

The Nine Forms of Art

Visual arts



Visual arts encompass creative compositions designed for observation. Subtypes of visual arts include paintings, drawings, photography, and sculpture. These subtypes communicate emotion and ideas through elements like color, shape, and form. Examples: *Mona Lisa*; Michelangelo's *David*; *The Persistence of Memory*; and *Migrant Mother*.

Applied arts blends everyday practicality with decorative design and human expression. Types of applied arts include architecture, graphic design, fashion, ceramics, and jewelry design. These forms of art are designed to be both functional and admired. Examples: William Morris's Strawberry Thief textile and Frank Lloyd Wright's Fallingwater.



Applied arts

Performing arts



Performing art comprises dynamic and creative physical expressions of art. It may be conveyed and enjoyed live or recorded. Performing arts eclipse theater, music, dance, film, and opera. Each is defined by famous artists and periods. Examples: Shakespearean theater, Romantic composers such as Beethoven, and the Golden Age of Hollywood.

Digital art is created and presented through digital means, such as software programs. It breaks boundaries surrounding traditional arts, providing instant global interaction. Notable digital artists include Beeple and Casey Reas. Digital art additionally covers a range of mediums. Examples: Pixel art, 3D modeling, AI art, and digital collages.



Digital art

Literary arts



Literary arts categorize the written form as art, including novels, short stories, and poetry. Writing stretches back into antiquity and is regarded as art because it communicates the human experience. Literature has additionally been shaped by notable figures and works. Examples: J.R.R. Tolkien, Robert Frost, *Pride & Prejudice* and *Frankenstein*.

Conceptual art breaks the conventional understanding of art by centering on idea and intent rather than composition and visual engagement. Artworks seek to provoke thought by challenging the viewer's expectations and inspire conversation or even debate. Examples: John Boskovich's Electric Fan and Marcel Duchamp's Fountain.



Conceptual art

Folk art



Folk art captures the convergence of culture, regional traditions, and art. Folk art is present across the world, characterizing the human experience according to one's surroundings. Examples: Russian Matryoshka dolls, Swedish Dala horses, Filipino taka, and Amish quilt art. Notable artists: Maud Lewis, Grandma Moses, and Pedro Linares.

Craft art refers to the creation of specialized items. All art communicates skills, but craft is a distinct type of art because it highlights mastery and unique compositions. These compositions may or may not be functional as well, overlapping with applied arts. Examples of craft artists: George Nakashima, Anni Albers, Sarah Zapata, and Beth Lipman.



Crafts

Martial arts



Martial arts is an art form encompassing combative styles. It is comparable to performing art as it uses the body as well as rhythm and choreography to convey ideas. Not all styles of martial arts are regarded as an art form, but the purposeful movements and visual aesthetics are creative in nature. Examples: Kung fu, judo, karate, and kendo.