

Vocabulary

for Cromática by Tania Candiani

Some of the most important words and concepts the exhibition focuses on:

Artisan:

An artisan is someone who is very skilled at a particular craft or trade, usually something that is handmade. Someone who makes pots and bowls out of clay is an artesian, as well as someone who weaves cloth or rugs out of thread and fiber. If something is made by hand it is artisanal, like a hat, or even food. Some artisanal crafts are passed down as tradition in families and communities and become a part of their culture.

Archeology:

Archeology is the study of human history. Archeologists, people who study archeology, look at what people and civilizations leave behind. The physical objects people leave behind are artifacts. Some artifacts could be a very old building, tools, pottery, and jewelry. Archeologists look at artifacts to better understand people and communities that no longer exist.

Technology:

Technology is the tool and knowledge a group of people use in their daily lives. It is machinery or equipment people need to live and create things. Technology can be lots of things; fork and knife are kinds of technology, and so is a school bus and smartphone.

Ancestor:

An ancestor is a family member who you descend from and are directly related to through parenthood. Your ancestors are your mom, your grandfather, and even your grandfather's great, great, great grandmother. Everyone has ancestors, even if they do not know them.

Indigenous:

Someone or something that is indigenous is the first person or thing to exist in a place or region. An indigenous person is someone who continues to live in the same region their family originated from. An indigenous plant is a plant that grows in the place it first appeared in.

If someone or something is not indigenous, it means that they or their ancestors traveled from one place to another, and are not native to the region.

Sensory:

A sensory experience is something that you can feel with your physical senses. These senses are what you can see, feel, hear, taste, and smell. When you feel a soft blanket, that is a sensory experience, and when you hear a bird that is also a sensory experience.

Sensory experiences can make you feel good, like smelling a flower, or can make you feel bad like hearing a scary noise.

Synesthesia:

Synesthesia is when you have sensory experiences that blend together. Some people always have synesthesia, which means that things like what they hear, taste, smell, and see are mixed together. For instance, a dog's bark could be seen as red, or the number four could taste like peanut butter. Usually, synesthesia happens without a person thinking about it, but it can be explored in art by blending sound, sight, and experiences together so everyone experiences similar sensory experiences. An example of this would be someone pairing a specific song with a painting. Everyone sees the painting and hears the song at the same time, these two sensory experiences are connected to tell one story.

Primary colors:

The primary colors are Red, Blue, and Yellow. These colors are unable to be made by mixing other colors. Every other color, like orange, green and purple, is made by mixing the primary colors.

Blue:

Blue is the color between violet and green on the color wheel, the color of the sky, water and some people's eyes . In western cultures, blue is often viewed as the color of peace, inspiration, and faith. Other times, when people say I feel "blue" it means they feel sad and gloomy. In Spanish, the word blue translates to "azul." The word Azul originates from the Arabic word "lapis lazuli" which is a beautiful blue stone.

Red:

Red is the color next to orange and opposite to violet on the color wheel. Red is viewed as the color of passion, love, anger, and adventure in Western cultures. Red gained these associations because it is seen in powerful, extreme forces, like lava, fire, and blood. In China and Japan, red is associated with good luck. The word red came originally from the old English word reudh-, which is also the root of the words rust and ruby. In Spanish, "rojo" means red.

Yellow:

Yellow is the color between orange and green on the color wheel. It is the color of sunflowers, lemons, and bananas. In western societies, yellow is the color of creativity, happiness, and wisdom. Yellow is derived from the old English word geolwe, which the words "gold" and "yell" also come from. In Spanish, yellow translates to "amarillo".

Natural dye:

Natural dyes are fabric colorants that come from sources in nature, like plants, minerals, or animals. Archeologists have found evidence that humans have been using natural dyes to color textiles for thousands of years. Today most of our dyes are synthetic, meaning they are chemicals that have been made by scientists, but natural dyes are still an effective way to color fabric.

Indigo:

Indigo is a natural dye that comes from plants called "Indigofera." This dye was most common in India and areas in West and South Asia, where the Indigofera plant grew well and was exported all over the world. For a long time blue dye was very rare in places it wasn't native too, and that made it a luxury item for wealthy people. Today, synthetic indigo is used to dye blue jeans.

Cochineal:

The cochineal is a small insect native to South America and the southern part of North America. It lives on cacti, often the prickly pear cactus, one you may have seen in Albuquerque. You can brush off this bug and crush it to make a red dye called "Carmine." This dye is commonly used today, in lipstick, and sometimes food.

Tradition:

A tradition is a behavior, belief, or way to do something that is passed down from person to person in different families and cultures. Usually, tradition is generational, meaning it is passed down from the old people to young people, so it can continue throughout time. Traditional knowledge is information and skills that older generations teach younger generations. Cultures are often formed by the practice of traditions.

Embroidery:

Embroidery is when an artesian uses a needle to weave a piece of thread through a textile. This process can create intricate, or detailed, designs onto a piece of fabric.

Loom:

A loom is a tool that people use to make textiles by weaving thread or yarn. Textiles are clothes or fabrics, like clothing or different rugs.