**Expressive Feature and Characteristics of Design** (descriptive vocabulary of observed form, useful for interpreting, understanding, and constructing, the artwork of self and others.

## **Colorado Academic Standards for Visual Art Revised Rationale:** Recognizing multiple

interpretations for addressing art elements and design principles across time and culture are referred to as **expressive features and characteristics** of art.

Expressive features and	Characteristics	Techniques	Tools
(How something communicates	The <u>literal quality</u> of the	How you represent	<u>Implement</u> or
an <u>idea or concept</u> )	things you can see and	something. The way it	instrument
	identify in a design or	is constructed or built.	used in
	work of art.	Media or medium	making art.
Combination of elements in a	Elements in art/design	Art/design has been	The technique
art/design that	that you can see and	created	was created
• <b>Persuade</b> you to take an	identify such as	• Digitally	using a
action	• Space	• With <b>paper</b>	• Pen
• Consideration of <b>space</b>	• Line (see	• <b>Drawn</b> (with ink,	• Paint
allows other elements to	techniques/types of	pencil, crayon,	brush
articulate intended meaning	lines)	markers, etc)	• Hammer
Communicate through	• Shapes	• Cross hatch	<ul> <li>Computer</li> </ul>
composition/arrangement	• Geometric	o Stipple	• Pencil
(quiet, loud, calm, urgent, etc)	• Organic	<ul> <li>Line-dividing</li> </ul>	• Fingers
<ul> <li>Show appropriation or</li> </ul>	• Flat	space	• Toes
recycled materials and	• Form	<ul> <li>Gestural lines</li> </ul>	• Chisel
ideas*	• Dimension	<ul> <li>Contour lines</li> </ul>	• Camera
Demonstrate	• Volume	• Chicken scratch	<ul> <li>Press</li> </ul>
reconceptualization	• Mass	$\circ$ Thick, thin,	<ul> <li>Knife</li> </ul>
(the meaning of the	• Texture	edge lines	-
artwork is generated by	• Rough, hard,	<ul> <li>Measured lines</li> </ul>	• Trowel
positioning a familiar image	bristly	<ul> <li>Organic mark</li> </ul>	Scissors
in relationship to pictures,	• Smooth, soft	making lines	• Feathers
symbols, or texts with which	<ul> <li>Warm, wet, dry, cold</li> </ul>	• by being <b>printed</b> (4	• Phone
it is not usually associated.*)	• Value / tone	color offset)	<ul> <li>Sewing</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Show layering (imagery</li> </ul>		• by being <b>printed</b>	tools
evoking the complexity of an	<ul> <li>Gray scale</li> <li>Transitional</li> </ul>	(digital output)	•
idea, multiple perspectives,	• Abrupt	Photographically	
etc.)	• Low -key	• With <b>paint</b> /	
Interaction of text and	• High – key	methods and	
<b>Imagery</b> (The text does not	<ul> <li>mid-value</li> </ul>	manipulation of	
describe the work, nor does the image illustrate the text,	Color / hue	medium	
but the interplay between	• Primary,	• Watercolor	
the two elements generates	secondary,	o Oil	
the idea*)	tertiary	• Acrylic	
<ul> <li>Emphasize juxtaposition</li> </ul>	• Tint	o Tempera	
(bringing together radically	• Shade	• Using <b>mixed/multi</b>	
disparate elements*)	<ul> <li>Neutral /Gray</li> </ul>	media	
• Demonstrate <b>hybridity</b>	• Chromatic	• Using collage	
(blending of cultural ideas*)	intensity	• Using printmaking	
	Contrast	(Silkscreen, hand	

• Show <b>representation</b> (using	Repetition	<ul><li>press, intallio, etc)</li><li>Using <b>3D</b></li></ul>	
a concept to represent something else such as one's	Rhythm	• construction	
artistic voice within one's	• Pattern	methods	
personal history and culture	• Flow	• Ceramics	
of origin*)	• Branching	<ul> <li>Soft sculpture</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>Demonstrates hierarchy</li> </ul>	• Spiral	• Constructed	
(visually describing what	• Packing and	items using found	
is most important, next in	Cracking	objects	
importance, and so on)	• Grid	• Building and	
• Employ <b>psychology</b> (artist	• Typography	constructing using	
strategy to affect moods,	Headline	variety of materials	
feelings, emotions, etc.) As in	• Text	<ul> <li>Using film, video,</li> </ul>	
psychology of color.	<ul> <li>Imagery</li> </ul>	animation, etc.	
• Use <b>anomaly</b> (deviation or	• Graphics	•	
departure from the norm or	Composition (radial,		
common order)	symmetrical, rule of		
Represent time     Show perspective (opinion (	thirds, etc.)		
<ul> <li>Show perspective (opinion/ point-of-view)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Point, line, plane</li> </ul>		
<ul> <li>Describe systems (a</li> </ul>	• Balance		
set of interacting or	<ul> <li>Movement</li> </ul>		
interdependent components	Pacing		
forming an integrated	• Size and Scale		
whole)	<ul> <li>Figure/ground</li> </ul>		
• Demonstrate <b>progression</b>	<ul> <li>Background</li> </ul>		
(literal or psychological	<ul> <li>Midground</li> </ul>		
incremental change)	• Foreground		
Represent movement	• Framing		
through time	<ul> <li>Aerial perspective</li> </ul>		
<ul> <li>Shows change through time</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Perspective/illusion</li> </ul>		
<ul> <li>Shows morphing</li> </ul>	of depth		
(something changes into	• Literal point-of-view		
something else)	(as in camera)		
<ul> <li>Demonstrate formality or</li> </ul>	Transparency		
informality	Multiple perspectives		
• Employ <b>metaphor</b> (A	• Angle		
situation in which a word or	• Geometry		
thing that ordinarily designates	• Symbols		
one thing is used to imply	<ul> <li>Metaphors</li> </ul>		
another) ● Uses <b>nostalgia</b> (evoking	• Precision		
a feeling of longing for the	• Tension		
past)	• Space		
<ul> <li>Describes narrative/</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Emphasis</li> </ul>		
storytelling	<ul> <li>Contrast</li> </ul>		
• Becomes <b>gestalt</b> (A physical,	<ul><li>Harmony</li></ul>		
psychological, or symbolic	<ul> <li>Tension (tenuous</li> </ul>		
arrangement or pattern of	balance or proximity		
parts so unified as a whole			

that its properties cannot	of elements that	
be derived from a simple	causes friction)	
summation of its parts.)	<ul> <li>Unity</li> </ul>	
• Uses <b>irony</b> (real meaning	<ul> <li>Variety</li> </ul>	
is hidden by words and/or	• Variety	
images)		
• Employs <b>parody</b> (imitates the		
characteristic style of another		
work, either for comic effect or		
ridicule)		
• Creates <b>tension</b> (figuratively		
opposing forces or elements		
often causing anxietyfrom		
dissonance to angst to pain or		
<ul><li>excitement)</li><li>Demonstrates imagination</li></ul>		
through visual use of new		
symbols or mark making		
<ul> <li>Represents a visual likeness</li> </ul>		
of visual perception		
• An idea expressed through		
visual formation of <b>concepts</b>		
(e.g., requires imagination,		
visualization, abstraction,		
concepts/ideas, etc.)		
*wording and or concept from Olivia Gude	6	·

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