

About the Butterfly Images

The dance, dramatic arts, music, and visual arts education butterflies serve both as a metaphor for arts learning and as a graphic organizer, as described in the Manitoba Grades 9 to 12 arts education curriculum frameworks.

As a metaphor, the butterflies allude to transformation, aesthetics, and resilience. The butterflies also suggest emergence and generative learning that features creative, critical, and ethical thinking.

As a graphic organizer, the butterfly image represents four wings, or four distinct but interconnected learning areas, and a main body. All four wings work in synchronicity with each other to give meaning, significance, and purpose to arts learning. The body of the butterfly represents the developing arts learner who draws on all wings of the butterfly to take flight through the active, participatory arts landscape.

About the Landscape Images

The landscape images that appear on the cover of this guide and elsewhere in the Grades 9 to 12 arts education resources serve as a metaphor for current understandings about curriculum and learning contexts.

Curriculum as landscape conveys the complexities and dynamic qualities of organic and authentic fields of learning. Learning is always in the process of being constructed. As students travel through the arts learning landscape, curricular learnings represented by the wings of each butterfly are developed, recombined, elaborated, and transformed.

The Manitoba landscape images place the arts education curriculum butterflies within the unique and diverse settings, contexts, and communities found in this province. The landscapes represent relational space where administrators, educators, and students interact and learn together in the complex, living field of arts education. The learning landscape provides multiple entry points and offers various trajectories along which students journey, leading to lifelong travels in arts education.

The panoramic Manitoba landscape photographs (Winnipeg Skyline, Near Niverville, Poplar Bay, and Little Saskatchewan River Valley) are used with the kind permission of © Stan Milosevic.

Manitoba Education and Training acknowledges the efforts of many educators and administrators who have collaborated to create this guide and the accompanying resources so that the arts education butterfly and learner can take flight and flourish within the Manitoba learning landscape.