

Vocabulary

additive	Refers to the process of adding. In making clay sculpture, the artist adds small pieces of clay to form the figure or shapes.
amulet	A charm used to ward off evil or to bring good luck
apprenticeship	A period of learning from a master or someone highly skilled or knowledgeable in a specific area
blacksmith	A person who forms objects by heating and hammering iron
candid snapshot	An informal, unposed photograph
camouflage	The technique of disguising objects or people so that they blend in with the surrounding environment
commercial photographer	Someone who makes photographs to sell to clients as mementos, for advertising or business use, or for other purposes—in contrast to someone who makes photographs primarily as art
composition	The underlying structure or arrangement of the different elements of a work of art
concentric	Having a common center. Usually said of circles or spheres
contrast	Opposition or juxtaposition of different forms, lines, or colors in a work of art
custom-made	Made specifically for an individual customer
design element	The building blocks used in art: line, shape, value, color, space, form, and texture
ensemble	An entire costume or outfit, with all the parts in harmony
formal portrait	A painting, photograph, sculpture, or other representation of a person who sits or stands in a deliberate pose
geometric	Having the straight or curving lines or shapes used in geometry
geometry	The branch of mathematics that deals with the properties, measurement, and relationships of points, lines, angles, and figures in space
gourd	The hard-shelled fruit of any plant belonging to the family that includes pumpkins, cucumbers, and zucchini. Gourds are sometimes called calabashes. When the insides are removed and the shell is dried, gourds can be used as bottles, dippers, spoons, and scrapers.

horizontal	Parallel to level ground or the horizon
lustrous	Shiny, luminous
palanquin	An enclosed chair suspended from poles and carried on the shoulders of four or more people
pattern	A decorative design composed of elements in a regular arrangement
pose	A body position assumed deliberately for an artistic purpose
raffia	A fiber obtained from the leaves of the raffia palm and used for making mats, baskets, hats, and costumes
reduction firing	A technique in which the amount of oxygen is limited inside a kiln in order to produce special, unpredictable effects on the surface of the clay. This process is popular with artist-potters who enjoy the surprising results.
right angle	The angle formed by two intersecting, perpendicular lines; a 90-degree angle
rite of passage	A ceremony or special event marking a person's change of status, such as the entrance into a special group, or passage from one stage of life to another
ritual	A ceremony or rite; any pattern of behavior regularly performed in a set manner
subtractive	Refers to the process of taking away. Carving wood or stone is a subtractive process.
symbol	Something chosen to represent something else. In a work of art, colors and objects are often used symbolically.
symmetry	A situation in which the size, shape, and location of parts on the left and right sides, or top and bottom, of a composition or object are the same on opposite sides of an imaginary center dividing line (bilateral symmetry) or are arranged regularly around a center point (radial symmetry)
vertical	In a position or direction that is perpendicular to the horizon; upright
warp	The set of yarns or threads placed lengthwise in a loom, crossed by and interlaced with the filling or weft
weft	The yarns or threads drawn under and over the warp in a crosswise direction to create a woven fabric