

Art in a Nation of Change – Visual Artists Influenced by the Harlem Renaissance

Kristen L. Leida

In this unit, fifth grade students will focus on the guiding questions: *To what extent can media be manipulated using a variety of techniques and processes? To what extent does history reflect upon and have an influence on art? How and why is art used as a vehicle for communication?* Following the Delaware Visual Art Standards, students will study artists who were influenced by the Harlem Renaissance to better understand different techniques and processes for creating art and also how artists analyze and interpret their personal experiences and external history in their artwork. This unit is naturally interdisciplinary connecting visual art to Common Core Standards in English Language Arts through reading, writing and speaking about artworks and Delaware Social Studies Standards by studying the Civil Rights Movement. For their culminating activity, students will create a painting or collage that reflects a significant event in their life.