LESSON 2
Romero Britto
Symbolism
Neo-Pop Artwork
LESSONS OVERVIEW
Students will learn about the artist Romero Britto and his neo-pop style of art that includes cubism, pop art and graffiti painting. Students will also learn about symbolism and how it is represented in art. Talking about symbols of America such as the American Flag, Statue of Liberty and a bald eagle, students will discuss why these symbols represent aspects of the United States. Students will then create their own bald eagle in the style of Romero Britto.

INSTRUCTIONAL OBJECTIVES
Students will:
• Learn about Romero Britto and his style of art.
• Learn about symbolism and how it is reflected in art.
• Brainstorm American symbols.
• Create a bald eagle in the style of Britto.
• Use oil pastels.

SUPPLIES
• Images of Romero Britto’s artwork.
• Samples of student renditions of Britto’s art.
• Bald eagle references.
• Pastels, pencils and erasers.
• Black papers and scratch paper.
• Oil pastels.

ROMERO BRITTO

ABOUT ROMERO BRITTO
Romero Britto (1963- present), born in Brazil, is known for his neo-pop artwork. A self taught artist, Britto “combines elements of cubism, pop art and graffiti painting in his work, using vibrant colors and bold patterns as a visual expression of hope and happiness”. Later, Britto moved to the USA where Pop Art was flourishing at the time. Since 1989 Britto has worked with multiple companies on their logos such as Disney and Pepsi that helped his career flourish. Learn More.
1. Begin by discussing symbolism. ‘Symbolism is the practice or art of using an object or a word to represent an abstract idea. An action, person, place, word, or object can all have a symbolic meaning. When someone wants to suggest a certain mood or emotion, they can also use symbolism to hint at it, rather than just blatantly saying it’ [http://examples.yourdictionary.com/examples-of-symbolism.html](http://examples.yourdictionary.com/examples-of-symbolism.html). For example, if someone is in love, a symbol would be a heart.

2. Brainstorm symbols for the USA. Discuss the American Flag, red, white and blue colors, a bald eagle etc.

3. Introduce Romero Britto and his neo pop style of art. Through samples of his art, show and discuss how Britto uses symbolism. Also show how other students have created art in Britto's style.

4. Tell students that they will be creating their own version of a bald eagle as a symbol for America in the style of Britto. Give students scratch paper and black paper. Have photo references of bald eagles available.

5. Have students practice on scratch paper to decide on their image. When ready, each student will draw their bald eagle with pencil on the black paper. Once the image is defined, students will make 3-5 lines over their image (see samples). They will use red, white and blue pastels to fill in the shapes that were created by the lines they drew.

6. Students may create different patterns in the eagle shapes and those of the background in the style of Britto.

7. Once the art is completed, have students go back with a black pastel and outline all of the shapes they have made.
KEY IDEAS THAT CONNECT TO VISUAL ARTS CORE CURRICULUM:
Based on Utah State Visual Arts Core Curriculum Requirements
(3rd Grade) Click on links to see more.

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ADDITIONAL REFERENCES
Click on links to learn more.

- [http://www.britto.com/portuguese/front/fineartprints](http://www.britto.com/portuguese/front/fineartprints)
- [http://thetalkingwallsmurals.blogspot.com/2013/05/romero-britto.html](http://thetalkingwallsmurals.blogspot.com/2013/05/romero-britto.html)