

BATS

(Bringing Art To Schools)

Description for Volunteers

The BATS Program is an art appreciation /art history program, supported by the Tahoe Art League, for the K-5th grade levels. This important visual arts program presents a unique opportunity for elementary students to become more informed about classic works of art, their meanings, and the styles and movements that inspired them.

As required by California's State Standards for Arts Education, the BATS Program teaches artistic perception, creative expression, the historical and cultural context of the arts and the ability to make judgments about art that will develop the critical thinking skills needed in a high-tech economy.

Scheduling an art class :

The **BATS ART CALENDAR** is displayed at each school, and shows the portfolio rotation. The way the program is scheduled in each classroom is up to the volunteer and teacher's schedule. The teacher and the art docent volunteer agree on a 1 to 2 hour time slot for their art class. The teacher often will participate, and you also may wish to ask another volunteer to assist with the class.

Occasionally a change in classroom activity can occur, and the teacher may need to change the art lesson date. To avoid any problems, contact the teacher the day before your class, leave a message and your phone number. A good communication link is important! Rescheduling is seldom necessary.

* Please do not schedule in the last 2 days of the portfolios time at your school. These days are marked on the calendar for delivery to the next school.

The art lesson :

1. It starts with a 15 to 30 minute group discussion (like story time) studying five significant art prints of a specific theme of famous Master's art work. By using 18"x24" full color reproduction art prints and through careful observation, questioning strategies, comparisons, and related art productions activities, students participate in learning that leads to a higher level of understanding and appreciation of art.
2. A 5 to 15 minute demonstration of the art project that relates to the prints (depending on the project)
3. Then, it is important to have enough time for the students to fully develop and complete the project then clean up.

Handling of the finished art projects :

The art projects are dried, collected, and mounted on colored paper by the art docent volunteer and returned to the teacher ready to hang on the bulletin board. The projects are not to be sent home with the students. The teachers or volunteers store them until the end of the year when the students pick his/her best work to be exhibited at the art show.

(After the show, a book with a cover may be created for the artwork created by each student.)

Portfolio rotation

There are 30 different themes that rotate through the schools, a new theme about every month for each grade. Check the rotation schedule on the art calendar located in the staff room.

Portfolio A

- K SHAPES, COLORS
- 1st CHILDREN
- 2nd PEOPLE AT PLAY
- 3rd SELF PORTRAITS
- 4th POP ART
- 5th WOMEN ARTISTS

Portfolio B

- K ANIMALS IN THE WILD
- 1st PEOPLE AT WORK
- 2nd CITY SCAPES
- 3rd MURALS
- 4th PRINTMAKING
- 5th NON-OBJECTIVE ART

Portfolio C

- K MEMORIES AND DREAMS
- 1st URBAN ENVIRONMENT
- 2nd THE ART OF SPORT
- 3rd Horses
- 4th COLLAGE AND ASSEMBAGE
- 5th STILL LIFES
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Portfolio D

- K CHILDREN TOGETHER
- 1st LANDSCAPES
- 2nd THE FIGURE IN THE IMPRESSIONIST ERA
- 3rd ABSTRACT ART
- 4th WOMEN ARTISTS
- 5th AFRICAN AMERICAN ARTISTS

Portfolio E

- K PETS ARE APART OF OUR LIVES
- 1st ART & SOCIAL STUDIES
- 2nd THE ARTIST AS A STORYTELLER
- 3rd ART & SCIENCE
- 4th ART & MATHEMATICS
- 5th ART & MUSIC

Portfolio F

(For optional use ... not part of rotation schedule)

- K MEXICAN AMERICAN ART
- 1st THE ARTS OF ASIA
- 2nd ABORIGINAL ART
- 3rd NATIVE AMERICAN ARTIFACTS
- 4th ARCHITECTURE and ART
- 5th RECYCLED ART