2017 Standard Setting Sample

2-D Design Sustained Investigation (Concentration) Score 3

Image	Dimensions	Media
1	12 x 13	acrylic
2	15 x 20	acrylic
3	15 x 20	acrylic
4	24 x 24	oil, acrylic
5	10 x 15	acrylic
6	20 x 15	acrylic
7	15 x 20	watercolor
8	8 x 11	pencil, Prismacolor
9	8 x 11	pencil
10	14 x 14	acrylic
11	15 x 15	acrylic
12	11 x 8	Prismacolor, pen

Sustained Investigation (Concentration) Statement

1. The central idea of my concentration is simplicity in beauty. I wanted to create something that was simple and clean, but at the same time was very evident in detail. I enjoy and find my strengths are painting things of nature, such as flowers, plants, and animals, so I wanted to incorporate these things in my concentration pieces.

2. The work in my concentration demonstrates the exploration of my idea in that all the pieces are connected to nature; it might be actual organic nature, such as the leaves in #1, or the deer in #3, or even human emotion in #11, but they are all connected in the raw beauty of nature. However, I didn't want to simply paint or draw just any landscape or plant, I wanted to somehow stand out from the rest of the canvas or board I used to paint on. Which is why, such as in the first three paintings, there is typically a white background, providing an almost unfinished or "beauty in simplicity" feeling to it.

Rationale for Score

- The body of work demonstrates an uneven connection with the stated topic of simplicity in beauty and nature. Images 9, 11, and 12 present little evidence of a connection to this theme. Broad topics can be challenging to explore in a focused manner, leading to works that appear loosely related. A more specific idea and/or more careful selection of work presented could clarify the relationships of concepts and visual forms.

- The work demonstrates a moderate understanding of 2-D Design principles. There is inconsistency within the compositions. For example, in images 2 and 8 the negative space appears to be unconsidered. The work shown in images 4 and 7, on the other hand, uses a construct that activates compositional space effectively.

- The theme of a simple aesthetic inspired by nature is discernible and potentially engaging. It is more successful when the student focuses on the enactment of textural surfaces, as in image 6, or within the harmonious composition of image 7. A sense of discovery is difficult to discern.

- Emerging technical competence is observed in images 11 and 12. Works in images 1, 8, 9, and 10 show a limited range of values. Application of color and blending is more successful in image 6.

- The work shows some originality when unexpected elements appear, such as in image 3, but many other images don't convey innovation in concept or execution.