



Street Art in Baltimore: A Catalyst for Change

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Suggested Learning Objectives

- Examine the place of street art and location in urban communities.
- Explain how population demography and distribution affect society and the environment.
- Policy influence on population composition across space.
- Consider the implications of urban beautification through murals and other art.
- Explain how a community's access to resources enables certain forms of cultural production.
- Consider the politics of space and how "protest art" enable communities to reclaim space.

Suggested Unit Pairing

Unit 1: Thinking Geographically

Unit 2: Population and Migration Patterns and Processes

Unit 3: Cultural Patterns and Processes

Unit 4: Political Patterns and Processes

Unit 6: Cities and Urban Land-Use Patterns and Processes

Discussion Questions

- What role does geographic and census data play in visualizing racially divided spaces?
- What is the difference between street art and graffiti? What is the authors' definition of what constitutes "street art"? How would you define street art?
- How does street art in a community reflect cultural landscapes and patterns?
- Is it possible to draw a relationship between art, space, and politics? How so?
- How do political and cultural boundaries relate to one another?
- One of the artists interviewed for this article "believes that street art can be used as a tool to facilitate productive conversations and foster empowerment and transformative change." What is the relationship between artwork, the context in which it is presented, and the intended audience? Does it matter who produces this art and for whom?

Further Reading

Race, policing, and history of segregation in Baltimore

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Protest art and street murals

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