



The theme for Visual Art this year is Cultural Fusion. While creating this poster, I was determined to incorporate as many elements from different countries and cultures around the world as possible, in order to make the piece a literal manifestation of cultural fusion.

I was particularly inspired by a certain style of Arab collage art in the process of working on this poster.

At the forefront of the poster is a person, put together from pictures of people from different cultural backgrounds and ethnicities. This is meant to symbolise that culture stems from people, and that humans have been and will always continue to become a core part of culture around the world. The elements chosen in the poster not only signify cultural fusion from an ethnic perspective, but also cultural fusion through the course of several years, including internet culture, which is represented by the heart icons and the mouse pointer.

The Leaning Tower of Pisa, Pyramids of Giza, and the red telephone booth represents cultural diversity in terms of geography and architecture. Paintings such as Michelangelo's *Creation of Adam* and Hokusai's *The Great Wave off Kanagawa* also fuse together cultures in terms of artists and art styles. Culturally significant animals across different cultures, such as a snake - which is important in certain parts of Indian culture, as well as plays a role in Christian symbolism; a panda, which is the national animal of China; and the magpie, which is important in Native American culture, Hindu mythology, and Celtic lore. For this poster, these animals can also be considered as examples of cultural fusion in the sense that they symbolize different things in different cultures.

Plants/food that are important in different cultures have also been included in the poster, such as sushi, an iconic Japanese dish; bamboo, which gives China the nickname "Kingdom of Bamboo"; croissants, introduced under Marie Antoinette's rule in France, and has grown to become a staple baked good in the country; and a banana leaf, which is a key part of Hindu, Buddhist, and numerous other Southeast Asian cultures.

*This poster was made entirely using Adobe Photoshop 2023.*