

Kindergarten ART NEWSLETTER

The FOCUS of North Haven's Kindergarten ART program is to answer the big question: **What is ART?**

- The students are exposed to a variety of media both 2-dimensional and 3-dimensional.
- They are beginning to recognize the Elements of Art (line, shape, color, form, texture, space, and value) and the Principles of Design (balance, pattern, proportion, rhythm, movement, unity and contrast).
- They are learning to properly grasp tools and to categorize artwork (portrait, landscape, seascape, cityscape).
- The kindergarten students are engaging in dialogue about similarities and differences in works of art, as well as their own personal feelings and ideas about art.
- Through their artwork they are making connections with their daily life.
- The students are learning to self reflect and discuss possible improvements they can make.

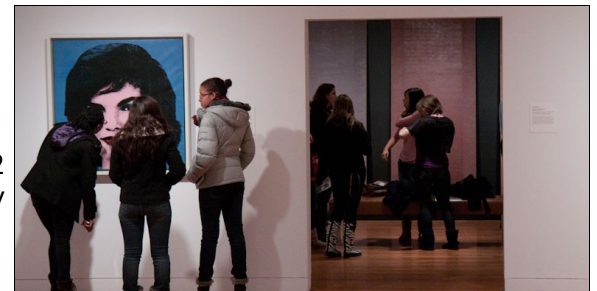
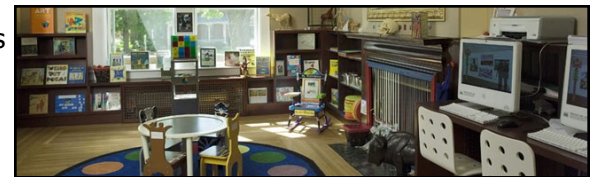
Visit an ART Gallery with your family and explore ART together

Yale Art Gallery-its free and at 1pm on the second Sunday of each month, the gallery invites families for Stories and Art. Tales of distant times and faraway lands that will inspire children of all ages to view art in new ways. Gallery teaching staff tell folktales, myths, and exciting stories from all over the world. www.artgallery.yale.edu

Yale Center for the British Arts-its free and young visitors and their families are always welcome to enjoy the collections and be inspired by over four hundred years of British art. www.britishart.yale.edu

New Britain Museum of American Art-\$12 for adults and children under 12 are free. A special feature of this museum includes an Art Lab for families on the first floor of the building, complete with hands-on art projects that can be pursued independently by visitors. The ever-popular costume rack, interpreting clothing portrayed in the Museum's permanent collection. www.nbmaa.org

Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art-\$10 for adults and children under 12 are free. Arrive before 1 p.m. on the second Saturday of each month and enjoy free admission for the day. Check the calendar for each month's special family programs. www.thewadsworth.org



How to visit an ART GALLERY

Go to an art gallery with your children and experience art together. You don't have to be an artist to appreciate art.

Things you can discuss as you look at the artwork.

1. Viewing any work of art you can explore basic Elements of ART such as line, shape, and color to understand how an artist builds a work.
2. Observe landscapes, cityscapes and seascapes by exploring the point of view of one of the characters, follow the sequence of events, make predictions, and focus on the setting to reveal the narrative in different works of art.
3. Discover animals real and imaginary in the museum's collection.
4. Looking at portraits and discuss the identification and placement of the features of the face, as well as clues to feelings through facial expressions.
5. Compare the people and objects in the works of art to what we know today. Discuss how people and places from the past are different than today.
6. Look at sculptures and try posing in a similar way to the statues.

Extra ART?

If you are looking for an art workshop or an extra art class for your child, I found some nearby programs you might want to look into:

In North Haven /Parks and Recreation-
www.town.north-haven.ct.us

In Hamden-
www.placechildrensmuseum.org

In New Haven-
www.creativeartsworkshop.org

In Cheshire-
<http://cpfa-artsplace.org>

In Branford-
shorelineartandmusic.com

The Elements of ART for kindergarten with visual examples

| | | |
|---------|---|--|
| LINE | Identify-straight horizontal, vertical, diagonal, zigzag and curved | |
| SHAPE | Identify-square, circle, triangle, rectangle and oval | |
| COLOR | Identify-primary and secondary colors | |
| FORM | Differentiate between- 2&3- dimensional art | |
| TEXTURE | Identify-real / tactile | |
| SPACE | Understand-overlapping | |
| VALUE | Recognize- Color hue (light-dark) | |

The Principles of DESIGN for kindergarten with visual examples

| | | |
|------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| BALANCE | Identify- Symmetrical balance. | |
| REPITION PATTERN | Distinguish between- AB and ABC | |
| PROPOR- TION | Recognize- Size relationship | |
| RHYTHM | Understand- repeated shapes | |
| MOVEMENT | Identify- Line creates movement | |
| UNITY | Identify- Line similarity | |
| CONTRAST | Identify- Differences in line | |

W hat is DBAE-Discipline Based Art Education ?

North Haven's Discipline Based Art Education Elementary Art Program is sequential and includes four areas of study:

Art Production, Art Criticism, Art History and Aesthetics.

Art Production is the making of art, and the various components of making art, such as use of tools, manipulation of media, form and expression.

Art Criticism is the examination and discussion of style, formal principles of design and elements of art.

Art History is not just "who made what when," but is the history of objects and the history of people through art. Works of art provide a unique documentation of cultural changes throughout history.

Aesthetics is the philosophy of art. Philosophical questions about art seem to be unanswerable. What is art? What is good art? What is beauty? It is important in the study of art that students engage their brains, think about what they are doing, learning, and feeling.

Through this approach our students not only learn to understand art from various cultures times and places but, they are also given the tools to be visual thinkers and creative problem solvers. Art teaches them to be self expressive and increases their self worth and confidence. Art gives students a verbal and visual voice to express themselves.

S kills we will learn in Kindergarten

We are being introduced to all of the Elements of ART and the Principles of Design

We are learning Techniques : drawing, painting, clay, sculpture, mixed media

We are experimenting with different materials -2-D crayon, marker, pencil, charcoal, oil pastel, acrylic paints, tempera paints. cut paper and-3-D cardboard, wood, clay

I would LOVE to hear from you. Please tell me about your ART museum adventure, what your child is enjoying in art or any other artistic news you would like to share. I will be looking forward to it. I hope you found this newsletter helpful.

Here's how to reach me...

You can send in a letter with your child or Email me at: **Schwarz.Sheri@north-haven.k12.ct.us**