Lesson Title: Mandalas and The U. S. Constitution- Equity of Opportunity to Reach a Higher Level

Subject Area(s): Visual Arts / Social Studies

Grade Level: 8

Author: Ginger May

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Massachusetts Standards, Objectives</th>
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<td><strong>Fine Arts Content Standard 8-</strong></td>
<td><strong>Standard USI.14 -</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Concepts of Style, Stylistic Influence, and Stylistic Change</td>
<td>Characteristics of American democracy</td>
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<th><strong>Fine Arts Objective(s):</strong></th>
<th><strong>Content Objective(s):</strong></th>
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<td>Demonstrate their understanding of styles, stylistic influence, and stylistic change by identifying when and where art works were created, and by analyzing characteristic features of art works from various historical periods, cultures, and genres.</td>
<td>Explain the characteristics of American democracy, including the concepts of popular sovereignty and constitutional government, which includes representative institutions, federalism, separation of powers, shared powers, checks and balances, and individual rights.</td>
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Objective(s)

Students will apply the Tibetan Buddhism concept of equal opportunity to reach a higher level as depicted in mandala design, to the development of the U. S. Constitution and its contents as example of democracy and equality among people, using a like mandala design.
Description of Lesson/Activities
Student will have participated in a prior review of the purpose and concept behind the Tibetan Buddhist Mandala. Students receive a basic mandala template. Students then develop designs with symbols that represent the characteristics of American democracy. Students will utilizing the four cardinal direction points, associated constitutional vocabulary and stakeholders identified in the U. S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights. Example: North, color- white, male property owners – House, building, dollar signs, the center = equality of rights.

Materials for Teacher
- Mandala examples -Tibetan and U.S. Government
- Mandala templates

Materials for Students
- Mandala templates
- variety of color media
- art paper
- vocabulary to generate ideas
- text, handouts
- symbol samples

Assessment Strategies
- rubrics- criteria:
  - use of Tibetan colors, black, red, green, white, blue
  - appropriate constitutional vocabulary
  - symbols representing stakeholders
  - thoughtful design

  - teacher observations
  - completion of task