

# Leah Yellowbird

*Artist*

*Painting-Beadwork*

*Season 11 Episode 7 Starts at 1:17*

## 1. Learning Objectives

### Students learn about

- Artists are influenced by art they love
- American Indians influence many artists
- Artists are influenced by historical art forms, beading, weaving
- Intersections of art across many cultures
- Personal interpretation and reaction to visual art
- The tools used to create paintings

## 2. Key Concepts

- Cultural influences
- Individual view of art, artist and viewer
- Themes used in paintings
- Characteristics of visual art; color, line, shape, value, form, texture and space
- Principles of visual art; repetition, pattern, emphasis, contrast and balance
- Tools and techniques used to create paintings
- Each of us is given a gift

## 3. Teachers Quick Reference

Grand Rapids  
The Artist Loft

Paintings come to Leah in her dreams.

They are a reflection of her Anishinaabe Heritage.

Influenced by the Métis style of painting.

Painting in a style to make it look like beadwork.

She includes animals and people with the floral traditional pattern. She picked up the double line of beads was picked up from her auntie. She receives her image after sleeping. Sometimes Leah sketches out her ideas. She believes her subjects for painting are always there.

Acrylic paint is what she uses. It is easy for her to manipulate.

Black is not always her background. But she uses black to represent the black velvet.

The wolf painting tells the political story of attacking the wolf.

Symmetry is a very important part of her work. It brings her inner peace.

## 4. Content Review

- What type of art is this?
- What materials are used?
- What culture influence do you notice in Leah's art?
- Name three Anishinaabe cultural references that are included in the painting and work of Leah Yellowbird.
- Explain the story she tells through her art.
- What is the intention of her art?
- List seven characteristics of art that are included in Leah's art.
- Identify the tools used by Leah.
- What themes from Leah's family and politics influence her art?
- What is the Métis style of painting?

## 5. Discussion Questions

- Name one art form that influenced Leah?
- What thoughts are taken into consideration when creating her art?
- What is the significance of using a black background?
- List the characteristics and principles of visual art; color, line, shape, value, form, texture and space, repetition, pattern, emphasis, contrast and most importantly balance. How does Leah provide balance in her art?
- Create an analysis of her art based on the artist's intention, cultural symbols, characteristics and principles.
- Analyze how visual art is influenced by personal, social, cultural and historical contexts.

## 6. References

Métis

[http://firstpeoplesofcanada.com/fp\\_metis/fp\\_metis5.html](http://firstpeoplesofcanada.com/fp_metis/fp_metis5.html)

Leah's Website

<http://leahyellowbird.com>