

# Unit 5

Content Area: **Social Studies**  
Course(s):  
Time Period: **Generic Time Period**  
Length: **3 weeks**  
Status: **Published**

## Unit Introduction

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Fine Arts: A Nation is defined by many based on its achievements in the fine arts. Here we shall evaluate the historic and contemporary record of America in this area.

## Standards

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SOC.6.1.12.D.8.b	Assess the impact of artists, writers, and musicians of the 1920s, including the Harlem Renaissance, on American culture and values.
SOC.6.1.12.D.13.d	Determine the extent to which suburban living and television supported conformity and stereotyping during this time period, while new music, art, and literature acted as catalysts for the counterculture movement.
SOC.6.1.12.D.14.f	Determine the influence of multicultural beliefs, products (i.e., art, food, music, and literature), and practices in shaping contemporary American culture.
SOC.6.2.12.D.4.k	Assess the cultural impact of World War I, the Great Depression, and World War II by analyzing the values and social ideas in the arts.

## Essential Questions

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How influential has American architecture been during modern times?

Who would be considered among the great sculptors and artists in American cultural history?

What role should the government play in encouraging improvements and achievements within the fine arts?

What does the future portend for continued American achievement in these areas?

## Content / Skills

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Explore and explain architectural themes presented by Tom Wolfe in his book from Bauhaus to Our House.

Regarding the evolution and status of American architecture as well as art in *The Painted Word*.

Trace the development of American painting from portraits to landscape and impressionist and expressionist achievement, include here the Primitivism of Grandma Moses, the Hudson River Valley school of Art, Ashcan school of painting including among these, and the action painting of Jackson Pollock.

Identify and evaluate each of the following government efforts in relation to the fine arts: NRA, WPA, Federal Art Project, National Endowment for the Arts and the Humanities, and PBS.