

The Methacton Art Department Proudly Presents: Youth Art Month Celebration

**Inspired art students creating and
developing in the visual arts K-12**

Students answer the question: “Why is art important?”



Art Connects Us

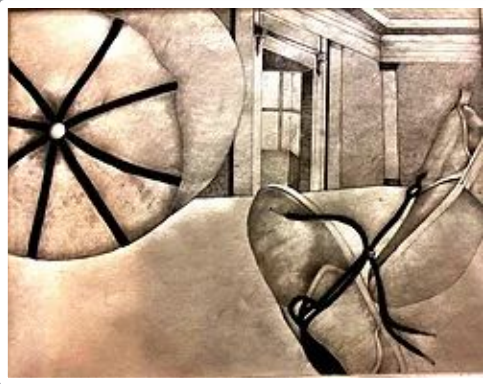
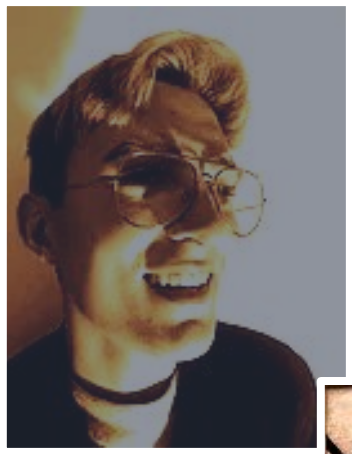


Started in 1961 through The Art & Creative Materials Institute, Inc. (ACMI), Youth Art Month exists to:

1. Recognize art education as a viable factor in the total education curricular that develops citizens of a global society.
2. Recognize art is a necessity for the full development of better quality of life for all.
3. Direct attention to the value of art education for divergent and critical thinking.
4. Expand art programs in schools and stimulate new art programs.
5. Encourage commitment to the arts by students, community organizations, and individuals everywhere.
6. Provide additional opportunities for individuals of all ages to participate in creative art learning.
7. Increase community, business and governmental support for art education.
8. Increase community understanding and interest in art and art education through involvement in art exhibits, workshops, and other creative ventures.
9. Reflect and demonstrate the goals of the National Art Education Association that work toward the improvement of art education at all levels.

Why is art important?

An artful sonnet by Ben
Cunningham 11th grade



Darkness and light, once blurs on the background,
The result of a youthful, growing mind,
Observing the artwork, learning my way around,
Finding myself lost in a one-of-a-kind,
Being proud of the few scribbles on the notebook
page,
Shredding the artwork in an act of madness,
Processing the limits of my rage,
Then watching myself cry in silence and sadness,
Lost in the dense forestry of my today,
Questioning my artistic ability, my authenticity,
The artistic interpretation of why he didn't stay,
But maybe I avoided him, a test of complicity,
And you taught me to explore such emotion,
Sharing your life of artistic devotion.

Methacton High School

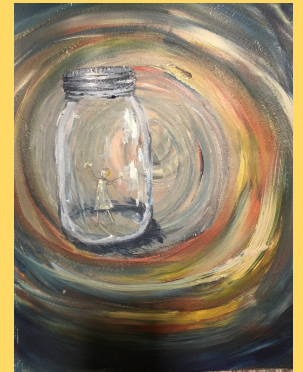
Why is Art Important?



Devon Petrei

11th grade

“Because it gives kids a chance to think freely and allows for more than one answer instead of a regular test.”



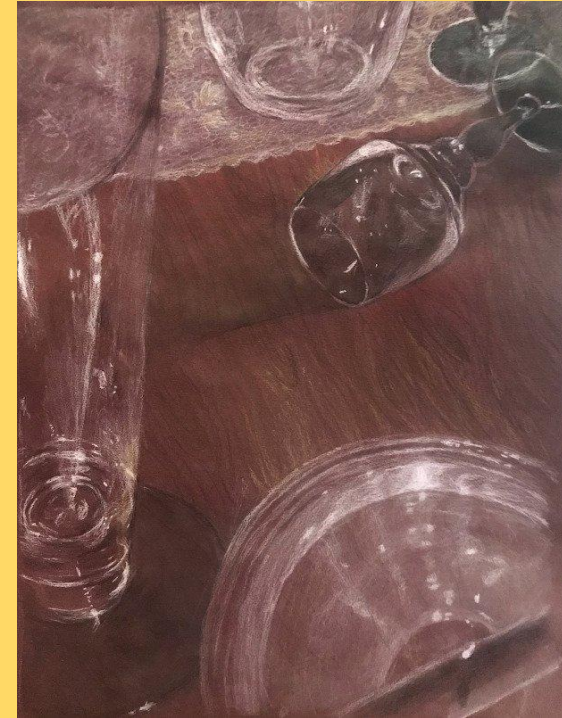
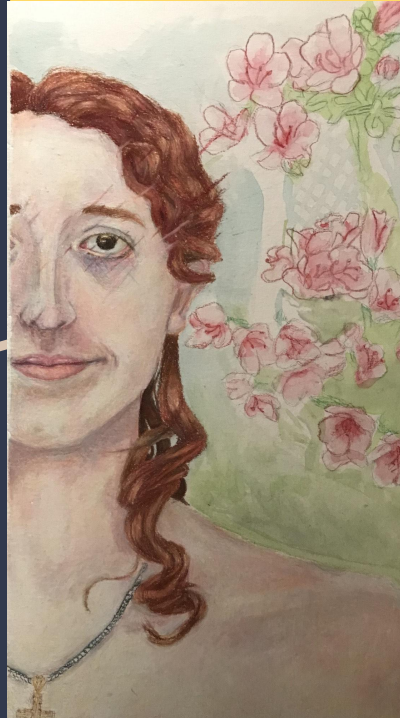
Methacton High School

Why is Art Important?

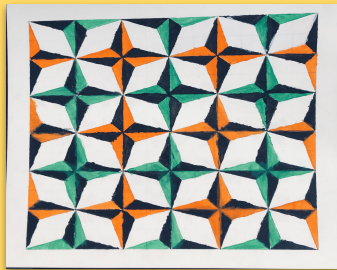


Caitlyn Lipton
12th Grade

"Art is important to me because after studying at Albright University, I want to become an art teacher."

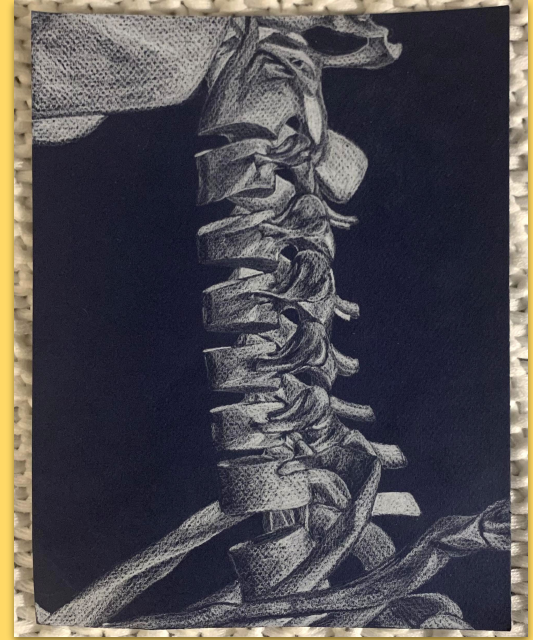
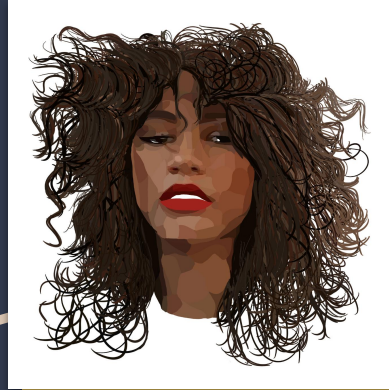
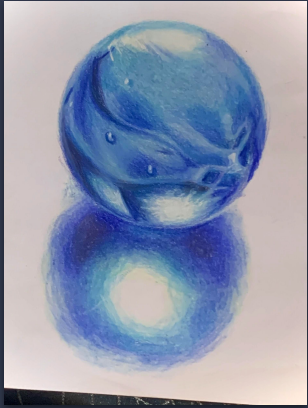


Methacton High School



I use art to find happiness and peace of mind.
– Teresa Otto 11th grade

Methacton High School



Many people think that art is for the talented few, but this really isn't the case – art is what the artist chooses to create.

– Hannah Taylor 11th grade

Methacton High School

"I chose to take an art class because I am the type of person that likes to get hands on, so taking an art class is a great way of being hands on with what I am working on and it is also a great way of being able to express myself within the art piece."

-Amy Nguyen



-Abanoub Morkos



"It can improve my creativity which can possibly help me in the future with solving problems in creative ways."

-Jacob Gorczyca



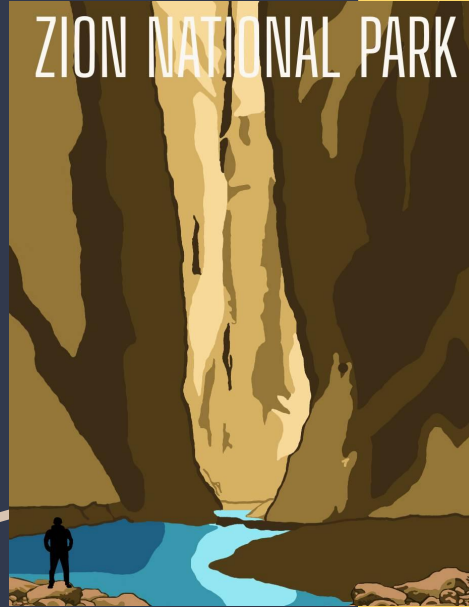
"Art is important because it lets your mind be free and be creative."

-Tori Rosen

Methacton High School



"Art makes people happy and feel good."
-Ruby Murray



"I may not be a full-fledged artist, but I do have some interest in art."

-Gino Davis



"I chose to take an art class because I am the type of person that likes to get hands on, so taking an art class is a great way of being hands on with what I am working on and it is also a great way of being able to express myself within the art piece."
-Amy Nguyen

Methacton High School



"Learning about art is important to grow as a person and to grow in your own personal art and style."

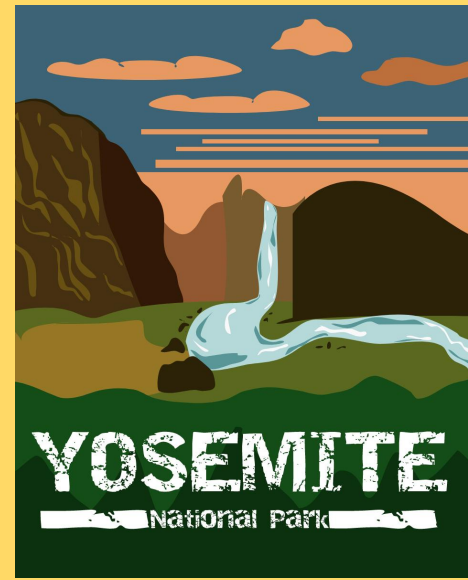
-Catherine Connolly



Charlie D'Orazio



Lauren Pensabene



"Learning about art is important because it can help us to better certain aspects of ourselves or help us to realize what we like."

-Raina Yeager

Methacton High School



Adelaide Novaia



Stella Kolimago



"I chose this class for a reason and it was to do more ceramics, but also to take a second for myself which it gave me."

-Anna Rees

Think Children Don't Need ART In the 21st Century?

THINK AGAIN!

An Arts Education Teaches Children To...

Collaborate & Cooperate

- Work Together
 - Understand Their Actions Affect Others
 - Realize Even Small Contributions Have Value
- Compromise for Common Goal
 - Take Responsibility for Mistakes
 - Share responsibility
 - Realize Their Contribution is Important to the Success of the Group
 - Realize Mistakes Happen

Communicate

- Receive Constructive Feedback
 - Develop Language By Talking About Art & Describing Creations
 - Improve Skills Through Evaluation
- Communicate Different Emotions
 - Realize Feedback is a Part of Learning
 - Breakdown the Mechanics of Body Language
 - Portray a Character Effectively
- Interpret Visual Information
 - Experience Different Ways of Moving

Be Creative

- Think on Their Feet
 - Develop a Sense of Innovation
 - Take Creative Risks
 - Practice Creative Thinking Until it Becomes Natural
 - Be Original!
- Approach Tasks From Different Perspectives
 - Interweave Ideas Into New Possibilities

Organize

- Concentrate & Focus
 - Keep a Balance Between Listening & Contributing
- Develop Motor Skills
 - Think About Their Role & How It Contributes To the Big Picture of What is Being Created

"We live in an age when the most valuable asset any economy can have is the ability to be creative—to spark and imagine new ideas, be they Broadway tunes, great books, iPads or new cancer drugs."
—Thomas Friedman, New York Times, August 4, 2010

Problem-Solve

- To Keep an Open Mind
 - Explore Further Info
 - Move Forward to New Insight & Understanding
- Have Decision-Making Skills
 - Develop Skills in Reasoning & Understanding
 - Be Attentive to Details, of Perceptions & Ideas

Self-Direct

- Persevere!
 - Practice Follow-Through
 - Improve Academic Performance
- Develop Healthy Work Habits

Be Socially Responsible

- Act Responsibly With The Interests of the Larger Community in Mind
 - Understand Choices Artists & Designers Make
- Know & Appreciate Diverse Societies
 - Interpret & Evaluate Others' Perceptions of Reality

Be Fluent With Technology

- Develop Information & Media Literacy Skills
 - Utilize Today's Digital & Social Media As An Appropriate Vehicle For Their Message (Computers, iPads, Video, Digital Cameras, and more!)
- Create Information in a Variety of Forms & Media

Reasons:

Burton, Judith M. "The Configuration of Meaning: Learning-Related Art Education Revisited." *Studies in Art Education: A Journal of Issues and Education*. 2000. Web. 6 Nov 2013.

"List of 21st Century Skills." *CAS 21st Century CAS Commission on Professional Development WML*. n.d. Web. 1 Nov 2013.

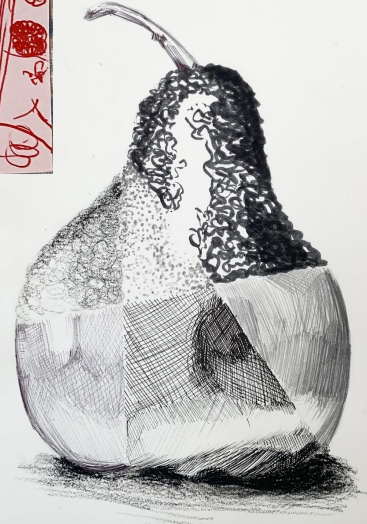
Lynch, Grace Hwang. "The Importance of Art in Child Development." *NPS Parents: The NPS Foundation*. n.d. Web. 4 Nov 2013.

Strauss, Valerie. "Top 10 Skills Children Learn From The Arts." *The Washington Post*. 30 Jan 2013. Web. 4 Nov 2013.

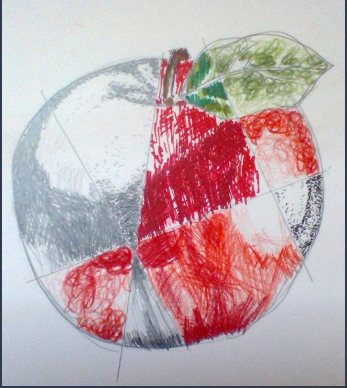
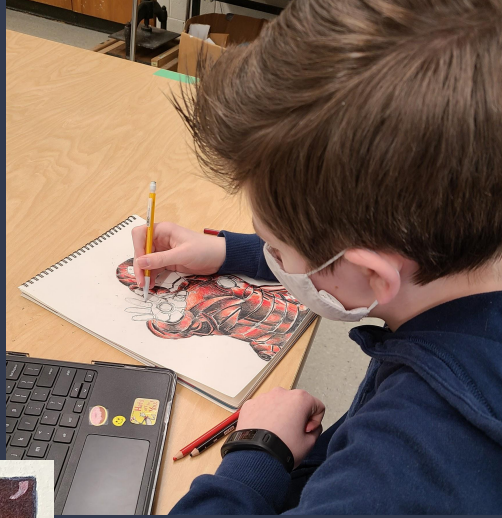
"The Visual Arts: So Much More Than What You See." *NAEA*. n.d. Pamphlet.

Arcola Middle School

Art is important
because it is all
around us.



Art is important because
it allows the artist to
freely express themselves
without feeling confined
to put their feelings into
words.
-Maggie P.



Arcola Middle School



ART CAN ACT AS A TIME CAPSULE OF HOW SOMEONE WAS FEELING IN THAT TIME BUT IT CAN ALSO TELL US ABOUT HISTORY. I LIKE TO CREATE ANYTHING WITH NO GUIDELINES. ANYTHING WHERE THE ONLY RULE IS TO NOT FOLLOW ANY RULES.



Arcola Middle School

7th Grade



Why is Art Class Important?

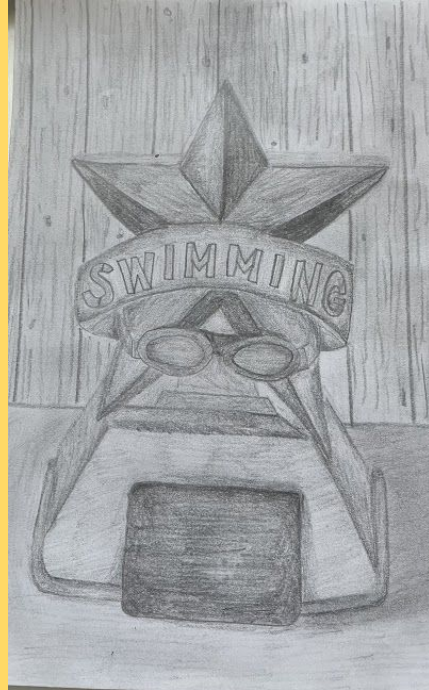
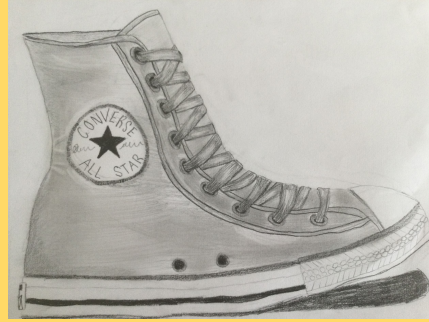
“Art class is important because it is a safe space where kids can fully express themselves in a safe environment where we can develop our brain.” -Eva R.

Arcola Middle School

8th Grade

Why is Art Important?

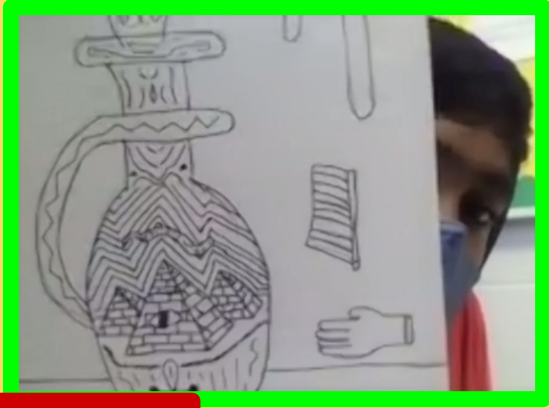
"It can help you see into someone's mind. You can see what the artist was feeling when they drew it, took the picture, painted it, or what have you. It can also be used as a coping mechanism, or just a way to express yourself." -Mandi C.



ART
MAKES CHILDREN
POWERFUL

5th Grade

Skyview Upper Elementary



Why do you like making art?

I like making art because because I can make anything I want, it's also really fun! I can also connect to my pieces I make, plus it calms me! -Lexie De Blasio

Because you can express your feelings on the paper

Because when im mad it helps me calm down.

I like making art because you get to be creative and there are no bad drawings! -Anna

Because it makes me feel calm and happy and if I have any worries they go away. (s - June L

I like making art because it is fun - Emma Ryan

I like using my imagination

Because I get to use my creativity and express myself. Dakota

Because it is just so satisfying when you finish -Ryan dubbs

I like making art because I love to explore possibilities.

it makes me feel happy and calm

you can do anything you want on a canvas/paper -Evelyn Carr

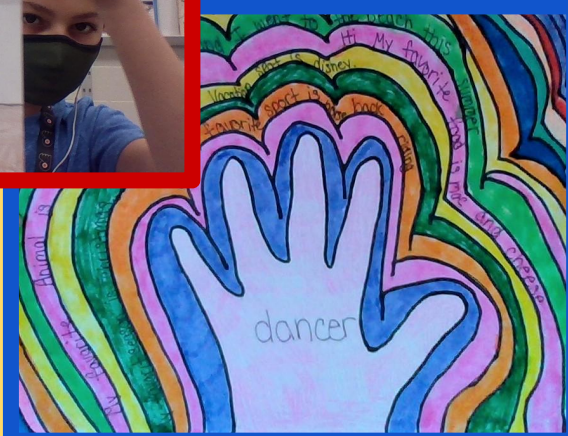
Drawing is fun!

Coloring can get me to be calm

Because you are finished have a peace that you

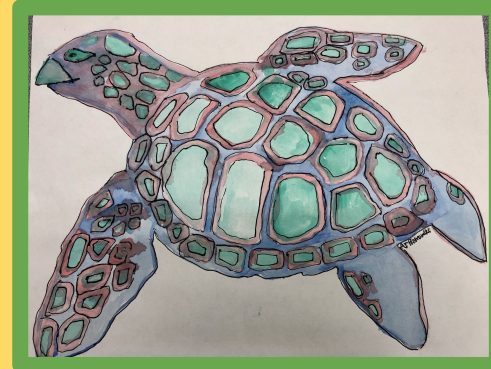
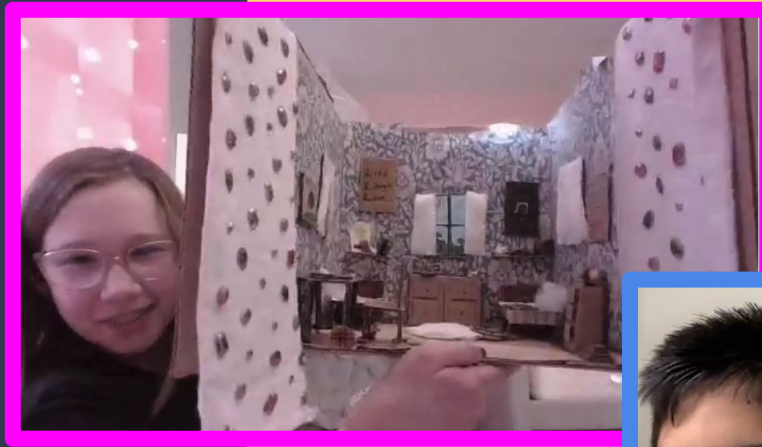
I like making art because i like using different shapes. i like drawing. -Nicolette Viti

I like art because you can express your feeling and it makes me feel calm. - Anya



5th Grade

Skyview Upper Elementary



6th Grade

Skyview Upper Elementary



Why is making art important to you?

It helps me with anxiety

Art helps me to be more creative

It helps my imagination

Making art to me is important because it helps me show my personality

It shows who I am and what I love to do

It shows your personality

Art allows me to be creative and experimental.

Art helps with my creative side

because my sister wants to be a artist and I want to show her anything is possible

It makes me feel great

Art shows my creative side

It expresses me

Art helps me express myself.

Helps you express yourself

Art is important to me because it expresses my feelings

It makes me have a bigger imagination.

making art is important to me because it calms me down and when you finish your piece of art it feels amazing because your hard work paid off and you are left with an amazing painting.

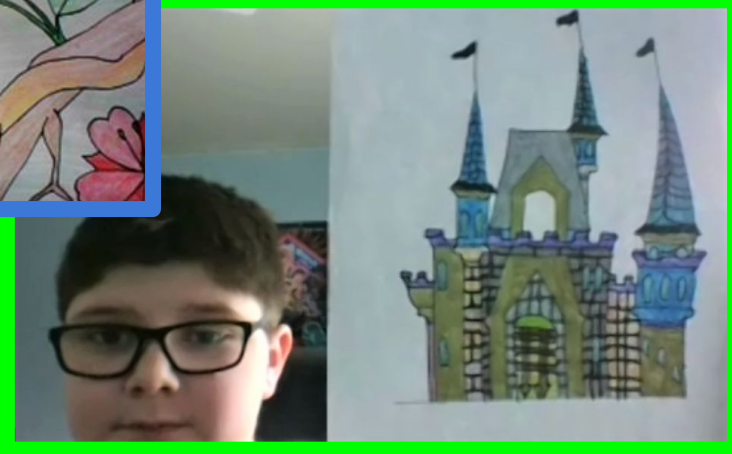
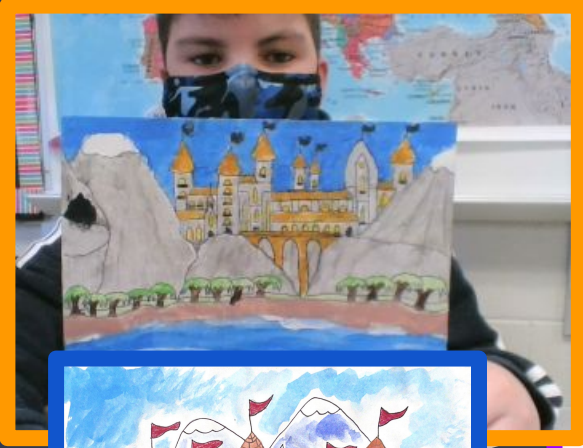
Making art is important to me because it shows my personality.

it helps me to be creative



6th Grade

Skyview Upper Elementary



Kids who participate
in the **ARTS**
develop:

Problem-Solving Abilities
Communication Proficiency
Pride
Tolerance
Physical Health
Focus
Collaborative Skills
Inspiration
Memory
Improved
Commitment
Dexterity
Spatial Acuity
Finesse
Confidence
Healthy Risk-Taking
Passion

What more could you ask for?



Arrowhead Elementary

"I love art because it expresses who I am."
Anna

"Art is important for me because it helps me feel relaxed." Anika

"Art is important to me because it helps me express creativity." Lydia

"Art is important to me because it helps me be free and creative!"
Elizabeth

"Art is important because no one can judge your art." Emma

"Art is important to me because it helps me zone out and forget all my sad thoughts." James

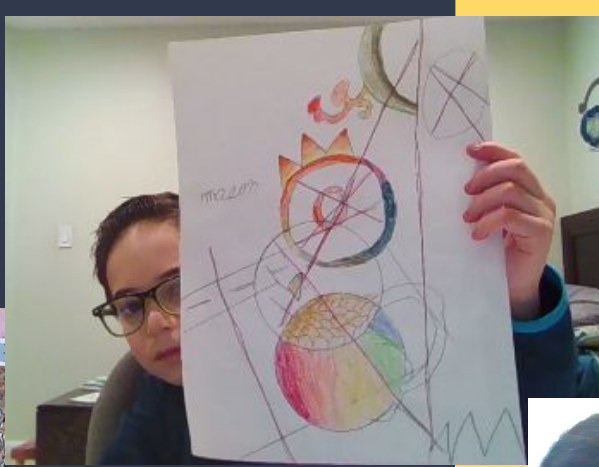
"Art can be anything."
Marlaina

"Art is important because it helps us relax. When I'm painting or even just drawing, I feel relaxed." Lauren

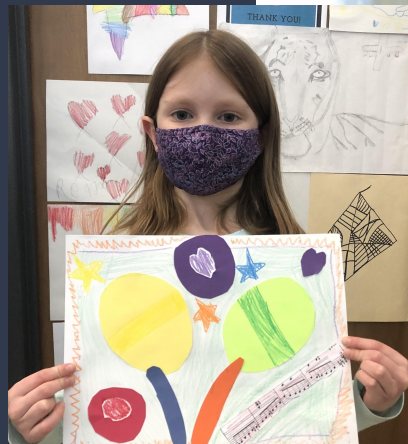
"It helps me calm down when I'm angry." Chaahat

"Art is important because there is no wrong way to do something and it is very relaxing but yet hard." Jessie

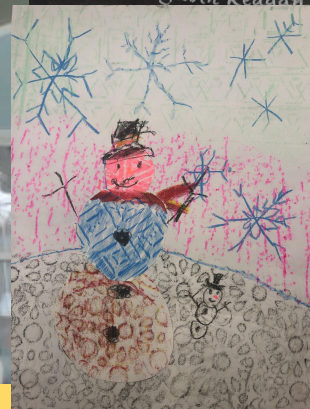
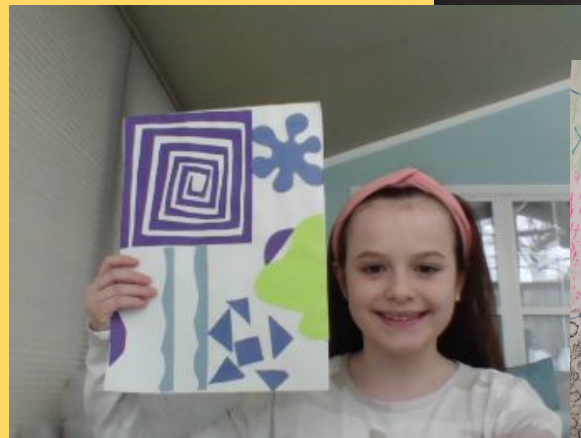
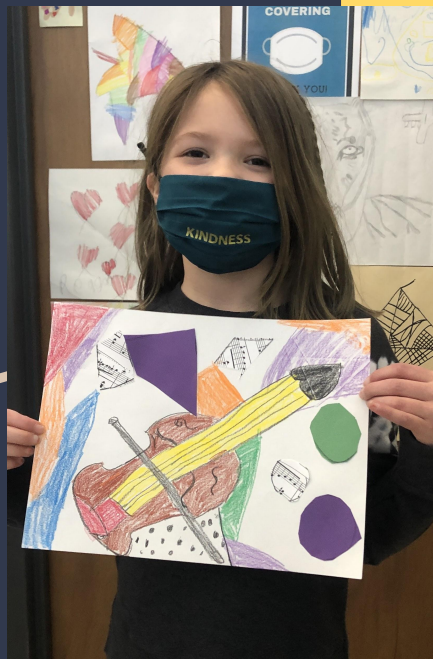
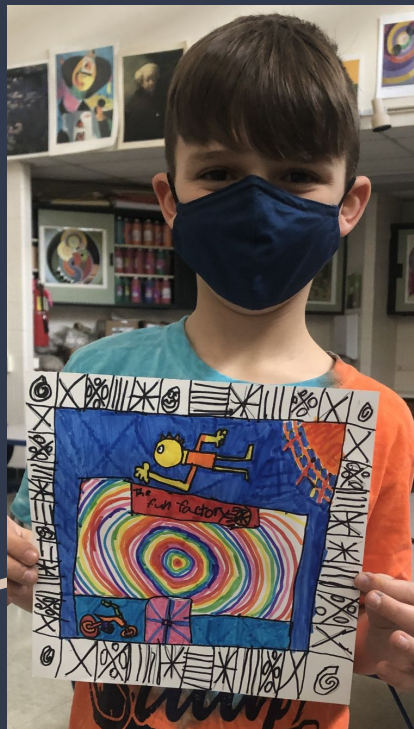
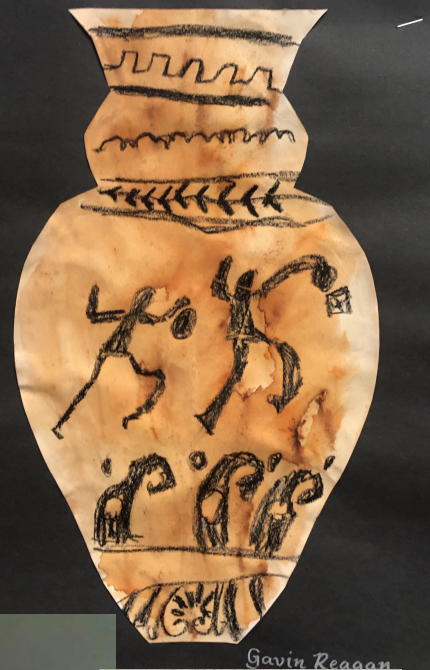
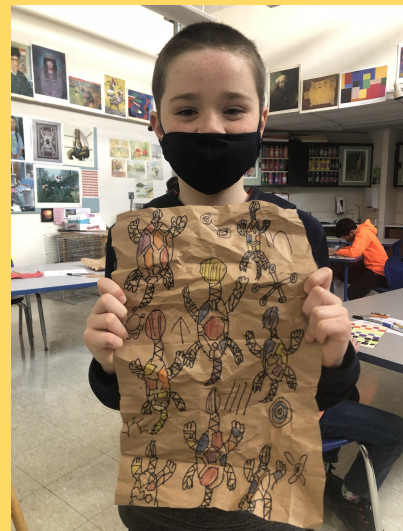
Arrowhead Elementary



Arrowhead Elementary



Arrowhead Elementary



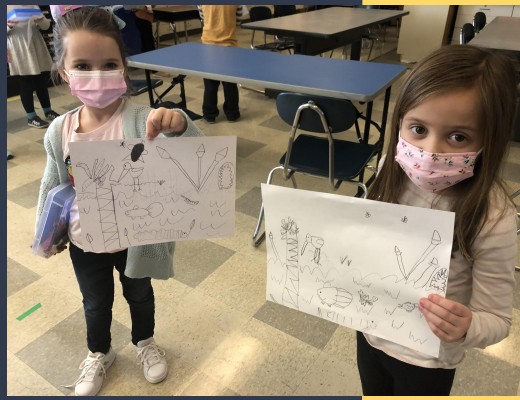
An abstract painting with thick, expressive brushstrokes in shades of blue, red, yellow, and grey. The word 'ART' is written in large, white, hand-drawn capital letters across the top. Below it, a quote is written in white, sans-serif font. At the bottom right, the names of the authors are written in a cursive script.

ART

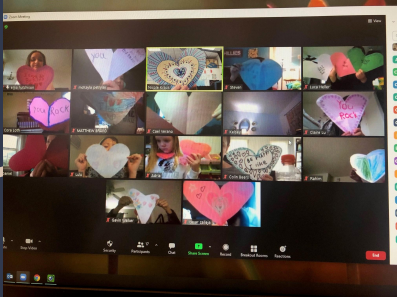
encourages children
to think, developing
skills and confidence
as they go.

~ MaryAnn F. Kohl
✦ Barbara Zabrowski

Eagleville Elementary



"I like drawing and painting new things in art class!"
Matthew M 3rd Grade



Eagleville Elementary

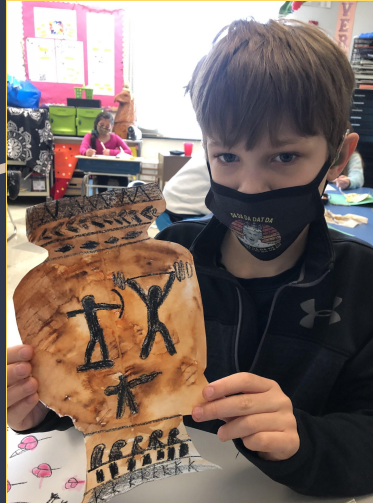
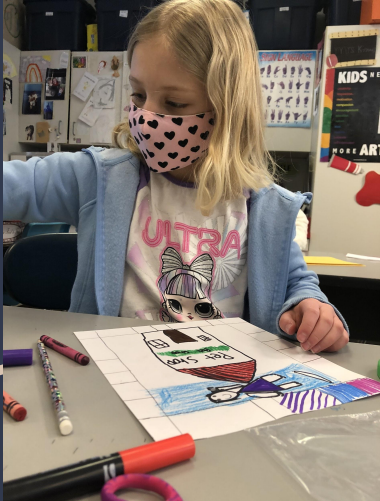


“Art is important because it
can calm you down.”
Lucas W. 4th Grade



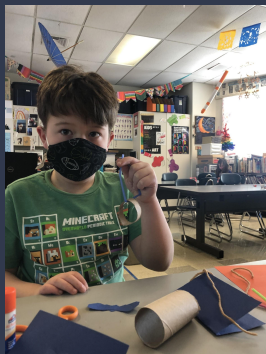
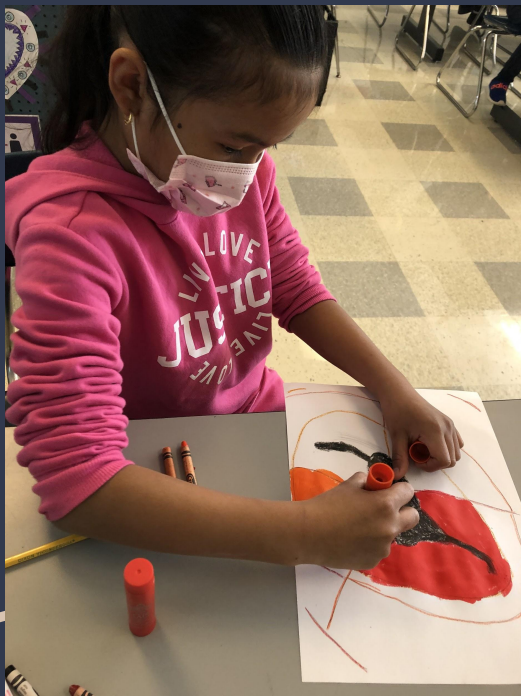
Eagleville Elementary

“Art Class is important because we learn to draw and paint and create new things”
Megan L 2nd Grade



“What I like about art is getting to be creative!”
Mya F 4th Grade

Eagleville Elementary

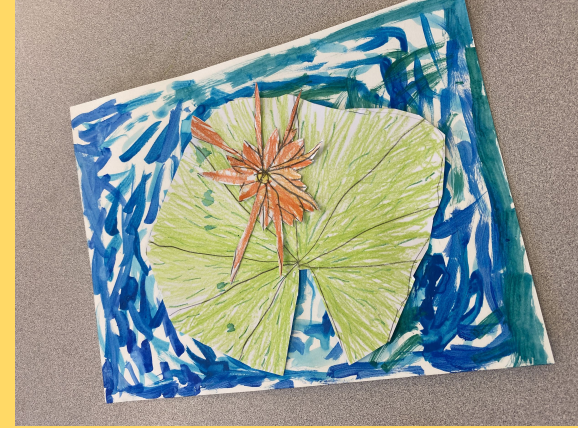
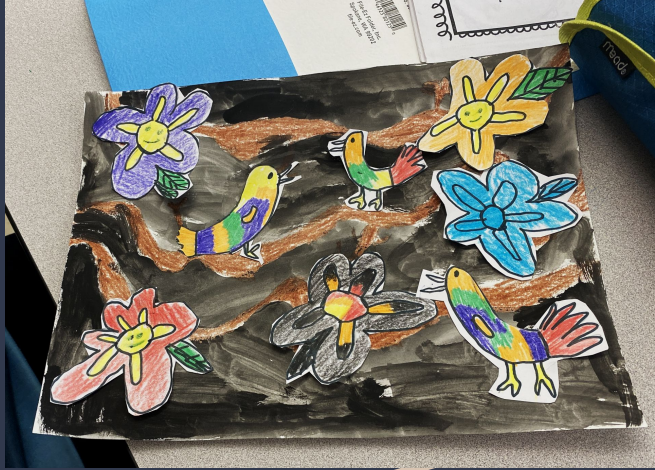


“Art is important because you learn to draw before you learn to write.” Julia C. 2nd Grade



ART CLASSES TEACH KIDS TO:
RESPECT OTHERS START A DIALOGUE
EXPERIMENT WITH MATERIALS OBSERVE
FIND THEIR VOICE SELF-EVALUATE
MAKE CONNECTIONS EXPRESS THEMSELVES
LEARN FROM THEIR MISTAKES
CLEAN UP REFLECT ON THEIR WORK
EMBRACE DIVERSITY PERSEVERE
HAVE AN OPINION APPRECIATE BEAUTY
BREAK AWAY FROM STEREOTYPES
ENVISION SOLUTIONS VALUE AESTHETICS
SEE ANOTHER POINT OF VIEW INNOVATE

Woodland Elementary

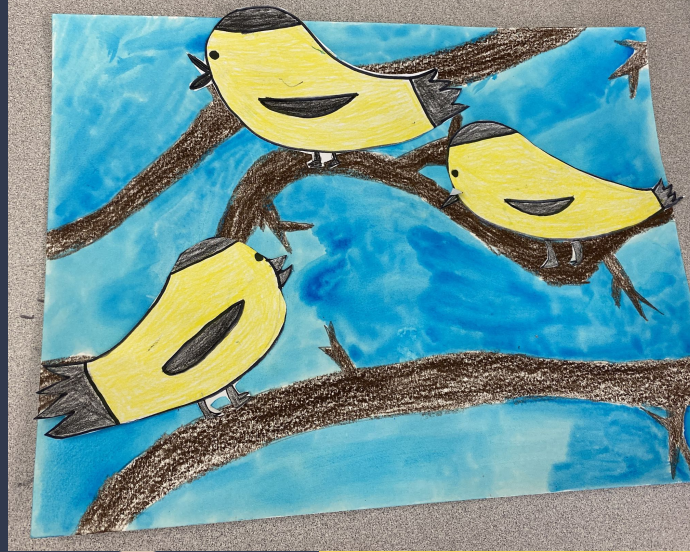


"Art helps me think of things that I don't think of at home. It gives me surprises!" - Nibhish, 1st Grade

Woodland Elementary



Woodland Elementary



Woodland Elementary

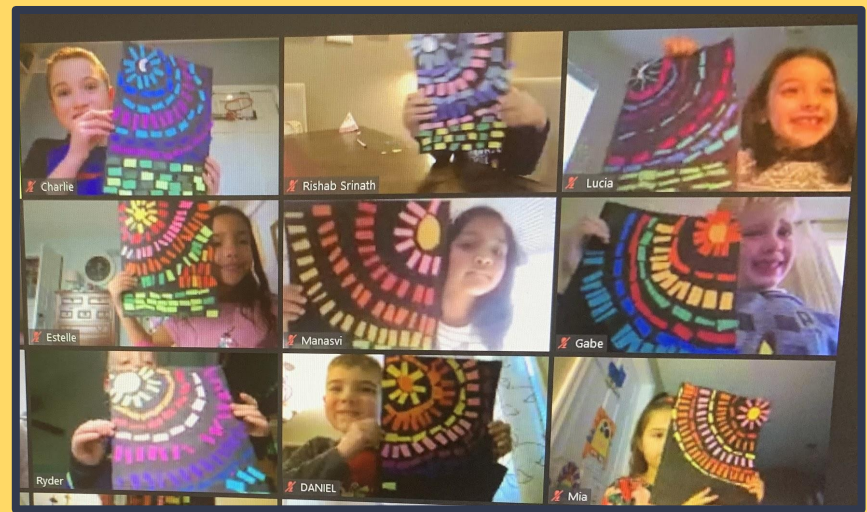


20 REASONS ART MATTERS

- 1 **Art gives** us a visual representation of the past.
- 2 **Art provides** social commentary on the present.
- 3 **Art communicates** in ways words can't.
- 4 **Art informs, inspires, and persuades** others to make the world a better place.
- 5 **Art communicates** our innermost thoughts.
- 6 **Art tells** stories, both real and imagined.
- 7 **Art brings** people together.
- 8 **Art makes** people feel.
- 9 **Art expresses** dreams.
- 10 **Art helps** us understand ourselves.
- 11 **Art provides** a creative outlet.
- 12 **Art embellishes** the world around us.
- 13 **Art memorializes** people, places, and events.
- 14 **Art helps** us empathize with one another.
- 15 **Art helps** us design the world we live in.
- 16 **Art makes** us laugh.
- 17 **Art makes** us cry.
- 18 **Art helps** us show our appreciation for others.
- 19 **Art is** therapeutic.
- 20 **Art is** part of our everyday lives in more ways than we can imagine.

WHY DOES ART MATTER TO **YOU?**

Worcester Elementary



“Art is important. It makes people feel happy or people can feel important after all the hard work it took to make it.”

Charlie - 1st Grade



Worcester Elementary



"Art is important because you learn about artists and how to make art. Art is fun!"

Jaxon H - 2nd Grade



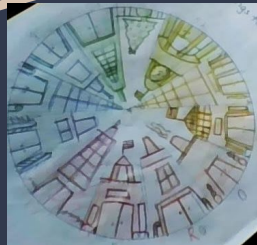
Worcester Elementary



"Art is important because you can make mistakes and turn them into something. You just need to get creative."

Carolyn R - 3rd Grade

Worcester Elementary



"Art is important because it is a way to express the artist's feelings."

Mya B - 4th Grade

Mrs. Ferenchak
High School

Ms. Williams
Woodland

Mrs. Conrow
Arcola

Mrs. Roese
Skyview

Ms. McCauley
High School



Mrs. Schwartz
Worcester

Mrs. Kraus
Eagleville
Dept. Chair k-6

Ms. Hall
High School
Dept. Chair 7-12

Mrs. Roberts
Arcola

Mrs. McDonough
Arrowhead

Mr. Koons
High School

“**CREATIVE** people
are **CURIOUS**, **f(lexible)**,
PERSISTENT,
and **independent** with a
TREMENDOUS SPIRIT
of *adventure*
& a love of *play.*”

HENRI MATISSE

