Elements of Art

**Line:** A line is made by moving a point through space. It is one dimensional, and can vary in width, direction and length.

**Shape:** A flat, enclosed area that has two dimensions: length and width. Shapes can be organic or geometric.

**Color:** Created by light. There are three properties of color: hue (name), value (shades and tints) and intensity (brightness).

**Value:** Degrees of lightness or darkness. The difference between values is called value contrast.

**Form:** Objects that are dimensional, having length, width, and height. Forms take up space and volume.

**Texture:** Describes the surface quality or feel of a surface; texture can be real or implied.

**Space:** Used to create the illusion of depth. Space can be two-dimensional, negative and/or positive.
Principles of Design

**Balance:** A distribution of visual weight in an artwork. Balance can be symmetrical, asymmetrical, or radial.

**Contrast:** The arrangement of opposite elements in a composition so as to create visual interest.

**Emphasis:** An area or object within artwork that draws attention and becomes a focal point.

**Movement:** How the eye moves through the composition, leading the attention of the viewer from one aspect of the artwork to the other.

**Pattern:** The repetition of specific visual elements; a method used to organize surfaces in a consistent and regular manner.

**Rhythm:** Regular repetition of, or alternation in, elements to create cohesion and interest.

**Unity:** Visually pleasing agreement among the elements in a design.