Developing 4 Pieces of Work with PROGRESSION under a Theme – an Example of Process

**Development** involves:
- appraising artwork and transforming the constructed knowledge to art making
- developing ideas and considering ways of presentation
- developing images
- experimenting with media and skills
- reflection and showing the learning progression

There are different ways to build a portfolio. Students attempting the HKDSE Visual Arts could make reference to the following example of process.

**A theme** is an area of interest and a focus of study for you to develop a body of 4 pieces of inter-related work. You should stay with the same theme throughout the whole portfolio.

A theme could be broad and may be related to personal issues, social issues or the nature. To create meaningful works, a theme should have a strong personal link.

Your theme may be inspired by personal feelings, your surroundings, people, books, newspaper, internet and artworks.

No matter what theme you have chosen, it should be explored from different perspectives through researching.

**After determining a theme,** you could:
- generate ideas and key messages for you to convey through artwork or critical studies
- appraise others' artworks to help you develop your own works
- explore ways of presentation
- develop images
- experiment with media and skills for presenting your ideas

Create your 1st piece of work after the process of researching, thinking, as well as trial and error.

**Please note:**
- In the research workbook, you ONLY need to include your "art appreciation and criticism", and artwork which help you build your portfolio, even though you may have appraised different artworks or created visual journals for different purposes.
- In the portfolio, you should show your reflection and PROGRESSION OF LEARNING IN VISUAL ARTS, even though you would reflect on different aspects of learning from time to time.

**After the completion of your 1st piece of work,** you may ask yourself:
- Is the work able to convey the message that I intended to express?
- If not, what are the areas of improvement?
- In the next piece, how can I improve to express my idea more effectively?

For example, you may improve your skills of using the medium or visual elements, refine the composition or the content, modify the idea or the way of expression, or select another medium that can enhance communication of the message.

- If I am happy with the 1st piece of work, what do I learn from it?
- How does it inspire me to proceed to the next piece of work with the same theme?
- What ideas related to the selected theme emerged?

You may be inspired by the images, the way of expression, the medium, etc. and then determine which aspect you are going to show your progression for developing the next piece of work.

**When proceeding to the 2nd piece of work,** you could make use of the knowledge and information researched in the previous stage of idea development.

If needed, SUPPLEMENT it with new information, knowledge or skills through exploration of medium, appreciation of artwork, development of images, modification of the way of expression, or even extending your idea of the same theme.

**Please note:**
- There is NO NEED to repeat the whole process of idea development for every piece of work.

After the completion of the 2nd piece of work, you could ask yourself the same questions and apply the process as you proceed from the 1st piece to the 2nd piece of work.

The process could be applied to proceeding from the 2nd to the 3rd piece of work, and from the 3rd to the 4th piece of work.

Since the next piece of work is derived from its preceding work, the 4 pieces of work should be INTER-RELATED of the same theme. IMPROVEMENT and PROGRESSION OF LEARNING should be shown in the 2nd, 3rd and 4th pieces of work.

Arts Education Section, Curriculum Development Institute, Education Bureau