

Waco Arts Initiative Programs: The Visual Art Program

Waco Arts Initiative seeks to provide students with the freedom to grow and express themselves through visual art, music, and theatre classes. Children enrolled in WAI's visual art program have the chance to develop their creativity through various fine art projects, which they will exhibit at WAI's gallery event at the end of the semester.

The visual art program primarily focuses on teaching the children fine art, as opposed to arts and crafts. The students work on three projects throughout the semester: a painting, a sculpture piece, and a photography collage. The children are divided into age groups, and each child is given an individual mentor who works with the child and oversees the completion of his or her projects.

Through WAI's visual art program, children learn a multitude of art skills. Each week, the visual art mentors give the children a specific skill to work on, such as contour line drawing or color theory. For each project, the children must incorporate all the key concepts they have learned, including composition and balance. The various art projects give the children a chance to explore different media and develop their own creative style, as well as showing them that creating a work of art is a process that requires patience and commitment.

In addition to teaching the children art, the WAI visual art program also instills important lessons that can be applied throughout the children's lives. Children hone their creative problem solving skills by being given a task in which they must create a work of art using unconventional supplies. Above all, children enrolled in WAI's visual art program learn to take pride in their work and foster their self-esteem. Children in the art program are becoming more enthusiastic about getting to display their work and show others what they have created. The children are seeing that the work they produce is significant and has value, and they are developing the confidence they need to be successful.