



## **THE ELEMENTS OF ART – SENSORY PROPERTIES**

The Vocabulary Used by Artists

**LINE** is a mark made by tool or instrument, created by a point that moves across a surface. Repeated lines may form a pattern.

Qualities of Line:

WIDTH (thick, thin, bold, delicate)

LENGTH (long, short)

DIRECTION (horizontal, vertical, diagonal, straight, curved, wavy, zigzag, etc.)

**SHAPE** defines an area of space. When lines meet one another, they create shapes.

GEOMETRIC shapes have names such as square, circle, cube or sphere.

ORGANIC shapes are irregular and free form.

**SPACE** is the empty or open area between, around, above, below, or within objects.

POSITIVE SPACE is the space an object takes up.

NEGATIVE SPACE is the space around an object.

**COLOR** has three main properties: HUE: the name of the color (blue, red, etc.)

INTENSITY: the brightness or dullness of the color

VALUE: the lightness or darkness of a color

**VALUE** is the lightness or darkness of a color.

TINT: color plus white added

SHADE: color plus black added

TONES: slight modifications of a color made by adding gray

**TEXTURE** is how something feels or how it may look. Examples of texture are rough, smooth, slippery, sticky, hard, soft, fuzzy, etc.

TACTILE TEXTURE is perceived through touch.

VISUAL TEXTURE is perceived through sight.

**FORM** is any three-dimensional object, which encloses volume. Form has 3 dimensions: length, width, and height. Like shapes, forms can be geometric (cube, pyramid) or irregular (egg, pear).