ART 1 – Shape & Form Project

Part 1 – *Types of Shapes and Forms in Art Drawing*
   a. Read each description of shape and form and how it is used in art.
   b. Draw an example of a geometric and organic shape above the labeled space provided. Try and use a form not shown in the examples.
   c. Read the Shape and Form descriptions on the second page to gain a better understanding of how art is influenced by shape and form.

Part 2 – *Exercise 3 – Line and Shading = Shape and Form*
   a. Read the introduction and instructions to this drawing exercise.
   b. The materials needed are listed to complete the drawing. You are free to substitute materials with what you have available at home.
   c. Complete the instructions as described. You will be drawing in each of the four folded parts of the paper by following the directions for each area.
   d. On a separate sheet of paper, answer the questions in the *Compare the Shape and Forms* section.

Part 3 – *Exercise 4 – Light and Shadow*
   a. Read the introduction and instructions to this drawing exercise.
   b. The materials needed are listed to complete the drawing. You are free to substitute materials with what you have available at home.
   c. Complete the instructions as described, but modifying as needed with materials you have at home.
   d. On a separate sheet of paper, answer the questions in the *Checking out your answers* section.

Part 4 – *How to Make a Shape Collage*
   a. The reference drawings are on the page prior to the instructions.
   b. Read the list of items needed to complete the collage, the Think about it section, the Do it section, and the Helpful Hints section.
   c. Substitute material as needed to complete the sculpture. The process is to make a 3-dimensional line object so household items can be used as long as the sculpture is completed similar to the sample shown.
   d. On a separate sheet of paper, answer the questions in the *Check it* section.

*Bring all completed project work to your next scheduled appointment*
Shape and Form
Shape and form share similar qualities, but shape is two-dimensional, having only height and width. Form is three-dimensional, possessing height and width plus depth. Shape and form define the subjects or objects within space. Shape is usually composed of lines and is found in paintings, drawings and photography. Form is the basis for three-dimensional art such as sculpture, ceramics and pottery. Shape and form can be geometric and very linear or organic, represented by irregular patterns and asymmetrical shapes like those found in nature.

Shape
Shape is a 2-dimensional object (it is flat). It has height and width but no depth. Shapes can be either geometric or organic.

*Geometric shapes* – circles, triangles, squares and rectangles---are regular and precise. They can be measured.

*Organic shapes* – seashells, leaves, flowers, etc – are irregular.

Draw and example of a geometric shape and an organic shape below

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Geometric Shape</th>
<th>Organic Shape</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="image1.png" alt="Geometric Shape" /></td>
<td><img src="image2.png" alt="Organic Shape" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Shape
An artwork is often made up of positive and negative shapes. The positive shapes are usually the solid objects that the artist depicts (see below). The negative shapes are formed by the areas around or between the objects (the sky, grass, mountains, etc).

Form
A form is 3-Dimensional. It has height, width AND depth. As with shapes, Forms can be regular and precise or irregular and organic. 3-D art, such as sculptures, architecture and crafts, is composed of forms. In 2-D art, artists can only create the illusion of form.
Exercise 4. Light and Shadow

By Jacqueline Andes

Shading helps define light and shadow in a drawing. Light and shadow are considered together since neither appears to exist without the other. Light and shadow are most obvious in three-dimensional design.

There are a number of interesting things about the appearance of light. For instance, light reflected from a hard, polished curving surface appears white in color. Light reflected from a soft, dull, flat surface appears to contain some of the color of the surface from which it is reflected. The highlight is the area of an object that is directly illuminated by the source of light.

An object can have more than one source lighting it. There can be a primary and secondary source of light and this will make a difference in your drawing or painting. The primary source can be the strongest light, or the light that is the closest to the object. It will cast a darker and more definite shape to the shadow area. The secondary source of light casts a weaker, lighter and softer edged shape in the shadow area.

When you shade objects in your composition, you must first determine the light source.

Is it directly overhead?

Is the light coming from the left?

Is the light coming from the right?

Is there a secondary light source?
Fig. 2-26, Charles Demuth, *Three Acrobats*

Fig. 2-38, Henri Matisse, *Les Cardona*
Shape Collage

Task:
To create a paper collage with organic and geometric shapes that is overlapped and repeated.

Take a look. (previous page)
• Fig. 2.26, Charles Demuth, *Three Acrobats*.
• Fig. 2-38, Henri Matisse, *Les Cadona*.

Think about it.
Think about how you would answer the following questions relating to both the Matisse and the Demuth depiction of acrobats.
• Identify the geometric and organic shapes. Which shapes are angular? Which shapes are repeated?
• Which shapes are dynamic, creating a sense of movement? How has the artist positioned shapes on the page to create a sense of action? Which shapes are static?
• Identify positive and negative shapes. Are the black squares in the Matisse collage positive or negative shapes? Why do you think this?
• Which shapes overlap, and which touch the edge of the picture plane? How does this overlapping and extending of shapes to the edge of the picture affect the whole composition?
• How has the artist used shape to unify the composition?

Do it.
1. Cut both organic and geometric shapes from various colors of 9” x 12” paper. For example, to develop human shapes, use either a marker or a pencil to make a series of gesture drawings of action poses. Cut out several of the poses, saving the paper from which they were cut, perhaps for use as negative shapes and a means of repeating a shape. Turn the shapes over so that the drawing does not show.
2. Arrange the cut shapes on a contrasting color of 12” x 18” paper. Cut out additional organic and geometric shapes from paper of another color, and add these to your collage. You might want to cut out several versions of the same shape in various sizes or colors. Use an X-acto knife to cut out details and small interior shapes.
3. Before gluing down the shapes, experiment with overlapping and repeating shapes, and including negative shapes.
4. Use a glue stick or white glue to attach your shapes to the large piece of colored paper.
5. Near the lower edge of your composition in small lettering, write the title of your collage and sign your name with a marker.
Helpful Hints

- Sometimes, large background shapes, such as the white rectangle in Matisse’s Les C’adona, can unify and stabilize a composition.
- By repeating shapes, you can form patterns and rhythms in your composition.
- If you use an X-acto knife, cut on a cutting board or cardboard to protect your work surface. Keep fingers clear of the blade.

Check it.

- Describe the shapes in your collage. Which are organic, and which are geometric? Which shapes have you repeated, and which have you overlapped?
- Overall, is your design effective? Does it work together as one whole composition? How do the negative and positive shapes interact?
- Consider the craftsmanship in your artwork. Are the shapes neatly and securely glued? Does the quality of the cutting, such as uneven edges, detract from or add to the design?
- What is the strongest or best part of your collage?
- What did you learn in this project?
- What might you do differently the next time you create a similar collage?