

## Drawing Vocabulary

**Asymmetry:** Two sides are not the same but still balance each other.

**Atmospheric Perspective:** the effect of distance or atmosphere shown through haziness or changes in color.

**Background:** The part of a picture that appears to be farthest away from the viewer.

**Cast Shadow:** A shadow that is cast by an object onto an adjacent or nearby plane.

**Chiaroscuro:** Italian word meaning light/dark. The gradation of light and dark values in a 2-dimensional imagery; especially the illusion of rounded, 3-dimensional forms.

**Composition:** The placement of forms, shapes, colors, and light and dark areas in a work of art. Artists use composition to direct the viewer's eye to the most important elements of a work of art

**Contour Line:** Line that defines the edges of forms, separating each area from neighboring ones.

**Cross hatching:** Achieved by drawing crossing lines to create value. The more the lines that cross, the darker the value. Contoured lines are used with round objects.

**Depth:** the illusion of space in a picture plane.

**Focal Point:** The area of an artwork that attracts the viewer's attention.

**Foreground:** In a scene or artwork, the part that seems closest to the viewer.

**Foreshortening:** Perspective on the human body. The study of how proportions change as the body moves from a standing position.

**Full Range:** Use of values from lightest to darkest in a work.

**Gestural Line:** Line that shows the movement inherent in the object or figure, usually very fluid looking.

**Hatching:** Achieved by applying one-direction lines to create value; the more the lines, the darker the value. Contoured lines are used with round objects.

**Highlight:** Where the light hits the object portrayed.

**Illustration:** A work of art created to accompany a story or other literary work in print.

**Linear Perspective:** Based on the fact that parallel lines or edges appear to converge and objects appear smaller as the distance between them and the viewer increases.

**Middleground:** the part of the painting that lies between the background and the foreground.

**Overlapping:** When one object covers a part of a second object, the first seems to be closer.

## Drawing Vocabulary

**Perspective:** A means for showing the illusion of 3-dimensional depth on a 2-dimensional surface.

**Placement:** Objects that are placed either low or high on the picture plane seem to be closer to the viewer than objects placed closer to the eye level.

**Proportion:** Size relationships of parts to a whole within the composition.

**Sketch:** A rapid drawing or painting. This may be complete in itself or used for a more detailed project.

**Symmetry:** Near or exact matching of left and right sides of a composition.

**Tonal Range:** Various shades of grey between absolute black and absolute white.

**Vanishing Point:** The point on the horizon line where parallel lines appear to vanish.