The ArtSmart Program

Visual and Performing Arts in Schools with SAN DIEGO CREATIVE ARTS PROJECT

Arts and culture enhance all lives. Recent studies have shown that students involved in the arts are more likely to be recognized for academic achievement.

Low-income students who are highly engaged in the arts are twice as likely to graduate college as their peers with no arts education.

The arts are recognized as a core academic subject under the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act, and 49 states have adopted standards for learning in the arts.

The act of performing can help students and youth recognize their potential for success and improve their confidence. Students who participate in arts learning experiences -often improve their achievement in other realms of learning and life. All students benefit from the opportunity to learn about and experience the arts. Study of the arts — whether as a stand-alone subject or integrated into the school curriculum — is an essential part of achieving success in school, work and life.



San Diego Creative Arts Project

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Catalogue of ArtSmart and Pricing

	Page
Introduction to ArtSmart	1
Index	2
ArtSmart Mission & About	3
School Day & After School Arts Courses Offerings for TK-12th grade	4 - 6
Arts Integration courses	7
Musical Theatre Play Production	8
ArtSmart Executive Artistic Director's Notes 9	
Homeschool Courses	
Online Courses	

Creative Arts International

"Where Arts Emerge"

Creative Arts International's San Diego Creative Arts Project is Southern California's hot spot for Professionally Directed Youth Theatre, Conservatory Classes in Dance, Voice, Theatre, and Fitness Training. With Studios located in the North Park neighborhood, SDCAP is invested in engaging, training, and inspiring students of all ages and backgrounds, who desire to grow artistically and confidently in the performing arts. By offering classes, camps, and performance opportunities for kids and adults, SDCAP is proud to partner with artSmart to inspire creativity, and create a positive impact on bringing arts to the community. Our organizations are committed to providing an ongoing presence in the community, granting access to the arts as well as the stability of consistent after school activity for youth, including underprivileged, at risk, and those who might not otherwise be able to afford it. Our immediate goal is to target schools in San Diego County, and engage students in the performing arts, while building confidence, creativity, and community.

A program in the performing arts fosters a strong technical foundation, as well as emotional maturity, and valuable interpersonal skills. Our goal is to provide an entrance to the arts to both youth and adults in our community, and deliver ongoing support in mastering the performing arts. Local youth involved in our program develop important social ties and participate in creating and maintaining a safe space for themselves and their peers. Friendships developed here will last a lifetime.

ArtSmart School Day and After School Courses Offerings for TK-12th grade Arts Integration for 6, 8, 12 weeks, and school year Artist Residencies

All of our courses meet VAPA standards, and more. In each course students will discover new ways of critical thinking, creativity, leadership, being part of a team, and how each person's individuality comes together with others to form a community.

DANCE

Fun Dance - Basic

This Dance class includes the techniques of Jazz, Hip Hop, Contemporary, and Musical Theatre basic moves. Students learn how to count and dance rhythms, travel across the floor, form patterns, and shapes with their bodies, and as a group, while getting fit, motivated, and having fun with their peers.

Hip Hop

This class will introduce students to the history of Hip-Hop culture with basic moves. The style encompasses the movements of break-dancing and body- popping with a concentration on footwork. The focus of this class is to build a solid foundation to execute popular dance moves to original choreography. Warm up includes isolations, hard- hitting exercises, and a breakdown of the highly energetic routine to build stamina and increase musicality.

Social Dance

Did you know that social dancing improves physical coordination, strengthens muscles, improves posture and flexibility, and creates social connections? Students learn respect and tradition in a positive, non-judgmental and courteous manner. To each other, students say please and thank you, curtsy and bow, and walk arm and arm in escort position into and from the class. As students often change dance partners, their ability to relate to one another and to respect their differences is strengthened.

THEATRE

Participation in a drama class, has been proven as a source for gains in reading proficiency, improvement in self-concept and motivation, and higher levels of empathy and tolerance towards others among youth of all levels of socio-economic status. Drama activities help to maintain social and language skills. Improvisational drama and games help students to open up and express themselves with their peers, and challenge them to quickly and creatively come up with solutions to the moment. The skills developed through theater, not only train you how to convincingly deliver a message, but also build the confidence you need to take command of the stage.

SPOKEN WORD POETRY

Creating spoken-word is more than just memorizing or understanding. It's asking youth to think critically. It helps improve students as readers and writers, their critical thinking and analysis, their self-confidence, and their literacy skills. Teaching poetry is like pouring content into the students. Spoken-word allows kids to get problems down on a page, to share them verbally, and to get rid of that background noise from technology, and everyday life. Students will write from life experience - speaking from the heart. They will form a poem and then share it with their peers. This strengthens the bond of the class as team and community.

VOICE & MUSIC THEORY

Students will sing and learn music together, where the emphasis is on participation.

The climate of the classroom and attitudes shift dramatically. Students find they are not only participating in singing but they are actually enjoying it. As students begin to read music, the addition of music theory helps students understand what and why they are singing, and appreciate the musicality and how the notes create music.

VISUAL ART

Visual arts educators develop visual—spatial abilities, reflection, and experimentation. Visual arts education ensures that all young people become knowledgeable and skillful in the visual age. In addition to developing students' intellectual capabilities, visual arts instruction also helps develop young people's sense of civic engagement. The arts stimulate or release imagination by bringing into existence an alternative reality.

Students will be engaged in discussion about the elements of art, such as content, composition, style, method and materials, with a focus on their life and sense of community.

YOGA

Yoga and mindfulness have been shown to improve both physical and mental health in school-age children. Yoga improves balance, strength, endurance, and aerobic capacity in children. Yoga and mindfulness offer psychological benefits for children as well. Research has shown that yoga can improve focus, memory, self-esteem, academic performance, and classroom behavior, and can even reduce anxiety and stress in children.

In these yoga classes, fun games and stories will be woven with positive themes like compassion, gratitude, and strength.

Arts Integration Courses

Aesthetics and creativity are just as important as technical knowledge in the new economy. By integrating art, music, and literature with the ELA, science, math, social studies, and more, students are more prepared to problem solve and think outside of the box.

To integrate the arts into other areas of learning ensures that all young people become knowledgeable and skillful in the digital age.

We are offering courses in all of the disciplines above to coordinate integration and work closely with teachers of all subjects, developing courses that are custom fit to their needs.

For Example:

4th Grade Social Studies, Literature and Theatre

The Pine Nut Thieves

Students studying the Southern California Tribes, will learn about local Indigenous tribes' culture of respect for the Earth, while crafting costumes from recyclable materials, and creating a movement theatre piece set loosely to the book, The Pine Nut Thieves, a Kumeyaay tale retold by

Janie Louise Curry.

This project was a huge success at Garfield Elementary School.

This concept and more classes such as Poetry or Literature in Motion, exploring science, math, geography and world cultures through any of the performing and visual arts, are created specifically for teachers, schools, and classrooms.

San Diego Creative Arts Project's team of professional artists and master instructors will creatively, connect your academic needs to the arts

Musical Theatre Play Production

Casting open to large groups.

Grades K-6 Mini Production

Grades 5-12 Full Production

This course meets for 2 hour periods twice a week for 4 months (16 weeks) with a Theatre & Dance Director/Choreographer, and a Voice & Music Director.

Included in this package is the rental for production of a choice of scripts written for and the rights owned by San Diego Creative Arts Project. Written by Executive Artistic Director, Laura Hodge, these scripts are "Rebooted" versions of classic tales, set with modern, artistic, settings, and pop-rock music from the 80's, 90's, and current. For instance, the setting of Cinderella's household uses scenery in the style of German expressionism, and then the Ball where she meets the prince turns into a scene resembling a Bollywood musical.

These dynamic new scripts have been produced and performed by SDCAP at theatres throughout San Diego, Tijuana, and Rosarito in Baja California. The productions are immersed in the arts on every level, including, performing and visual arts. This fee includes rehearsal, script rental, and a performance production.

Available Scripts

CINDERELLA REBOOTED

CENICIENTA REBOOTED (Spanish translation)

ALICE REBOOTED

ALADDIN REBOOTED

PETER PAN REBOOTED

Director's Notes

Living as an artist all of my life, has made a huge impact on how I view the world. I remind myself to stop and look around me each day. When I slow down, I see that there is art, alignment, and synchronicity all around me. It all makes sense, and this also assists me in problem solving, creating new ideas, and seeing the bigger picture.

Each arts discipline has built in parameters to ensure that critique is a valuable experience

and greatly contributes to the success of the final piece. In addition to developing students'

intellectual capabilities, visual and performing arts instruction also helps develop young people's

sense of civic engagement. The arts stimulate or release imagination by bringing into existence an

alternative reality.

Art is one of the universal languages all human beings understand and use to communicate.

We use art to understand who we are, our places in the world, and the meaning of our lives. We use

art to express ourselves and to speak to others across time and place.

Some institutions downplay the skills required for effective visual and performing arts

instruction by adopting minimal requirements that underestimate the competencies of skilled arts

teachers in the classroom. It takes qualified professionals with the ability to create effective

learning environments, to understand art beyond the school, to spread into the community and

contemporary world, and to engage students' thinking, understanding, and learning

artSmart will only hire professionals in their field. We are very proud to work with Master

Instructors who not only teach, and continue to study, but have worked as professional artists with

real experience in their field. Amongst the staff are individuals with numerous awards for their

work (both past and current), Performers with experience in Television, Film, Fringe Festival,

National Touring companies, Dance Companies, Artists whose work is in Galleries, and more, who

are currently making headlines. These true Arts Professionals are following their calling, and

passing it on, sharing their knowledge with the next generation.

Laura Hodge

Executive Artistic Director

Creative Arts International

9













