

Dear Art Masterpiece Volunteer,

Welcome to the Art Masterpiece program at Cherokee! This district-wide program encourages and challenges children to look at artwork of all mediums by a range of artists, to be inquisitive about the art they see, and to enjoy the art of seeing! As a volunteer “guide” you will bring many art masterpieces to life through presentations, discussions and hands on projects.

Feel free to contact us with any questions you may have regarding the Art Masterpiece program. Also, please let us know if you need supplies (other than the ones provided in the APT room) for any art project you may wish to do with the students, to reinforce a piece of art or an artist. Do not be timid! There are no rules with art!!!

We look forward to working with you as you bring the Art Masterpiece Program and the world of art into the classroom. Enjoy yourselves, and know that you are enriching the lives of our students!

Most sincerely,
Alison, Diane and Jennifer

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Helpful websites:

www.impressionism.org
www.kinderart.com
www.getty.edu
www.absolutearts.com
www.webgallery.com

Local Museums:

Phoenix Art Museum
Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art
ASU Art Museum-Nelson Fine Arts

www.phxart.org
www.SMoCA.org
www.asuartmuseum.asu.edu

*Phoenix and Scottsdale also have amazing galleries with rotating exhibits. Please ask any of the museums or the art masterpiece chairs for suggestions. Downtown Scottsdale has art walk on the first Thursday of every month from 7-9pm.

Cherokee Art Masterpiece Program OVERVIEW

Your goals are to stimulate a young child's appreciation of art and to introduce them to basic art vocabulary. Each portfolio contains several prints that relate to each other by artist, subject or other theme. You may use one or more prints in your presentation. Some Art Masterpiece volunteers prefer to focus on one artist and one print – others prefer to have more than one to compare and contrast. There are also unassigned prints in the APT room for you to use should you like. However, it is important that portfolio themes remain the same.

A suggested presentation time is 15 minutes (10 minutes for the younger grades). It is important to do some research so that you feel comfortable with the art and the artist. Most of the information you will need is provided in the packets but feel free to add any additional information you may find to your presentation and to the packets. This should be an interaction between you and the students. During your presentation it is fun to have the children offer observations about what they see in a painting. "Q" and "A" is good during this time as well.

Include a project that reinforces the art you have presented. Keep the project simple. Several packets include project ideas. There are also several resource books available in the APT room to help you with project ideas. You are not limited to simply doing the projects that have been done before. If you have something in mind that seems more fun or interesting, by all means do that project. Supplies available are in the APT room.

As you work on and complete your art projects, please keep in mind that two creations from this year will be displayed during the Cherokee Art Walk on Thursday, May 6th. We are also now responsible for helping to create a "class creation" to be auctioned off during the spring fundraiser on April 16th. This can be a planter with hand prints, a quilt with the children's artwork-the possibilities are endless. If you need ideas and or suggestions, please do not hesitate to ask any of us.

Please complete a "Presentation Report" after your presentation and add to the packet. This is a great way to communicate what did and did not work in the classroom. Sharing ideas makes us all more effective.

We are so excited to announce this year that Cherokee Elementary now has a general membership card to the Phoenix Art Museum! This card is available to students, faculty and staff members. The card will be held in the APT room and must be signed in and out for use. It can be used by an individual and/or family for no more than one week to include one weekend. We ask that you be extra

diligent in helping us to keep track of this card and to ensure that it is available to all who wish to use it! The card admits two adults and up to four children or grandchildren age 17 or under. One of the visitors must be employed by or attend the school named on the card. This is an amazing opportunity for you and your children to actually see some of the original works of art you will be discussing in the classrooms!

Thank you for volunteering your time and bringing the world of art to our students.

Alison, Diane and Jennifer