

Canyon Creek Art Docent Information and Recommendations 2023-2024 school year

Contacts

Art Docent Program webpage:

<https://canyoncreekpta.ourschoolpages.com/Article/View/Art-Docent-Program-What-is-it>

Art Docent Co-Chairs: Christine Hansen, Loan Mosescu, and Jessica Shaffner

Contact email: canyoncreekartdocent@gmail.com or art@canyoncreekpta.org

Training/Support

In-Person Training coming soon! Dates will be announced within the next couple of weeks.

Supplies

- Most art supplies are in the workroom behind the main office. Items purchased by the PTA for the art docent program are labeled Art Docent. You may also use the paper and other supplies purchased by the school.
- Use a rolling cart to transport supplies to the classroom.
- Portable drying racks can be taken to classrooms that do not already have one.
- Not finding what you need? Email art@canyoncreekpta.org to request supplies that are not in stock, but don't wait until the last minute. We will purchase the materials for you if the budget permits.
- If you take all of a supply, please leave a sticky note with the classroom number in case someone else was planning to also use it at that time.

School Logistics

- To volunteer you must:
 - Be a current Canyon Creek PTA member
<https://canyoncreekpta.org/Page/Membership/JoinToday>
 - Have completed an online volunteer application form with Northshore School District. This includes a level 1 background check and submitting proof of the Covid vaccination. You cannot be on campus if you aren't approved
<https://www.nsd.org/get-involved/volunteer/become-a-volunteer>
 - If you are not sure if your badge has expired, search your email for info@safevisitorsolutions.com.
- Every time you go to the school, you must sign in and sign out in the office.

- Print the badge that you may have received by email from the District after completing the volunteer application process.
- Follow any COVID safety protocols and procedures that may be in place.
- The artdocent2019 “pass key” allows you to access materials on the [North Shore School District's Art Docent Portal](#).

Teacher Meeting

We recommend that you contact your teacher to plan for the upcoming year. You might meet in person or email questions to them. Include other parents that are helping.

- Schedule a consistent day and time each month for lessons. Include 15-20 minutes before each lesson to gather supplies and prepare.
- Some possible questions to ask your teacher include:
- What projects have been successful in the past?
- Do you prefer specific mediums?
- Are there projects you want to repeat?
- Would you like projects tied to any holidays?
- How much time do we have for each lesson? (We recommend 1 hour for the lesson, but some teachers may say less)
- Will the teacher display the art projects in the classroom?
- Will you or the teacher store the projects until the end of the school year?
- Do you have a preference for how the art is returned at the end of the school year?
- Consider scheduling a consistent day and time each month, include time for set up and clean up

Lesson Planning

Lessons should include an artist and an element (line, color, shape, perspective, etc.). There may be times when you do not include an artist such as when you're doing a medium like clay or weaving. For these lessons, teach students about the historical significance of the medium and the culture in which it's practiced.

Art Project Inspiration

Inspiration can come from many sources. Use your favorite search engine or Pinterest to find ideas related to:

- Famous and not so famous artists, local artists, artists of color, etc. (Romero Britto, Alma Woodsey Thomas, Wayne Thiebaud, Frida Kahlo, and Lauren Burch to name a few)
- Famous work of art (Van Gogh made did thousands of paintings, but your lesson may be inspired by one painting in particular)
- Class curriculum – base your lesson on something the class is studying (animals, food, a country or culture, etc.)

- Books – base your lesson on the illustrations in a book or a book about an artist (*Are you Blue Dog's Friend?* By George Rodrigue, *When Picasso Met Mootisse* by Nina Laden, *Tar Beach* by Faith Ringgold, any book by Eric Carle, etc.)
- The time of year, seasons, holidays, heritage celebrations
 - [Heritage Month Guide](#)
- Ask your grade's Lead and other art docents which projects students enjoyed in the past
 - Consult the [Canyon Creek Art Docent Lesson Library](#)
- Consult the reference materials and poster-sized art images located in the Canyon Creek Elementary Library "book closet"
- Consult art education or museum websites
 - Seattle Art Museum [Online Learning Resources](#) and [Look & Make Activities](#)
 - [Deep Space Sparkle](#)
 - ["How to Teach Art When You're Not an Artist"](#)
 - [Art Ed Washington](#)
- [Northshore School District Art Docent Program](#)
 - Includes a list of the different art elements/frameworks recommended for each grade.
 - Docent Portal (request a pass key for access)
- **Do NOT show any nudity!**
- [BLICK Lesson Plans](#) - great 3-D project ideas!
- Consider which two projects you might display in the Art Gala (more information below)

Lesson Preparation

- Prepare slides that introduce students to the artist/art technique/theme of the lesson. Students are interested in learning facts about the artist's life and seeing examples of their art.
 - Google Slides work well because they can be shared with the teacher and other parent volunteers before the lesson. See examples in the [Canyon Creek Art Docent Lesson Library](#)
 - There are poster-sized images of famous art pieces located in the Canyon Creek Library Book Room that you can take to class.
- Practice your lesson beforehand using the materials and processes you will use with the students. Have your son/daughter try it out too. You may find that the lesson takes too much time or is too complicated and need to change it or do something else entirely.
- Generally, aim for the information you share about the artist to take 10-15 minutes (students often want to share and ask questions!) and leave the rest of the time for the students to create their art. Some projects may take more than one session to complete like clay projects that need time to dry before painting.
- Show photos or take example(s) of the project in process.
- Do prep work in advance.
- Take extra – students may make mistakes; students who finish early may want to make a second project.

- Make sure the supplies that you need are in the work room. Email canyoncreekartdocent@gmail.com to request supplies that are not in stock, but don't wait until the last minute. We will purchase the materials for you if the budget permits.
- Consider having an activity prepared for students that finish their work early – themed word search, coloring pages, drawing paper and pencils.
- Communicate in advance with your teacher and co-docents to make sure you're on the same page.

Presenting Your Lesson

- Arrive at least 20-30 minutes before the lesson to gather supplies.
- Hand out some materials before you start to save time, but save materials that may be a distraction or cause a mess to hand out after your presentation. You don't want students to start painting while you're trying to teach them about the artist or show them how to do the project.
- Introduce yourself, your co-docent/helpers, and the lesson. Go through your slides. Engage the students by asking questions about the content of the presentation and related to the project.
- Show at least one example of the project.
- Briefly demonstrate how to create the project. Depending on the grade level, you may need to break this down into steps, providing time for most students to complete the step before moving on to the next one.
- Move around the room to help students and answer questions. Some students will finish quickly. Encourage them to add more detail to their work, to do another one, or have another activity for them to do. Other kids may take a long time and still not finish. Encourage them to finish up within the allotted time.
- Remind students that they are artists and while we want them to be inspired by the lesson, they can insert their own creativity into their artwork.
- Make sure the students sign their projects!
- Try to finish your lesson with at least five minutes remaining so students can help clean up.
- If a student was absent and the teacher wants to have them make up the lesson or if you plan to show the project at the Art Gala, set aside the necessary materials and any examples so the student can complete it later.

Clean Up

- You are responsible for cleaning up all the supplies.
 - Wash and dry paint palettes so they do not stick together.
 - Dab watercolor paint palettes that are goopy or full of water.
 - Wash brushes thoroughly.
- Include the students in clean up, assigning age-appropriate tasks. Learn from your teacher. You will quickly discover their expectations for students.
- Put art supplies back in the place where you got them.

Clay and Kiln Use

The Kiln is operating and available for us. More information about reserving and using the kiln will be shared soon.



Art Gala

The Canyon Creek Elementary Art Gala is typically held the second week in May. Your class may show up to two projects. Some docents choose to show a 2D (art on paper) that will hang and a 3D (clay, sculpture) project that may hang or be placed on a table.



- Art Docents will set up their class art the day before the Gala and take it down immediately after the Gala ends.
 - A call will go out requesting volunteers for other tasks including set-up, staffing the gala, and clean-up too.
- Teachers are invited to bring their classes to preview the art during the school day.
 - Consider attending during your class's preview time to take a group photo in front of their artwork.
 - If you hang butcher paper on the wall and hang the art on top of that, consider having the students autograph the butcher paper.
- Students and their families are invited to attend the Gala which is held in the evening.
- Photos of past Art Gala's are available on the Canyon Creek PTA facebook page and in the [2022 Art Gala Google Drive folder](#).

End of School Year Wrap Up

- Put all artwork into a folder/book/bag for each student to be sent home at the end of the year. Two pieces of the large tag board stapled together along the two sides and bottom make great folders in which to hold paper art of varying sizes.
- You may find pieces of unsigned art that you need to take back to the class and ask students to identify the artists who made them. Allow time for this!
- Coordinate with the teacher because some like to create a memory book that contains Art Docent projects and other class work.
- Consider including a list of the artists/techniques/themes of the lessons so that parents have a better understanding of the art lessons you taught.

