kong. Cantonese is still widely spoken in US Chinatowns.

Canvas: the support used for an acrylic or oil painting that is typically made of linen or cotton, stretched very tightly and tacked onto a wooden frame. Linen is considered far superior to the heavy cotton for a canvas.

Casein paint: a paint much like opaque watercolor in which casein (or milk glue) is its binder. Casein is the basis of cheese, and is used to make adhesives, plastics, and foods, as well as paint. Casein paint can be used on paper or board for light impasto, for under



painting, wall decoration, etc. Casein paint cannot be used on canvas because it is too inflexible.

Cast: to pour a liquid, usually clay slip or molten metal or plaster, into a mold for the purpose of making a sculpture.

Cast iron: a durable metal with an exceptional capability to hold and transfer heat.

Center of interest (focal point): the area of an artwork which draws the viewer's attention and has the most emphasis as a result of the artistic arrangement of art elements.

Center-pivot irrigation: a method of crop irrigation in which equipment rotates on a center point or pivot. An area centered on the pivot is watered, often creating a circular pattern from above.

Ceramic shell casting: a modern variation on the lost wax casting method which uses a thick creamy clay to cover the model by dipping and/or pouring. Special dry aggregate is then applied to the wet pattern, covering the wet areas until no more will stick to the surface. The coated pattern is then left to dry a while and another layer of wet and dry material is applied. These layers are repeated until the outer surface is thick enough to withstand the casting process (see lost wax casting process).

Charcoal: a drawing material made from carbon. Its color is very black.

Chateau: an impressive country house or castle in France

Chiaroscuro: the Italian word for "light / dark;" the technique in painting where the light and shadow is exaggerated and powerful

Chemical weapons: any weapon that uses a manufactured chemical. Modern chemical weapons tend to focus on agents with high killing power, meaning it requires small amounts of a chemical agent to kill large numbers of people. The most commonly feared agents include sarin, VX, mustard gas and lewisite. The most efficient way to spread chemical agents is through the air.

Chop suey: A Chinese-American dish consisting of bits of meat, bean sprouts, onions, mushrooms etc. cooked in its own juices and served with rice.

Cicada: a large winged insect that lives in trees and tall grass, the male of which makes a shrill sound. Often the sound of the cicada is heard in mid to late summer.

Cityscape: a view of a city or town landscape

Civil Rights Movement: a worldwide movement of civil unrest and rebellion that began in the mid-1950s. In the United States, this movement focused on eliminating racial



discrimination against African-Americans, and eventually included gender and sexual equality.

Civil War: The war (1861-1865) between the northern US states, which remained in the Union, and the southern states, which seceded and formed the Confederacy. The victory of the North ended slavery and preserved the Union.

Classical art: the style, traditions, and qualities of ancient times, especially the art and sculpture of ancient Greece and Rome

Clay: a fine grained natural material like soil with more elastic qualities. It is soft when wet but hardens and stays together when it is dry.

Coalesce: to grow together into one form; to blend or come together.

Coastline: the edge of a body of water where the water meets the land.

Cobalt blue: a cool, slightly saturated blue historically made using cobalt salts (cobalt is an elemental metal).

Cockatrice: a legendary creature about the size and shape of a dragon or wyvern, but in appearance resembling a giant rooster, with some lizard-like characteristics. It was supposed to be born from an egg laid by a male chicken and incubated by a toad or serpent.

Collaborative art: a single piece of art created by people working together.

Collage: a grouping of papers, fabric or other two-dimensional objects attached to a flat surface with an emphasis on color and texture.

Collograph: A print made from an image built up with glue and other materials, such as paper or fabric, on a plate, usually of cardboards or masonite. The word collograph comes from the word collage.

Color-field painting: a type of abstract expressionism in which artists are interested in vast expanses of color on entire canvases. These artists include Mark Rothko, Kenneth Noland and Jules Olitski.

Colors: the hues in a painting, which help define shapes and mood

Primary colors: Red, yellow, and blue. These three colors can be mixed to create other colors.

Secondary colors: Green, violet, and orange. These colors can be made by mixing the primary colors.



Intermediate/tertiary colors: red-violet, blue-violet, blue-green, yellow-green, yellow-orange, and red-orange. These colors are obtained by mixing a primary color with a secondary color next to it on the color wheel.

Complimentary colors: red/green, yellow/violet, and blue/orange. These are colors that are located directly across from each other on the color wheel. When complementary colors are placed next to one another, the intensities of both colors increase.

Warm colors: reds, oranges, and yellows. These are colors that would be found in fire or the sun. They convey the feeling of being warm.

Cool colors: blues, greens, and violets. These are colors that would be found in ice or the end of an evening. They convey the feeling of being cool.

Neutral colors: These are colors that are not found in the rainbow, including black, white, and brown.

Colorist: a visual arts professional who works with color; a painter who excels in his or her use of color in a painting, where color is the dominant strength in the work of art.

Column: in architecture, a supporting pillar consisting of a base, cylindrical shaft, and capital.

Combine: a large farm machine that is used to harvest crops, also called a combine harvester.

Commemorative: honoring the memory of a person or an event.

Commission: a work of art by an artist that is made for payment.

Composition: the arrangement of the elements in a work of art.

Compression-ignition engine: an engine in which the fuel is ignited by being suddenly exposed to the high temperature and pressure of a compressed gas containing oxygen (usually atmospheric air), rather than a separate source of ignition energy (such as a spark plug), as is the case in the gasoline engine.

Concentric circles: a set of circles having a common center.

Confidence: a belief or positive feelings about yourself in your ability to do well or to help you do well.

Conical: shaped like a cone, which is an object or shape that has a circular base and tapers to a point at the tip, or has a circular top and tapers to a point at the bottom.



Conservationists: someone who advocates the protection of a natural resource, usually by planned management, to prevent its depletion or destruction.

Constructivism: a modern art movement that began in Russia. Its aim was to create abstract sculpture for an industrialized society.

Cooperative Painting Project: a project that began in 1938 by Modernist painters Louis Stone, Charles Evans, and Charles Ramsey. This was a visual "jam session" held every Thursday afternoon, during which the three artists would collaborate to produce a single painting, under their joint name "Ramstonev."

Contemporary Art: art made after 1970 or works of art made by living artist. Unlike modern art, contemporary art is not defined by a succession of periods, schools or styles.

Continuity: the uninterrupted connection, succession, or union of the elements or principles of design within a composition.

Contrast: a striking difference between items in a work of art which refers to a way of juxtapositioning elements of art to stress the differences between them.

Coon Path: the address of the home of artists Lee Gatch and Elsie Diggs in Lambertville.

Corbel: a bracket of brick or stone that just out of a wall to support a structure above it

Corncrib: a place on a farm where corn was stored after it was harvested. All parts of the corn were used: the leaves for fodder, the shucks for mattresses, brooms, and chair seats, the cobs for fuel and pipes, and the kernels for human and animal consumption.

Countermeasure: something that is done in reaction to and as defense against a hostile action by somebody else, or is done in order to deal with a threatening situation

Craft: an activity such as weaving, pottery, or woodcarving, involving the skillful making of decorative or practical objects by hand or a product of this process.

Critique: a discussion or written article evaluating a work or work of art or literature.

Croatia: a Central European and Mediterranean country, bordering Slovenia in the west, Hungary in the north, Serbia in the east and Bosnia and Herzegovina in the south, with Zagreb as the capital.

Crop Circle: any area of grain or crops that has been flattened or cut into a circular pattern.

Crown: the top part of something



Cubism: an art movement in the early 20th century led by artists Pablo Picasso and George Braque. Cubism was a geometric and puzzle-like style of art. Cubist subject matter had an abstracted and fractured appearance, showing many sides and different views of the subject. Some of this movement's influence comes from the late work of Cezanne, where objects are painted in multiple points of view.

Curator: the administrative head of a museum, gallery, or other collection.

D

Daguerre, Louis (French: 1787-1851): developed first permanent photographic images in 1839, based on work of Joseph Niepce.

D'apparat: a portrait of a person painted that includes an image of the sitter along with props suggesting the interests, vocation or mood of the sitter.

Daredevil: a person who is recklessly bold.

Depth: in two-dimensional art, a sense of space or distance in an image.

Declaration of Independence: one of history's greatest documents that was written by the American colonists and signed on July 4, 1776 to prove to the King of England that all 13 colonies agreed that they should have the right to be free. It consists of a preamble, or introduction, followed by three main parts.

Delaware Indians: The Lenape or Lenni-Lenape (later named Delaware Indians by Europeans) were, in the 1600s, loosely organized bands of Native American people in the region around the Delaware River, the lower Hudson River, and Long Island.

Delaware River: forms the border between New Jersey and Pennsylvania in the Eastern United States.

Delaware Water Gap: a geologic formation on the border of New Jersey and Pennsylvania, where the Delaware River traverses a large ridge of the Appalachian Mountains.

Depression, The Great: a period during the 1930s when there was a worldwide economic depression, mass unemployment, low prices and low levels of trade and investment

Decorative arts: traditionally defined as ornamental and functional works in ceramic, wood, glass, metal, or textile. The class includes furniture, furnishings, interior design, and architecture.

Diorama: a three-dimensional miniature or life-size scene in which figures are arranged in a life-like setting.



Displacement: the weight or volume of a fluid moved by a floating body, used especially as a measurement of the weight or bulk of ships or any irregularly shaped object.

Doctorate: the highest academic degree given by a university.

Dolmens: megalithic tombs consisting of large stones ("megaliths") set in formation and originally covered with earth or more, smaller stones. In many cases the covering has been weathered away leaving only the stone 'skeleton' of the monument.

Dominant: in control of others, or more important or effective than others.

Donors: somebody who gives something, especially money or something of great value (like art)

Double bar graph: a type of graph that uses two bars to compare similar sets of data.

Drama: a prose or verse composition that tells a serious story through actors.

Dutch Golden Age: a period spanning almost the entire seventeenth century, a time in which Dutch culture, science, commerce, world power and political influence reached their pinnacles.

E

Easel: a stand that holds or supports an artist's canvas.

Eaves: in architecture, they are the beam-ends that create a cornice, or the lower portion of a sloping roof that is near the wall but projecting beyond as an overhang to drip the water away from the walls.

Eiffel Tower: ("la Tour Eiffel") is an iron tower built in 1889 in Paris, France; one of the tallest structures in Paris and possibly one of the most recognized monuments in the world.

Elements of Art and Design: components used by an artist that include color, line, shape, value, space, texture, and form.

Engineering: the application of physical, mathematical, and mechanical principles to practical purposes.

English Channel: body of water that is part of the Atlantic Ocean that separates the island of Great Britain from northern France, and joins the North Sea to the Atlantic Ocean.

En plein air: loose, fluid painting done outdoors, capturing effects of light and air



Etching: an intaglio printmaking process, or the results of the process in which a metal plate is first coated with an acid-resistant wax, scratched where lines are desired and then soaked in acid. The acid eats away or etches the uncovered areas but leaves the wax-covered areas. To make a print, the wax is cleaned off the plate, ink is rubbed into the grooves created by the acid and paper is laid on the plate. It is run through a printing press to capture the image scratched into the wax.

Evolving: developing or changing gradually.

Exile: to be forced to move away from one's home or native land as a form of punishment.

Expressionism: a term that describes art that is highly emotional and that is often boldly executed. The images are often distorted in form and color. The use of color can be invented or symbolic and expressive of the artist's inner feelings or ideas about the subject. The brushwork is typically free and loose, and the paint application can be generous and highly textured. More specifically, Expressionism also refers to a movement in art in Europe (largely in Germany) in the late 19th and early 20th centuries with these characteristics.

Extrados: the outer curve of an arch.

F

Façade: the front of a building

Fatling: a young animal that has been fattened up to be slaughtered

Fellow: a graduate student who is supported by a university department to teach or do research

Fiberglass: a construction or sculptural material made from woven glass rods, held together by epoxy

Figurative: relating or representing form in art by means of human or animal figures

Flagons: a container for beverages with a narrow neck, a handle, a spout and sometimes a lid

Flora and fauna: two terms that describe the natural world; flora means plant life and fauna means animal life.

Florentine: from Florence, Italy; showing influences of art styles that originated in Florence, Italy.



Focal point/emphasis: the area within a work of art that first captures the viewer's attention.

Folk Art / Folk Artist: traditional art made by people who have not had formal art training; originates among the common people of a nation or region and usually reflects their traditional culture.

Forebay: the water behind (upstream) of a dam.

Foundry: a place where iron and steel are made into useable items.

Four Freedoms: In a speech on January 6, 1941, President F.D. Roosevelt declared the four freedoms to be: freedom of speech and expression, freedom of religion, freedom from want, and freedom from fear. President Roosevelt's Four Freedoms speech inspired a set of four paintings by Norman Rockwell.

Frankenstein: a book character created by Mary Shelley Wollstonecraft in 1831. A mad scientist, Dr. Frankenstein, makes a monster out of many different dead people's body parts.

French Revolution: a war between 1789 and 1799, during which democrats and republicans overthrew the absolute monarchy, and the Roman Catholic Church was forced to undergo radical restructuring. It ended with establishment of French Empire under Napoleon Bonaparte.

Frescoes: a term that comes from the Italian phrase buon fresco, ("really fresh") a technical term in opposition to in secco ("on dry surface"). The true fresco technique consists of painting in pigment in a water medium on wet or fresh lime mortar or plaster. The wet paint then dries right into the plaster and the painting becomes a permanent part of the wall. Michelangelo's Sistine Chapel paintings are frescoes on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel in Rome.

Frieze: a decorative band, either carved or painted, that goes along the upper edge of the interior wall of a building.

Frugal: characterized by thriftiness and avoidance of waste.

Funeral portraits: some of the earliest surviving portraits of everyday citizens in the dry climate of Egypt. These portraits were painted on precious wood or linen cloth, and then laid over mummies to record a person's likeness. It was believed that this likeness would guarantee an identical appearance in the afterlife. In later periods, funerary portraits and sculptures were often made as a way for the living to remember their loved ones who had died.

G



Genre painting: paintings that show scenes of everyday life.

Geometry: a branch of mathematics that deals with the properties, relationships and measurement of lines, angles, surfaces, solids and points; also, incorporating the mathematical characteristics of the study of space and properties of shapes in space in a work of art or architecture.

Gesture Painting: a type of drawing created as a preliminary or practice drawing before the formal drawing. Done very quickly, it uses the whole arm rather than the small muscles of the hand.

Golden Mean: the study of perfect ratio of one area in proportion to another rooted in Greek mathematics.

Gothic Cathedrals: primarily a cathedral style that existed in Western Europe from the twelfth through the fifteenth centuries, characterized by pointed arches, ribbed vaults, and flying buttresses. These characteristics made it possible to create stone buildings that reached great heights.

Gouache: opaque watercolor paint.

Great Migration: the movement in the United States between 1910 and 1970 of African-Americans of the South to the urbanized North in an effort to seek better lives.

Guitar: a musical instrument consisting of a large, flat-backed sound box, a long fretted neck, and (typically) six strings, which is played by strumming or plucking.

H

Halftone: an image where there is a continuous series of dots in a grid that create the image; the process of creating such an image.

Harbor: A sheltered part of a body of water deep enough to provide anchorage for ships.

Harlem Renaissance: primarily a literary movement that flourished in Harlem from approximately 1924 until the onset of the Depression in 1930. This movement was a result of the emigration from the South following World War I that made Harlem the economic, political and cultural capital of black America. Visual artists that were associated with this movement include painter Aaron Douglas and illustrator Richard Bruce Nugent. The later generation of artists included but was not limited to Romare Bearden, Robert Blackburn, and Jacob Lawrence.

Harvest: the act or process of gathering a crop.

Haunch: the upper curving part of either side of an arch.



Heirloom: a valued possession passed down in a family through succeeding generations.

Hex sign: a painted, round sign incorporating designs such as stylized stars, rosettes, or wheels and thought to be magical. The Amish people of Pennsylvania painted hex signs on barns to ward off misfortune or evil spells.

Hipped roof: a roof system based on gables, but with slanted or beveled ends

History painting: painting of scenes from the past.

Homestead: a house, especially a farmhouse, with adjoining buildings and land.

Homol'ov: a Native American tribe that created unusual images in stone in the American Southwest

Horizon line: the part of a landscape that is located in the distant view, where the sky appears to meet the land or the water.

Hue: pure color, the intensity of the hue depends on its purity. (See value.)

Humanitarian: a person who cares enough about human lives and suffering to become involved and work to make a difference.

Hydraulics: the science of engineering that is related to liquids in motion.

I

I-beam: a steel beam with a cross section resembling the letter “I” used in building long spans.

Icon: an object such as a painting, sculpture, building or person that is regarded with honor.

Iconographic: an artifact of some kind that visually resembles the object it represents.

Illuminated manuscript: a book, document, or other composition written by hand that is decorated with drawings (usually in gold, silver, or bright colors), especially of the initial letters.

Illusion: something that deceives the senses or mind by appearing to exist when it does not or appearing to be one thing when it is in fact another.

Illustration: a picture created to explain a point, to tell a story, or to decoration to a book, magazine or other printed work.



Immigrate: to enter a new country for the purpose of settling there, to become established in a new environment, or to bring people into a country and settle them as permanent residents there

Impasto : a thick or lumpy application of paint using a palette knife or heavy brushstrokes as distinguished from a flat, smooth paint surface. Impasto may also refer to a thick application of oil paint or pastel.

Impressionism: a movement pioneered by 19th-century French artists including Claude Monet and Pierre Auguste Renoir. They explored the effects of changing light and atmosphere on color in nature. They painted outdoors rather than in the studio and painted with choppy brushstrokes of pure color directly on the canvas. Their paintings' bright and seemingly unfinished qualities shocked viewers and critics alike.

Improvise: to create something without any preparation or specific idea for an outcome.

Indenture: a contract committing an apprentice or servant to a master for a specific period of time.

Independents: (see New Group) a group of modernist artists working in Pennsylvania in the 1930s. They gathered for the purpose of breaking away from the conservative New Hope School to collaborate on their artwork and exchange intellectual and creative dialogue. They planned art and community art works that were radical and visionary. Artists in this group include Charles Evans, Henry Baker, Charles Child, Ralston Crawford, Robert Hogue, Peter Keenan, R. A. D. Miller, Charles F. Ramsey, and Faye Swengel Badura.

Indigo: a blue dye, once obtained from plants, but now usually made synthetically. It is also a deep purplish-blue color that lies toward one end of the visible spectrum, between blue and violet.

Industrial Revolution: historical period in the 1800s when the economy of the United States and many European nations shifted from an agricultural to a manufacturing base.

Industry: organized activity connected with the production, manufacture, or construction of a particular product or range of products.

Ink: a colored liquid or paste used for writing, printing, or drawing.

Intensity: the brightness or dullness of a hue or color.

Interpret: to explain the meaning or significance of something; to perform a play, a piece of music or a dance that conveys feelings about something; to translate something from one language to another to make it easier to understand

Interracial marriages: a legally recognized relationship between two people of different races who intend to live together as sexual and domestic partners.



Intersecting lines: lines that have one point and only one point in common

Intrados: the inner curve of an arch

Intrusion: to disturb someone's privacy by an unwelcome presence

Irregular/non-geometric/organic: free-form or natural shapes having no resemblance to geometry based forms.

Isolationist: a person who wants to spend the majority of time alone; someone who is against foreign treaties.

Italianate: an architectural style that began in England in the 1840s and by the late 1860s, became a popular style in the United States. It is characterized by a wide overhanging, low-pitched roof with ornamental brackets (often in pairs) beneath, tall, segmentally arched windows, and a central one-bay porch or long porches. Many Italianate houses are two or three stories, almost square or cube in shape, and topped by a cupola. Often buildings have pronounced moldings and details. Entry doors are often double, with large glazed panels.

Itinerant Artist: an artist who travels from place to place to do his or her work. This type of artist would carry his or her materials in a case, cart or wagon to prepare him or her for his next job.

J

Jamestown: an island and town in eastern Virginia, on the James River, established as a base for the English in 1607.

Japanese tea ceremony: a Japanese ritual in which tea is prepared, served, and drunk in a particular manner.

Jazz: popular music that originated among African Americans in New Orleans in the late 19th century and is characterized by syncopated rhythms and improvisation. It has since developed various styles.

Journeyman: a person who has completed an apprenticeship in a trade but is not yet able to set up his or her own workshop as a master.

Jute: coarse fiber from the bark of an Asian tree that is used for making sacks and rope.

Juxtaposition: close together or side by side so as to permit comparison or contrast.

K



Ka'bah: (The Kaaba or Ka'abah) the holiest place in Islam is a building located inside the mosque known as Masjid al Haram in Mecca.

Keystone: the parallelogram shaped stone that drops into place at the top of an arch, allowing the other stones to rest against it

Kid: a young goat

Kyo-kabe: an organically colored thin plaster used on the walls in Japanese tea houses.

L

Lacquer: A clear or colored material that dries to a hard, glossy finish. It was used beginning in the 17th century in Europe to finish wood furniture and also used by the Chinese for many years. It is originally from the sumac tree but now commercially made. Lac-based varnishes are called shellac.

Landmark: Originally, this meant a geographic feature, used by explorers and others to find their way back through an area on a return trip. Today, it is anything that easily recognizable, such as a monument, building, or other structure.

Landscape: a painting, photograph or other work of art that depicts scenery such as mountains, valleys, trees, rivers and forests.

Latitude: a measure of distance north or south of the equator.

Lease: a legal document allowing somebody possession of property for a certain period of time in exchange for payment or rent.

Left Bank: the region of Paris on the southern bank of the Seine River; a center for artistic and student life.

Legacy: money or property that is left to someone in a will, or something that is handed down from a previous generation or time.

Lehigh Valley: a region of the U.S. state of Pennsylvania, located along the Lehigh River and including Lehigh County and Northampton County. Its principal cities are Allentown, Bethlehem, and Easton. The region is on the western side of the Pennsylvania-New Jersey state border.

Lenni Lenape Indians: a Native American group who lived along the Delaware River Valley, from lower New York to northern Delaware. They were labeled the "Delaware" by the colonists, after the river alongside which they lived. The phrase "Lenni Lenape" means "Original People" in their language.

Life cycle: the series of changes of form and activity that a living organism undergoes from its beginning through its development to maturity



Light: A source of illumination, especially a lamp, lantern, or electric-lighting fixture.

Lime: (calcium oxide) a white crystalline oxide used in the production of calcium hydroxide. Lime is most commonly mixed into paint that is going to be used on dry plaster. The fresco pigments are mixed with limewater or slaked lime, and/or the wall is wetted down with limewater until the plaster softens or a paste of lime is laid upon the wall.

Line: an element of art that refers to the continuous mark made on a surface by a moving point. Types include vertical, horizontal, diagonal, straight or ruled.

Linear perspective: A technical system that allows depth to be shown on a two-dimensional surface. Specifically, it is a representation of parallel lines that appear to come together and meet at a vanishing point on the horizon.

Linoleum: a tough washable floor covering. In art, untreated linoleum is used in the same way as wood is used for block printing. It is sometimes mounted on a wooden block and is used for the relief surface. A pattern is carved into the linoleum, with the raised or uncarved areas representing a reflection of the design to be printed. The linoleum sheet is inked with a brayer, and then impressed onto paper or fabric. The actual printing can be done by hand or with a press.

Linseed oil: a major ingredient in most oil paints and varnishes derived from flax. Raw linseed oil dries very slowly, unlike boiled linseed oil, which is simply raw oil with chemical accelerators, called "driers" added. Because boiled linseed oil has a faster drying time, people generally prefer to use this.

Lithograph: a print made through the process of creating an image on limestone which is then inked and transferred to paper in a lithograph press.

Lost wax casting process: the process of creating molded metal objects. First, a sculpture of the desired finished piece is modeled in wax. A plaster mold is built around the wax. Molten metal is poured into this mold, the wax melts and the metal takes the exact shape of the original wax sculpture. This process can be repeated again and again to re-create identical sculptures.

Lyrical: showing or expressing personal emotion.

M

Machine aesthetic: an idea promoted by those who saw beauty in the appearance and function of all the machines developed during the Industrial Revolution. Objects included cabinets, teapots and radios among others. Shiny metals, molded plastics, and mirrored glass became important decorative devices.



Machine Age: a term associated with the early 20th Century. It forms a late part of the Industrial Age and was eclipsed by the Atomic Age beginning in 1945.

Magnify: to make greater in size; to enlarge.

Marine landscape: a seascape that includes the depiction of boats and the sea.

Master: someone who has great skill in a particular area and is qualified to teach that skill to an apprentice.

Medieval Times – see Middle Ages

Media – the materials an artist uses while creating a work of art.

Mennonite: a member of a Protestant denomination emphasizing adult baptism and pacifism and rejecting church organization and, in many cases, the holding of public office and the taking of oaths

Merry Maidens: best-known and preserved stone circle in Cornwall, England consisting of nineteen evenly spaced stones in a perfect circle, with an opening or entrance on one end.

Mesopotamia: centered in what is modern-day Iraq, it includes the area bounded by the Tigris River on the east and the Euphrates River on the west. Mesopotamia was home to several different peoples and powerful kingdoms. Two of the most significant kingdoms that flourished in Mesopotamia were the Assyrians (in the north) and the Babylonians (in the south).

Metamorphosis: a complete change in physical form, structure, condition or substance; a transformation caused by supernatural powers

Meteora: from one of the biggest and most important group of monasteries in Greece. Hermit monks first settled there in the 11th Century. The rock monasteries have been characterized by Unesco as a unique phenomenon of cultural heritage. They are located in north central Greece.

Meteorology: the science of the atmosphere and weather

Middle Ages: 500 ACE to 1500 ACE, the period between classical antiquity and modern times. It is notable for manuscript illumination, elaborate grave carvings, carved ivory book covers, metalwork reliquaries, jewelry, and the *Bayeux Tapestry*, first artwork recorded to be created by a woman, Queen Matilda, and her court to commemorate the Battle of Hastings.

Middleground: the area between the foreground and background in a painting, drawing, or photograph.



Migrant worker: an itinerant worker who travels from one area to another in search of work.

Military test sites: a place that is used by the government of any given country to test and evaluate military devices, weapons and strategies. During any given day, there are approximately 1100 military tests going on in the United States and around the world.

Mining operation: a plant built to extract an ore or mineral substance either underground or from the surface of the earth.

Missile silos: storage facilities for missiles.

Mixed media: a two or three-dimensional work of art created out of a variety of art materials.

Mixing colors: the act of adding colors to one another to make new colors. The possibilities of mixed colors are endless. One example is mixing red and yellow to make orange.

Mixografia: an art technique developed by Mexican artist Luis Remba in 1973 wherein an artist creates a collage out of various materials and then casts it in copper and uses it as a relief printing plate.

Model: a person who poses for an artist while he or she creates a likeness of them or includes them in a scene they are painting

Modernism: a term that describes a series of reforming cultural movements in art, architecture, music, literature and applied arts emerging roughly in the period of 1884 to 1945. Modernist artists rebelled against late-nineteenth century academic and historic traditions and were interested in innovations and inventions in their art in the areas of color, form, technique, and subject matter. Modernist artists also connected their art with materials, inventions, and technologies emerging as an outgrowth of the Industrial Revolution. Modernism flourished in large cosmopolitan centers, and many areas of the world including Germany, Holland, Moscow, Paris, Prague and New York.

Modern Age: parallels time of Modernist movement, 1884-1945.

Modern technologies: devices, machines, techniques and inventions that have come into use in the modern age

Modular: composed of interchangeable parts.

Mona Lisa: oil painting on poplar wood by the famous Italian Renaissance artist Leonardo da Vinci. The painting shows a woman looking out at the viewer with what is often described as an "enigmatic smile". The Mona Lisa is perhaps the most famous piece in art history.



Monotypes: a printing process that involves creating one print instead of many.

Montage: a single pictorial composition made by juxtaposing or overlapping many pictures or designs. In a movie, it is a rapid succession of different images.

Monumental: literally a monument to someone; a large sculpture; or the idea of a large sculpture. The art itself can become a monument, or a tribute to art and the artist and the artists' ideas.

Mortise and tenon joints: a joint used in woodworking which consists of a 'tongue', (the tenon) that slots into a hole (the mortise) cut in the mating piece of timber.

Mosaic: surface decorations composed of variously colored small pieces of glass, stone, ceramics, or other materials.

Mother post: a functional element of the Nakashima Reading Room. In Japanese architecture it is the main post at the corner of a room.

Movement: a collective effort by a large number of people to try to achieve something, especially an artistic, a political or a social reform.

Mural: a painting that is applied to and made integral with the surface of a wall or ceiling; a usually large picture painted directly onto an interior or exterior wall

Muslin: a thin, plain weave cotton cloth used for curtains, sheets, and dresses

Muted: not bright in color or light or tone tones – any of the possible shades of a particular color

Myth: a traditional story or sacred narrative that contributes to the system of values or to the habits and beliefs of a group of people.

N

Naïve: an artist that has not received art training.

Narrative art: art that represents elements of a story. Two types of narrative art are genre painting and historical painting.

NASA: acronym for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. NASA is the government agency of the United States responsible for nonmilitary programs in the exploration and scientific study of space.

Naturalized citizen: person who becomes a citizen of a country, other than the one of his or her own birth.



Natural resource: a naturally occurring material such as water, coal or wood that can be used by people.

New Group: (see Independents) a secessionist group of modernist artists that later became the Independents in the 1930s. Charles Evans was one of its original members, along with Henry Baker, Charles Child, Ralston Crawford, Robert Hogue, Peter Keenan, R. A. D. Miller, C. F. Ramsey, and Faye Swengel Badura. Charles Frederick Ramsey was the leader of the New Group.

New Hope Art Colony: nationally known artists centered in New Hope, Pennsylvania, who began working in Bucks County in 1898 and continued throughout much of the twentieth century. These artists were usually associated with Pennsylvania Impressionism, though some artists also worked in other styles.

New Hope Group/Towpath Group (1916-1926): Group of Pennsylvania Impressionists who exhibited together in 1916, 1917, 1918, 1919 and one time in 1926; also known as the "Towpath Group." Members included Daniel Garber, Charles Rosen, Robert Spencer, Morgan Colt, William L. Lathrop, and Rae Sloan Bredin. They were also a part of the larger group known as the Pennsylvania Impressionists. This group was significant because the member artists practiced in Bucks County. They exhibited their work together in cities throughout the U.S. and Europe, and thus came to represent one regional school of landscape painting in the larger art world.

New Hope Magazine: a magazine founded by Peter Keenan in 1933 and published in twelve issues between August 1933 and October 1934. The magazine was instrumental in providing information about the modernist movement in New Hope to the art world in New York, and further establishing New Hope's importance as an art colony in Bucks County.

Non-objective: art that is made intentionally to not represent anything in real life

Novel: a long written work of non-fiction

Nurse: one skilled in caring for the sick, usually works alongside a doctor

O

Object label: the label that is next to an object in a museum. The object label contains information that is informative to the person interested in reading the label. A typical object label for an art object in an art museum may include:

- Artist's name
- Title of artwork
- Date
- Media
- Purchase or loan information



Oil paints: paint made from pigments mixed with an oil base; the most popular painting medium for at least six centuries.

Opaque: an object that does not let light pass through it or a material that you cannot see through

Opium: a brownish gummy extract from the unripe seed pods of the opium poppy that contains several highly addictive narcotic alkaloid substances, for example, morphine and codeine.

Optics: the science of light

Opulent: having the qualities of an obvious or lavish display of wealth or affluence

Organic: in art, relating to natural, soft edge, plant-like forms; the opposite of geometric.

Ornament: a decorative detail used to embellish parts of a building, interior or furnishing.

P

Paint tube: this invention in 1841 made of tin that allowed the Impressionists to paint outdoors all day. Before that, an artist had to squeeze paints stored in sacks made from pig's bladders. According to Renoir, "Without tubes of paint, there would have been no Impressionism."

Papier colle – a French collage technique developed by the artist George Braque. Literally, it means “paste paper”. An artist who works in this method creates a collage of papers and cloth adhered flat to a surface, but the shapes of the materials used for the work are the shapes of the objects themselves.

Palette: a thin board, with a thumbhole at one end, on which an artist arranges and mixes colors. It can also mean the range or use of colors in an artist’s particular work.

Palette knife: a flexible metal knife used by an artist to mix paint and apply paint to his or her work surface; the use of a palette knife often results in a thick application of paint

Palette of Narmer: from the main archaeological site at Hierakonpolis in Egypt, this object was found in the temple of Horus of Nekhen by J. E. Quibell and Green in 1899. It dates from about 3000-2920 B.C. E. It is made of a piece of slate that is about 25 inches high. The daily use for the palette was to prepare eye makeup, which was used in ancient Egypt to protect the eyes against the effects of the sun's glare.

Parallel lines: lines that never intersect and are always the same distance apart.



Passive Solar: a solar heating system using a simple solar collector, building materials, or an architectural design to capture and store the sun's heat.

Pastels: Pigments mixed with gum and water, and pressed into a dried stick form for use as crayons

Patricia D. Pfundt Sculpture Garden: a unique sculpture garden enclosed by the old prison walls of the James A. Michener Art Museum in Bucks County, Pennsylvania. The design of the garden is inspired by the natural environment of Bucks County and features fountains, mountains, rocks and rills, a constant source of inspiration of artists in Bucks County. In the center of the sculpture garden is a recreation of a prison cell as it might have appeared inside the prison during its use as a county jail. Throughout the garden are sculptures created by artists including George Anthonisen, Eric Berg, Jo Jenks and Alan Houser.

Pattern: the repetition of shapes, lines, or colors in a design; also called a motif.

Penn's Woods: the name William Penn chose for a state now called Pennsylvania

Pennsylvania: a Mid-Atlantic state in the United States. Pennsylvania was one of the original 13 colonies. It became the second state in the union on December 12, 1787.

Pennsylvania School of Landscape Painting / Pennsylvania Impressionism: a type of art created by artists living in Pennsylvania at about the same time as French impressionists were living in France. This style of art is characterized by an interest in the quality of color, light, and the time of day. This group of artists usually painted en plein air, or out of doors, to capture the moment (see Impressionism). According to James A. Michener Art Museum's Senior Curator Brian Peterson, "what most characterized Pennsylvania impressionism was not a single, unified style but rather the emergence of many mature, distinctive voices: Daniel Garber's luminous, poetic renditions of the Delaware River; Fern Coppedge's colorful village scenes; Robert Spencer's lyrical views of mills and tenements; John Folinsbee's moody, expressionistic snowscapes; and William L. Lathrop's deeply felt, evocative Bucks County vistas."

Pentagon: a geometric shape having five sides and five interior angles.

Persecute: to systematically treat a person or group of people unfairly or cruelly because they are different, usually because of their ethnic origin or religious beliefs.

Personality: The physical, mental, emotional, and social characteristics of an individual or object.

Perspective: a formal method of creating a three-dimensional effect on a two-dimensional surface. Techniques used can involve overlapping, shading, and changing in size and color as objects go into the distance. Linear perspective was developed and perfected during the Renaissance.



The Philadelphia Ten: a unique and progressive group of women painters and sculptors working in Philadelphia in the 1920s. They broke the rules of society and the art world by working and exhibiting together. Their work included both urban and rural landscapes, portraits, still lifes, and a variety of representational and myth-inspired sculptures. Isabel Branson Cartwright, Constance Cochrane, Mary Russell Ferrell Colton, and Edith Lucile Howard were considered the mainstay of the group, although there were many others.

Philanthropist: term that comes from two Greek words meaning “love” and “human being.” It is a person who works hard to help the human race through causes such as health or education, usually through a monetary contribution.

Phillips’ Mill: converted it into a home and an art studio by William Lathrop in 1894. It emerged as the intellectual center of a growing community of artists. Besides Lathrop, artists such as Daniel Garber, Edward Redfield, John Folinsbee, and Walter Schofield together with Fern Coppedge, Walter Baum, and Clarence Johnson gathered there. It remains a cultural center to this day.

Photography: the art, hobby, or profession of taking photographs, and developing and printing the film or processing the digitized image

Photo-Realism: (see Hyperrealism) a style of realist painting that emerged in the U.S. and in Europe in the late 1960s. Artists that painted in this style painted objects so realistically that they could be mistaken for a photograph. Important painters in this style include Chuck Close, Robert Bechtle, Richard Estes and Ralph Goings. The 1990s saw a renewal in this style because of new technologies in the form of digital cameras and digital equipment.

Pieta: art work that depicts the Virgin Mary holding the dying Christ in her lap. One of the most famous images of the Pieta was sculpted by Michelangelo out of marble when he was 21 years old.

Pigment: finely powdered color material that produces the color of any medium. Made either from natural substances or synthetically, pigment becomes paint, ink, or dye when mixed with oil, water or another fluid (also called vehicle). When pressed into wax it becomes a crayon, pencil or chalk.

Pine Street Hotel: term or nickname given to the Bucks County Prison by the prison warden, Major John Case, in the 1960’s, which represented the changes in philosophy instituted by the warden.

Pivot irrigation agriculture: see *central pivot irrigation*

Plaster: a mixture of lime, sand, and water that is applied to walls and ceilings as a liquid paste and dries to a smooth hard surface. Plaster is also a material used for sculptures. It can be poured into a mold or carved easily and burnished to a shiny finish.



Pointillism: a system of painting using tiny points or dots of color next to one another to create an overall visual effect. French artist Georges Seurat painted in this style.

Pollution: any substances in water, soil, or air that degrade the natural quality of the environment, offend the senses of sight, taste, or smell, or cause a health hazard.

Polychrome: many colored

Polygon: geometrical shape with three or more straight sides.

Polyurethane: any of a group of polymers that are used in resins, coatings, insulation, adhesives, foams, and fibers. A substance most commonly used to put a final coat on a wood surface to make it weather and waterproof.

Pop Art: short for “popular art”, this movement reacted to the emotional quality of Abstract Expressionism through the use of popular culture and consumer products as themes. Advertising and media provided subjects for Pop artists. Techniques were often direct copies of advertising techniques such as the Benday dot or comic book styles. Some of the most significant Pop artists include Andy Warhol, Roy Lichtenstein, Claes Oldenberg and George Segal.

Portable easel: a small and lightweight freestanding upright support for a painter’s canvas or a blackboard usually made of wood and having movable clamps.

Portrait: a painting, drawing, or sculpture that shows a human or animal likeness, either the face or the whole body.

Portraitist: an artist who specializes in making portraits.

Positive space: the space in an artwork that contains one or more objects, or elements of art such as line, color or shape.

Post Office Mural Project: a program in the 1930s that awarded commissions for the decoration of federal buildings based upon anonymous competitions. Its objective was to select the best quality art for public buildings by using a system of either national, regional, or local juries or a combination thereof, depending upon the importance of the commission.

Pozzolana: the volcanic ash used in the production of waterproof cement.

Precisionism: a style of early twentieth century painting which typically depicted mechanical and industrial subject matter, such as smokestacks, steel foundries, or grain elevators. These subjects were usually reduced or simplified to geometric forms and rendered in bright and clear light, by a combination of abstraction and realism. The most noted among artists painting in this style were Charles Demuth and Charles Sheeler.



Primary colors: the colors red, yellow and blue. In theory, all colors can be made from combining these three colors, and mixing any other colors together cannot make the primary colors.

Primitive Painter: a painter who creates art without formal training. Usually the art of primitive painters is simple or naive in style, lacking formal perspective (see naive).

Principles of design: concepts that are used to arrange of the elements of art in the creation of an artwork. These include: contrast, movement/rhythm, balance, proportion/size, unity, focal point/emphasis, repetition, and variety.

Printmaker: an artist who specializes in the creation of prints (see printmaking)

Printmaking: the art of using a printing plate or stamp to create one or a series of multiple originals called prints.

Prison cell: a room in a prison, in which one or more prisoners are confined. This can also be a small room in a police station, used to confine somebody who has been arrested.

Professor Emeritus: an honorary title to full college professor who has retired.

Profile: the visual representation of someone's face as seen from the side.

Proportion: the size relationship in a work of art, the relationship of all parts to one another and to the whole of the design.

Protégé: a person who is receiving training under very careful supervision and care by a master artist.

Pulitzer Prize: a set of several prizes awarded annually for excellence in American journalism, literature, and music

Pyramidal: shaped like a pyramid. A pyramid is a solid shape or structure that has triangular sides with a pointed vertex and sides that slope to a square base.

Pythagorean Theorem: a theory stating that the square of the hypotenuse of a right triangle is equal to the sum of the squares of the other two sides.

Q

Quaker: a member of the Society of Friends, a Christian denomination founded in England in the 17th century.

Quarry: an open excavation from which stone or other material is extracted by blasting, cutting, or drilling.



Quartet: a group of four persons or things.

R

Radial: something designed from a center point, such as the spokes of a wheel or the sun's rays.

Range: the difference between the lowest and the highest numbers in a set of data.

Rapid: an extremely fast-moving part of a river, caused by a steep descent in the riverbed.

Ratio: a comparison of two numbers by division.

Realism: an approach to art in which subjects are portrayed in as straightforward a manner as possible, without idealizing them and without following the rules of formal theory. As a movement, from the mid 19th century, Realism was a name for art that depicted scenes of everyday life. The focus of Realism is to create art that replicates real life as closely as possible.

Realistic: a style of art that shows places, events, people or objects as the eye sees them.

Reclusive: someone in isolation who hides away from the attention of the public.

Red Cross: an American organization that cares for the sick and wounded in war, and that relieves suffering caused by floods, fire, disease, and other natural disasters. It serves as a liaison between members of the Armed Forces and their families, and assists in furnishing relief to Prisoners of War. The symbol of the Red Cross is a Red Cross on a white field.

Red Sea: the world's most northern tropical sea located between Arabia and Africa. It is linked to the Mediterranean Sea at the north end by the Suez Canal.

Redware pottery: earthenware with a reddish color that is fired and decorated with colored slip.

Reflection: the image of somebody or something that appears in a mirror or other reflecting surface.

Region: a large land area that has particular geographic, political, or cultural characteristics which distinguish it from others, whether existing within one country or extending over several countries.

Regular/geometric: a precise shape or a shape formed by geometry, such as an oval.



Relief sculpture: a sculpture that is only meant to be seen from one side; it is a sculpture with a flat surface on one side and a raised surface on the other side.

Renaissance: a rebirth or revival, of culture, skills, or learning forgotten or previously ignored. It is identified as the period of European history between the close of the Middle Ages in the 14th century to the rise of the modern age in the 17th century. It was an influential cultural movement that brought about a period of scientific revolution and artistic transformation, at the dawn of modern European history.

Repetition: the duplication of items in a work of art.

Resin: a clear or translucent substance, either from plant or synthetic origin, used in producing lacquers, adhesives, plastics, polyesters, epoxies, silicones, etc.

Restoration: the art of bringing things back to an earlier and usually better condition.

Revolutionary War: (also the American Revolution) the series of events, ideas, and changes that resulted in the political separation of thirteen colonies in North America from the British Empire and the creation of the United States of America that took place between 1775 and 1783.

Rhythm: visual tempo or beat to an artwork. It is the regular repetition of elements of art to produce the look and feel of movement. These repeated elements allow the viewer's eye to travel through the composition rapidly, smoothly, or in other manners.

Richardsonian Romanesque: an architectural style named after American architect Henry Hobson Richardson (1838:1886). Almost every city in the United States has a building based on the style Richardson developed, which was especially popular in the late 1880s. Richardsonian Romanesque buildings are simple and massive in form.

Ridge and Valley Region: the geographical region that stretches along the eastern flank of the Appalachian Mountains through the center of Pennsylvania.

Ritual: the performance of actions, procedures or observance in a set, ordered, and ceremonial way,

River Styx: in Greek mythology, a river that formed the boundary between Earth and the Underworld.

Romanesque Revival (1840-1900): a revival of architectural style in the United States that was inspired by the style of European Romanesque architecture from the 11th and 12th centuries.

Roman Gaul: an area of consisting of five provinces in the Roman Empire. In modern day, these areas are equal to France, Belgium and a part of western Germany.



Roman numerals: the system of numbers used in ancient Rome, it evolved from Etruscan numbers. The Roman numerals from one to ten are I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, and X.

Romanticism: (1770-1840) a term used to describe the approach that dominated art in the early 19th century in Western Europe and the United States. It was a term used to differentiate new forms of art and literature from the classical tradition. This approach in art put emphasis on human psychology and the expression of personal feelings along with interest in and a response to the natural world. The complex shift in this artistic viewpoint was at its peak in the late 18th early 19th centuries, but its influence could be seen after this period. Some romantic artists include William Blake, Eugene Delacroix, Francisco de Goya, Joseph Mallord William Turner, and American landscape painter Frederic Edwin Church.

Rubber mold: a mold made from any number of rubber products. Contemporary sculptors rely on rubber mold materials to create molds for their sculptures that will cast objects in the finest detail.

Rural: found in or living in the country

S

Sally Port: an opening in a fortification from which the defenders can make quick entrances or exits. This area was the main entrance to the Bucks County prison.

Salmagundi Club: founded in 1871, it is one of the oldest art organizations in America. The Club became an important center for American art and continues to take great pride in its roster of members which include the renowned artists George Inness, William Merritt Chase, Louis Comfort Tiffany and musician John Philip Sousa.

Sarcophagi: a stone container for a coffin or body.

Scale: a specific relative length, area, distance and size of an object. Also, the proportion between two sets of dimensions like between the drawing and the original.

Scandinavian: originating from the Scandinavian countries that include Norway, Sweden, Finland, Iceland and Denmark.

Schooner: a fast sailing ship with at least two masts and with sails set lengthwise fore-and-aft.

Sculptor: an artist who creates art in three dimensions, usually out of clay, metal, stone or found objects.

Scumbling: the technique of dragging paint in a broken manner over a previously painted dry surface.



Seascapes: a work of art that depicts the sea.

Secession: the act of withdrawing from an organization, union, or political entity.

Secondary colors: green, violet and orange – the colors obtained by mixing the primary colors.

Self-confidence: having positive feelings about one’s skills, knowledge, talents, abilities, appearance and other personal qualities

Self-portrait: a work of art an artist creates to represent himself or herself

Series: a number of similar or related things coming one after another. Artists often create similar works in a series as they work through their full expression of an idea or subject.

Sesquicentennial International Exposition: a world's fair hosted in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 1926 to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, and the 50th anniversary of the 1876 Centennial Exposition. The site of the exhibition was a large park in South Philadelphia, known today as FDR Park. The Liberty Bell was the symbol of the exposition, and an 80-foot replica, covered in 26,000 light bulbs, was constructed at the gateway to the expo.

Sfumato: a soft, hazy appearance with blurred images.

Shackamaxon: a village inhabited by Delaware (Lenape) Indians, located in what are now the borders of the city of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. In 1682, William Penn reportedly signed a treaty with the leaders of the Delaware village. The supposed treaty has been immortalized in several works of art.

Shaman: spiritual leader who is believed to have special powers such as prophecy and the ability to heal.

Shapes: two-dimensional enclosed spaces.

Sheet music: music printed on folded or unfolded sheets of paper that have not been bound into a book.

Shilling: a former British coin that was in use until 1971. The shilling was equal to about one-twentieth of a pound.

Shtetl: a small Jewish town in Eastern Europe.

Shoji screen: a translucent screen consisting of a wooden frame covered in rice paper, used as a sliding door or partition in a Japanese house. These screens insulate well against heat and cold and act to diffuse light.



Sitter: a person who poses while their portrait is being created.

Social identity: the idea that people connect to certain groups of people in any given society based on shared characteristics and group relationships.

Social Realism: a term that refers to the leftist political art produced during the 1920s and 1930s in the United States, Mexico, Germany and the Soviet Union. It can also be a term used to refer to any realist painting that carries social or political commentary.

Source: the place where something begins, the thing from which something is derived, or the person or group that initiated or created something.

Space: area around objects and shapes; a device that organizes the elements in a composition.

Stage design: the art of designing or planning the scenery, walls, backdrops and stages for a play.

Stain technique or stain painting: a technique that involves watering down oil paint with paint thinner or acrylic paint with water so the colors are runny and drippy when applied to the canvas.

Stencil: a device for applying a pattern, design, works, or the like to a surface made from a thin sheet of cardboard or metal.

Still-life: a composition featuring inanimate objects such as flowers or food or vases. Objects in a still life cannot get up and walk away by themselves.

Stonehenge: one of the finest of British megalithic monuments found near the town of Avebury in Wiltshire, England. It stands in the center of Salisbury Plain, surrounded by a complex of cemeteries and ritual sites. Stonehenge is believed to date to about 2780 BC, near the end of the Neolithic period. The function of the monument is thought to have been spiritual, but the arrangement of the megaliths also suggest possible astronomical uses, such as a calendar.

Style: the result of an artist's means of expression – the use of materials, the design qualities, the methods of work and choice of subject matter. In most cases, these choices show the unique qualities of an individual, culture or time period. The style of an artwork can help you to know how it is different from other artworks.

Stylize: to abstract a form, leaving it simpler yet recognizable

Subject matter: a topic or idea shown in a work of art

Suez Canal: A canal linking the Red Sea to the Mediterranean Sea in Egypt. The Suez Canal is 118 miles (163 km) long. It connects Port Said on the Mediterranean Sea to Suez



on the Red Sea. It was a vital trade route in the British Empire during imperialism, and continues to link North Africa and Europe to Asia today.

Surrealism: an art movement in Europe, Latin America and United States that was launched in Paris in 1924 by French poet Andre Breton in his publication, the “Manifesto of Surrealism”. The goal of Surrealism was to reveal elements of the unconscious and combine them with subject matter from real life. Surrealism was influenced by the theories of Sigmund Freud, the founder of psychoanalysis. Freud stated there was an “unconscious” or deep layer of the human mind where memories and basic instincts reside. Surrealism began as a trend in literature before moving into the visual arts. Two broad types of Surrealist art existed, one style similar to the dream-like works of Salvador Dali and Rene Magritte, and the other including the *automatism* or free association style of Joan Miro.

Symbol: something that stands for or represents something else. For example, a red octagon can be a symbol for “stop,” a cross can be a symbol for Christianity, an arrow can be a symbol for “one way” and a tear could be a symbol for sadness.

Symmetrical: the same on both sides of a central axis; balanced.

T

Tatami mat: a two-inch thick straw mat measuring about three to six feet long, used especially in Japanese homes as a floor covering.

Tempera: a permanent fast drying paint medium consisting of pigment mixed with water or egg yolk.

Texture: the tactile quality of an artwork or object (actual texture); it can also be the way it looks like it feels (visual texture).

The Burning of Center Bridge: a painting completed by Edward Redfield in 1923 displayed in the James A. Michener Art Museum.

The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari: directed in 1919 by Robert Wiene, it is a movie that tells the story of murder and intrigue set in a small German town of Holstenwall. Critics worldwide have praised the film for its Expressionist style, complete with wild, distorted set design. *Caligari* has been cited as influential on films noir and horror films.

Themes: the major subject or idea behind a discussion, a piece of writing or a work of art. A theme can also be the idea that brings meaning to a work.

Three-dimensional: artwork that can be measured in three ways: height, width, depth or thickness, sometimes called “3-D”.



Tonalist: an artist who works in muted colors and soft tones to create an emotional response or mood.

Tone: a term that refers broadly to the qualities of colors: lightness and darkness, or value; intensity, or saturation; and brightness.

Towpath: a path along a canal or river used by animals towing boats.

Towpath Group /New Hope Group (1916-1926): Group of Pennsylvania Impressionists who exhibited together in 1916, 1917, 1918, 1919 and one time in 1926; also known as the "Towpath Group." Members included Daniel Garber, Charles Rosen, Robert Spencer, Morgan Colt, William L. Lathrop, and Rae Sloan Bredin. They were also a part of the larger group known as the Pennsylvania Impressionists. This group was significant because the member artists practiced in Bucks County. They exhibited their work together in cities throughout the U.S. and Europe, and thus came to represent one regional school of landscape painting in the larger art world.

Toxic water treatment facility: a facility that removes contaminants from raw water to produce drinking water that is pure enough for drinking. Substances that are removed during the process of drinking water treatment include: bacteria, algae, viruses, fungi, minerals, and man-made chemical pollutants.

Transcontinental railways: a railroad system that crosses a nation from coast to coast. In the United States, two companies completed this in the 19th Century and opened travel from the East to the West.

Transcribing: the act of writing out an exact copy of something.

Transformation: a complete change, usually into something with a different usefulness or appearance.

Translucent: a material that you can see through partially, like waxed paper.

Transparent: a material that you can see through completely, like clear glass.

Treaty Elm: this is the tree depicted in *Penn's Treaty with the Indians* by Edward Hicks, which stood on Founders Green at Haverford College in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. It eventually got Dutch Elm disease and died. It was thought that William Penn made his treaty with the Indians under this tree at Shackamaxon on the Delaware River.

Triptych: a painting or carving consisting of three panels often made as an altarpiece hinged together so that when the smaller outer panels are folded, the middle part is entirely covered. In ancient times, a triptych was a set of three writing tablets hinged or tied together.

Tuskegee: a city located in eastern Alabama, with a population of about 12,000. It is the county seat of Macon County, and is known as the home of Tuskegee University.



Two-dimensional: artwork that is flat and measured only by height and width, sometimes called “2-D.”

Trompe l’oeil: a term in French meaning “fool the eye”. This term refers to a painting that looks so real that it tricks you into wanting to touch the objects in the painting.

U

Urban: of or having to do with a city.

Unity: the harmony of all the visual elements in a composition.

Urbanite: a demographic of people who live in a city.

Usonian: a term coined by American architect Frank Lloyd Wright that referred to his vision for the landscape and architecture of the United States.

V

Value: the difference in the lightness of darkness of a hue (or color).

Vanishing point: in linear perspective, the point on the horizon line at which lines that are parallel, appear to meet.

Vanity: excessive pride, especially in one’s appearance.

Variety: the diversity of elements in a work of art.

Vatican: an independent state within the city of Rome, Italy. It is the permanent residence of the Pope and the administrative center of the Roman Catholic Church.

Vernacular architecture: the traditional architecture of an area used typically for houses, cottages and farm buildings and constructed of the locally available materials.

Vernacular architecture was prevalent until the coming of the railways in the mid 19th century made the importing of building materials from outside the local area an economic proposition.

Vernacular photography: photography that documents everyday occurrences and subjects.

View camera: a type of camera with a very long history, but are still used today by professional and amateur photographers who want full control of their images. A view camera usually produces images that are at least 4x5 inches and has a flexible bellows that allows the taking lens to form an image directly on a ground glass viewing screen. A film holder is inserted in front of the ground glass for exposure.



Voussoirs: one of the many stones used to form an arch or rib on a vault in a wedge shape

W

Wash: the watery layer of paint used to cover a surface.

Watercolor: pigment mixed with a binder and applied with water to give a transparent effect

Wet on wet (or wet in wet): is the process of applying wet pigment to wet paper. The results vary from soft undefined shapes to slightly blurred marks, depending on how wet the paper is. The wet on wet technique can be applied over existing washes provided they are thoroughly dry. Simply wet the paper with a large brush and paint into the dampness. The soft marks made by painting wet in wet are great for subtle background regions of your painting.

William Penn: (October 14, 1644–July 30, 1718) founder of the Province of Pennsylvania, the North American colony of Great Britain that became the U.S. state of Pennsylvania. The democratic principles that he set forth served as an inspiration for the United States Constitution.

Woodblock print or woodcut: a type of relief printing in which areas of a woodblock are carved away. Ink is put on the raised surface and it is printed on paper when pressure is applied.

A Wooded Watershed: a spectacular 22-foot mural by Daniel Garber painted for the Sesquicentennial Exposition of 1926 held in Philadelphia. The lunette-shaped mural was rescued from obscurity in 1994 at the State Forest School at Mont Alto, a branch of Pennsylvania State University.

Works Progress Administration (WPA): a relief measure established in 1935 by the President in an effort to ease the burdens created by the Great Depression. The program offered work to the unemployed on an unprecedented scale by spending federal money on a wide variety of programs, including highways and building construction, slum clearance, reforestation, and rural rehabilitation.

World War: a military conflict affecting the majority of the world's countries. World wars usually span multiple continents, and are very bloody and destructive. There have been two world wars, World War I or First World War (from 1914 to 1918) and World War II or Second World War (from 1939 to 1945). At the time of the First World War, it was widely believed that never again would there be a world war like the first; consequently it was known at that time and in the years that followed as 'The Great War'.

