

Sarah Agaton Howes

Beadwork Artist Business Owner

Season 12 Episode 7 Starts at 10:46

1. Learning Objectives

Students learn about

- Artist are influenced by art they love
- American Indians influence many artists
- Artists are influenced by historical art forms, beading, weaving
- 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
- Social Commentary

3. Teacher's Quick Reference

House of Howes
Fond Du Lac Band of Ojibwe

House of Howes
Eighth Generation
Teacher
Community Organizer

Sarah started doing Ojibwe floral beadwork to supplement income.

She asked elders and community people where the floral designs come from.

Sara learned that the designs occurred to record the information about medicine at a time when information about medicine could not be taught.

The bead designs teach and remind people what the medicine, leaf and flowers looks like.

Manidoo' minensikaan, the little spirit, is the name behind beadwork having to do with how it glows.

Sarah turns those design into things we wear now.

Sarah makes moccasins with the heart berry, Ode'immin.

The meaning behind the heart berry is heart medicine and healing.

Sarah teaches her skills and offers her products through her online business, House of Howes. She collaborates with Louie Gong with Eighth Generation.

This collaboration and Louie's mentorship was the start of a growing business.

Sarah's has a wool blanket that depicts the importance of wild rice, dogwood, wild plums, and strawberries. and the little dots represent the teaching about muskrats.

Blankets are our best gift.

4. Content Review

- What type of art is this?
- What materials are used?
- What cultural influence do you notice in Sarah's art?
- Name three Ojibwe cultural references that are included in her work.
- What are some personal themes found in Sarah's art?
- Beadwork was a way to teach about what important aspect of Ojibwe culture?
- List the two Ojibwe words Sarah teaches in her interview?
- What are the symbols in her wool blanket and why did Sarah choose those?
- Summarize the information about Sarah's art and business.

5. Discussion Questions

- Why is the heart berry so important in Sarah's work?
- What purpose is there to recreate beadwork art on to wearable items?
- What thoughts are taken into consideration when creating her art?
- What are there intersections between cultures in her art?

- List the Characteristics and principles of visual art; color, line, shape, value, form, texture and space, repetition, pattern, emphasis, contrast and most importantly balance.
- Create an analysis of his 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

Sarah Agaton Howes
House of Howes
<https://houseofhowes.com/>

The Eighth Generation
<https://eighthgeneration.com/>
<https://eighthgeneration.com/pages/sarah-agaton-howes-inspired-native>