Primary Source Sets: East Asian Visual Arts Toolkit

Aligned with Ohio Fine Arts Standards (Visual Art) | The Ohio State University EASC

K-12 Art Education
Studio Practice & Visual Analysis

1. Ukiyo-E Woodblock Prints & Compositional Design

HS.PE / HS.RE (Performing & Responding)

WOODBLOCK PRINTS

Primary Source Materials Used:

- **Katsushika Hokusai:** *"The Great Wave off Kanagawa"* (c. 1831, polychrome woodblock print, Metropolitan Museum of Art / EASC Archive).
- **Utagawa Hiroshige:** Selection from *"One Hundred Famous Views of Edo"*.

EASC Portal Access: https://easc.osu.edu/resources/k-16/lesson-plans/journey-along-tokaido

Studio / Critique Application: Students analyze asymmetrical balance, dynamic line weight, and the use of Prussian blue. Studio task: Design a linocut relief print emphasizing foreground-background scale contrast inspired by Hokusai.
2024 Ohio Fine Arts Standard: HS.PE (Demonstrate technical skill through a variety of art media) & HS.RE (Use art terminology to analyze visual characteristics).

2. Tang Dynasty Ceramics & Sculptural Form

MS.PE / HS.CO (Performing & Connecting)

GLAZED TERRACOTTA

Primary Source Materials Used:

- **Sancai (Three-Color) Glazed Sculptures:** Tang Dynasty horse and camel figurines (Silk Road trade artifacts, Palace Museum & EASC digital repository).
- **Kiln Shards & Glaze Technique Guides:** Historical resource packet on copper and iron oxide glazing fluxes.

EASC Portal Access: https://easc.osu.edu/resources/teaching-resources/east-asian-history-modules

Studio / Critique Application: Students examine how glaze pooling, color layering, and tactile texture convey movement and weight in three-dimensional sculpture. Studio task: Hand-build a sculptural animal vessel utilizing overlapping glaze drips.
2024 Ohio Fine Arts Standard: MS.PE (Apply sculptural techniques in clay) & HS.CO (Connect art to historical and cultural contexts).

3. Calligraphic Brushwork & Expressive Line

EL.PE / MS.PE (Performing Processes)

INK & XUAN PAPER

Primary Source Materials Used:

- **Literati Scholars' Ink Paintings & Calligraphy:** Digital archival plates of running script and ink-wash landscapes (Song and Ming Dynasties).
- **Scholar's Four Treasures Guides:** Ink brush, inkstone, rice paper, and solid pine soot ink specifications.

EASC Portal Access: https://easc.osu.edu/resources/teaching-resources/take-go-series/modern-chinese-history/resources

Studio / Critique Application: Students practice breath control, wrist posture, and tonal modulation (shading from deep black to silver grey) using sumi ink. Studio task: Create an expressive nature study focusing on gesture over rigid realism.
2024 Ohio Fine Arts Standard: EL.PE (Explore the elements of line, value, and texture) & MS.PE (Demonstrate control of drawing and painting tools).

4. 20th-Century Propaganda Posters & Visual Persuasion

HS.RE / HS.CO (Responding & Connecting)

LITHOGRAPH POSTERS

Primary Source Materials Used:

- **Stefan R. Landsberger Collection:** Chinese political posters from the 1950s–1970s illustrating color symbolism, hero framing, and typography layout.
- **Design Blueprint Analysis:** Grid structure and focal point diagrams of state posters.

EASC Portal Access: https://easc.osu.edu/resources/teaching-resources/take-go-series/modern-chinese-history/resources

Studio / Critique Application: Students deconstruct how bold primary color palettes (red, yellow, black) and iconic central figures create immediate psychological impact. Studio task: Design a contemporary advocacy poster using stark graphic silhouettes.
2024 Ohio Fine Arts Standard: HS.RE (Analyze how artists use visual elements to influence viewers) & HS.CO (Examine social and political commentary in visual art).

5. Contemporary Anime Character Design & Narrative Visuals

MS.PE / HS.PE (Performing & Digital Media)

DIGITAL ANIMATION & STILLS

Primary Source Materials Used:

- **Makoto Shinkai Film Stills & Concept Art:** High-resolution environmental lighting and sky studies from *Your Name* (CoMix Wave Films / EASC Film Guides).
- **Character Proportion Sheets:** Traditional manga and anime facial structure construction guides.

EASC Portal Access: https://easc.osu.edu/resources/k-16/film-guides/your-name

Studio / Critique Application: Students analyze dramatic lighting, atmospheric perspective, and emotional color grading (twilight/magic hour). Studio task: Paint a digital or watercolor background establishing emotional atmosphere.
2024 Ohio Fine Arts Standard: MS.PE (Use digital or traditional media to communicate narrative ideas) & HS.PE (Demonstrate mastery of color theory and atmospheric depth).

6. Origami, Senbazuru & Sculptural Geometry

EL.PE / MS.PE (Form & Repetition)

PAPER FOLDING ARTIFACTS

Primary Source Materials Used:

- **Virtual Japan Archive:** Step-by-step photographic guides of traditional paper folding, modular origami, and stringing 1,000 cranes (*Senbazuru*).
- **Hiroshima Peace Monument Photo Set:** Public installation photography and architectural paper memorials.

EASC Portal Access: https://u.osu.edu/virtualjapan/origami/

Studio / Critique Application: Students explore geometric precision, crease patterns, and modular repetition in three-dimensional space. Studio task: Construct a modular origami sculpture exploring symmetry and rhythm.
2024 Ohio Fine Arts Standard: EL.PE (Transform 2D materials into 3D forms through folding and scoring) & MS.PE (Explore structural balance and pattern).

7. Graphic Novels & Visual Storytelling: *Boxers & Saints*

HS.PE / HS.RE (Sequential Narratives)

GRAPHIC LITERATURE

Primary Source Materials Used:

- **Gene Luen Yang Artwork Excerpts:** Panel layouts, gutter pacing, and visual symbolism from *Boxers & Saints* (First Second, 2013).
- **Visual Motifs Resource Guide:** EASC curriculum packet on visual metaphors in graphic novels.

EASC Portal Access: https://easc.osu.edu/resources/teaching-resources/take-go-series/modern-chinese-history/resources

Studio / Critique Application: Students analyze how panel composition, framing angles, and visual pacing guide viewer emotion and narrative perspective. Studio task: Create a 4-panel comic page conveying internal conflict.
2024 Ohio Fine Arts Standard: HS.PE (Create sequential narrative artwork demonstrating expressive design) & HS.RE (Critique visual communication methods).

8. Garden Design, Zen Aesthetics & Negative Space

MS.PE / HS.PE (Composition & Balance)

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Primary Source Materials Used:

- **Virtual Japan Architecture Archive:** Photographic plates of Kyoto dry landscape gardens (*Karesansui*), raked gravel patterns, and natural stone placement.
- **Spatial Harmony Guides:** EASC resource notes on *Ma* (negative space) in Japanese spatial design.

EASC Portal Access: https://u.osu.edu/virtualjapan/

Studio / Critique Application: Students investigate the principle of negative space (*ma*) and minimalist balance. Studio task: Create a minimalist mixed-media collage focusing on asymmetric balance and restful whitespace.
2024 Ohio Fine Arts Standard: MS.PE (Apply principles of balance, contrast, and emphasis) & HS.PE (Demonstrate advanced composition skills).

OHIO ART EDUCATORS INTEGRATION STRATEGY (2024 STANDARDS)

These 8 primary source sets provide art teachers with turnkey museum-quality images, historical background, and studio prompts directly mapped to the 2024 Ohio Fine Arts Standards across Creating (CR), Performing (PE), Responding (RE), and Connecting (CO). All modules and image galleries are freely accessible via OSU's East Asian Studies Center portal: https://easc.osu.edu/resources/teaching-resources.