



Welcome to the 2015/2016 LTES/DHES

Art Docent Program

Thank you for volunteering for the Art Docent Program. This is such a fun and creative volunteer position; I hope it is amazing for each and every one of you – whether it is your first year or your 5th!

The purpose of the Art Docent Program is to expose the children to art fundamentals and several artists over their elementary school years. Exposing the children to the life of an artist and the techniques each used for expression helps to broaden their horizons and find their own creative voice.

Keep it Simple. Ask for help. Have Fun. Share your success with others. Give it your best.

- 1.) Communicate with your teacher. The teachers are super supportive of this program – create a schedule from the get go - having a schedule helps you plan and helps the teacher by knowing when you will be there. If it works for the teacher and yourself – shoot for right after lunch/recess. That gives you time for set-up.
- 2.) Ask if any parents in your class want to help on Art Docent day! The more hands the better!
- 3.) Review your artist/picture book and the project that goes with it – do a practice run with your child at home – make any adjustments or search for a new project that incorporates the same style as the artist you are presenting.
- 4.) Review your supply list. Visit the supply closet at your school. Make a note to reserve any supplies that you will need.
- 5.) ****Purchase any additional supplies you may need. Track your EXPENSES and either turn in for reimbursement or turn in as a donation. IF YOU SPEND ANY OF YOUR OWN MONEY WE NEED TO TRACK IT.** If you plan to make a purchase of art supplies over 30 dollars please get the purchase pre-approved by the art docent chair.
- 6.) Check to see if your print is in the supply closet. Or if a book on the artist is in the library. Even if you are doing a Power Point – it is still nice to bring in a large print or sample. Sometimes it's also fun to bring in a print from another artist that shares the same style – or that influenced the artist. Let the kids compare and contrast.
- 7.) Share your Success. Or dismal results. We want to stop re-inventing the wheel. What worked what didn't – what was really fun – What surprised you?
- 8.) Relax and Have FUN!!!! The kids absolutely LOVE LOVE LOVE the art program. You are like a rock star in their eyes. If you are having fun – they will have fun. It's okay to be silly, it's okay to say – "that's a really good question...let me look into that and I will get back to you..." You don't have to know everything.
- 9.) **Return supplies to the art closet.** Remember the golden rule – TREAT OTHERS LIKE YOU WANT TO BE TREATED. Same goes for art supplies – return them as you would like to find them if you were going to do a project.
- 10.) As we teach the kids, "do your best work". It doesn't have to be perfect – you don't have to be an expert in Matisse you don't have to be a commissioned artist. Ask questions, ask for help...Have FUN!

Questions? Contact Jen Mooney or Shannon Griffith at artdocent.ltespta@gmail.com