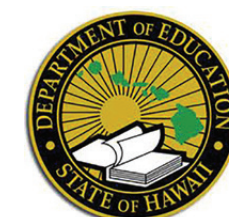




**ART IS A POWERFUL
PATHWAY FOR LEARNING**

Anders Elias Jorgensen
Danish (1838-1876)
View of Honolulu from Punchbowl,
1875, Oil on canvas

**Honolulu
Museum
of Art**



Teachers *Teaching* Teachers
THE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER
AT HANAHAU'OLI SCHOOL
Endowed by the
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Curriculum Connections

Visual Thinking Strategies (VTS)

Simple ways to engage with art

Visual Thinking Strategies (VTS) is an approach that encourages students to look closely, to inquire and to develop insights grounded in evidence from the artwork. VTS works well as a first step towards exploring an artwork.

In this simple but powerful method, the teacher facilitates a discussion using the following questions:

What is going on in this painting?

What do you see that makes you say that?

What more can you find?

As students discuss these questions, the teacher acknowledges student thinking by paraphrasing and thanking them for their comments. The teacher may also point to relevant portions of the artwork as students talk to help to strengthen the connection between statements and the “visual text.”

Arts Integration

To go beyond VTS and connect artwork to your classroom curriculum, you can use these more directed prompts.

Science Connections

One of the Crosscutting Concepts in the Next Generation Science Standards is Stability and Change. Think of what the landscape in the painting looks like today.

How has the landscape in the painting changed over time?

What caused those changes to occur?

What still looks the same today as it does in the painting?

Why have those things not changed?

Social Studies Connections

The C3 Framework for Social Studies asks students to explore how social and economic forces impact the geography of places where we live over time.

How have human activities affected how Honolulu has changed?

How have political and economic decisions influenced the cultural and environmental characteristics of this scene over time?

Who should decide how public spaces change?

ELA Connections

One of the anchor standards in the Common Core asks students to analyze how two or more texts address similar themes or topics in order to build knowledge or to compare the approaches the author takes.

Read the descriptions of the artist and of the artwork on the right side of this page.

How does hearing or reading about the painting add to your understanding?

What more do you know now?

Fine Arts Connections

The arts provide a way for students to envision things they cannot directly observe, including past and future events. Following discussion of the painting, try these prompts with your students to encourage visualization.

Paint a picture of what this landscape may have looked like before humans arrived on O’ahu.

Paint a picture of what this view may look like 100 years from now.



The Artist:

Anders Elias Jorgensen

Danish artist Elias Jorgensen visited Hawai’i while on vacation in 1875, from his home in Oakland, California. He was captivated by the charm of the islands and decided to stay awhile, sending for his easel and sketchbooks so that he could sketch the scenery in and around Honolulu.

The Artwork:

This view looks beyond the crumbling remains of old Punchbowl Fort, to Waikiki and Diamond Head. Then as now, the rim of Punchbowl Crater was famous for superb panoramic views. The ribbon-like road below leads past pastures, ponds, and marshy areas to the palm-fringed-shores of Waikiki. Occasional signs of habitation are visible along the way, but the area would not be developed until artesian wells were drilled a few years later. The fort was put up early in the century to defend Honolulu. Its cannons were never called upon to fire a shot, other than to salute incoming vessels or to record royal births, deaths, and marriages.

Teacher Resources

For related resources and projects, visit honolulumuseum.org/learn

See Art Make Art Tour: The Great Outdoors

Bring your students to the Honolulu Museum of Art to see real landscape paintings like this in its guided school tour The Great Outdoors. Students can see how artists documented our changing world, then create their own landscapes, seascapes and cityscapes.

Lending Collection

You can check out thousands of authentic objects from the museum’s Lending Collection free of charge for classroom use.

For example, you can borrow a cannonball to help bring to life the Punchbowl Fort depicted in this poster. Cannonballs from the fort weighed 32 pounds and may have been able to reach Honolulu Harbor more than a mile away.

**Call the Lending Collection at:
808.532.8736**



**Tour information and registration online:
[honolulumuseum.org/
pages/13820-great_outdoors](http://honolulumuseum.org/pages/13820-great_outdoors)**



**Learn more at
HawaiiPublicSchools.org**