



ARTS lifts young people in the South County region of San Diego to become confident, compassionate and courageous community builders through the transformative power of creativity.

Our Team

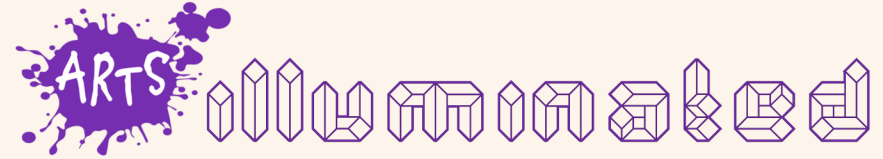
Laura Acosta
Daniel Alvarado
J Collier
Aurora Cruz
Nicole Deline
Pablo Dodero
Sheena Rae Dowling
Lucy Eagleson
Sarai Elguezabal
Leah Eria
Sora Gallagher
Connie Garcia
Courtney Heald
Zac Keane
Kelsey Kenny
Zade Landegger
Shanika Lazo
Jose Lopez
Terry Matsuoka

Adriana Quezada
Iris Rain
Claudia Rodriguez-
Biezunski
Abraham Romero
Anna Mia Ruiz
Barbara Salazar
Guillermo Santiago
Ada Shido
Joshua Silla
Rob Tobin
Ell Treese
Lerida Vega
Lian Verdeflor
Katie Carrion
Jose Contreras Jr.
Ever Parmely Den Herder
Jess Garcia
Jerry Scott
Daniela Sebastian
Christopher Lloyd Tucker

Olimpia Vazquez Ojeda
Adrianna Xibille

Interns

Isabella Cervantes
Julia Cordova
Haley Cromar
Meghan Edwards
Esther Gutierrez
Vanessa Hernandez
Vesna Kerxhaliu
Yaremi Martinez
Marina McClane
Emily McHale
Riziki Omonde
Aileen Puga
Ava Smith
Sonya Valle
Carlo Jacobo



Youth Arts Festival | Spring 2024

student gallery + interactive pieces +
hands-on art + music + snacks

Shoutout to our amazing partner community!

Teroa Pselio and Peter Alton (Arc-Experience), Jason Josafat and Brendan Oldham (Bayfront High School), Christy Bystrak, Priscilla Garza and Omar Calleros (Chula Vista Elementary School District), Yanet Lopez, Eric Meyer and Veronica Castañeda (Fleet Science Center), Hector Castro and Francisco Eme (The Front Gallery), Erika Rosas, Denise Young, Jessica Codallos and Amanda Wallace (Juvenile Court and Community Schools), Kaori Fukuyama, Kathy Melanese, Steven Sanchez, and the National School District team (NSD), Kelsey Pennington and Jeni Barajas (Olivewood Gardens and Learning Center), Danielle Tentschert (Ocean Connectors), James Traxler and Patty Cruz (Sweetwater High School)

Special Thanks to Our Spring 2024 Supporters:

Clare Rose Foundation, Alliance Healthcare Foundation, California Arts Council, Chula Vista Elementary Unified School District, City of San Diego, Commission for Arts and Culture, Conrad Prebys Foundation, County of San Diego, David C. Copley Foundation, Jason Mraz Foundation, Jay Kahn Endowment Fund, Latattore Foundation, Lily Lai Foundation, National Conflict Resolution Center, National School District, Passion Planner, Robert T Keeler Foundation, San Diego County Office of Education (Juvenile Court and Community Schools District), San Diego Foundation, South Bay Community Services, Sweetwater Union High School District, The City of National City, Zable Foundation, ARTS Ambassadors and individual donors



SATURDAY, MAY 18, 2024

@areason2survive @areason2survive

<http://www.areason2survive.org>

WELCOME

ILLUMINATED: YOUTH ARTS FESTIVAL!

We are so glad you are here!

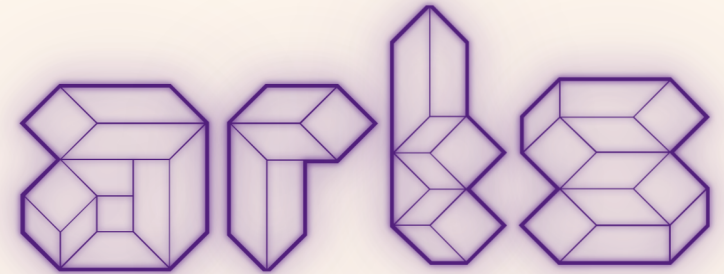
Today we highlight over **340 young artists** who, for the last few months, have dedicated their time and energy to create multiple art pieces, immersive installations, and engaging activities you will experience today.



Keep a look out for hidden letters throughout the ARTS Center. These letters will look something like the "arts" text on the right page here.



Be sure to look all around you...
Some letters can be below you, on a corner, or high up by the ceiling!



Once you find all the letters, you will *illuminate* an inspiring message to remind you what this event is all about!

Keep track of the letters as you find them here:

1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7.

8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17.

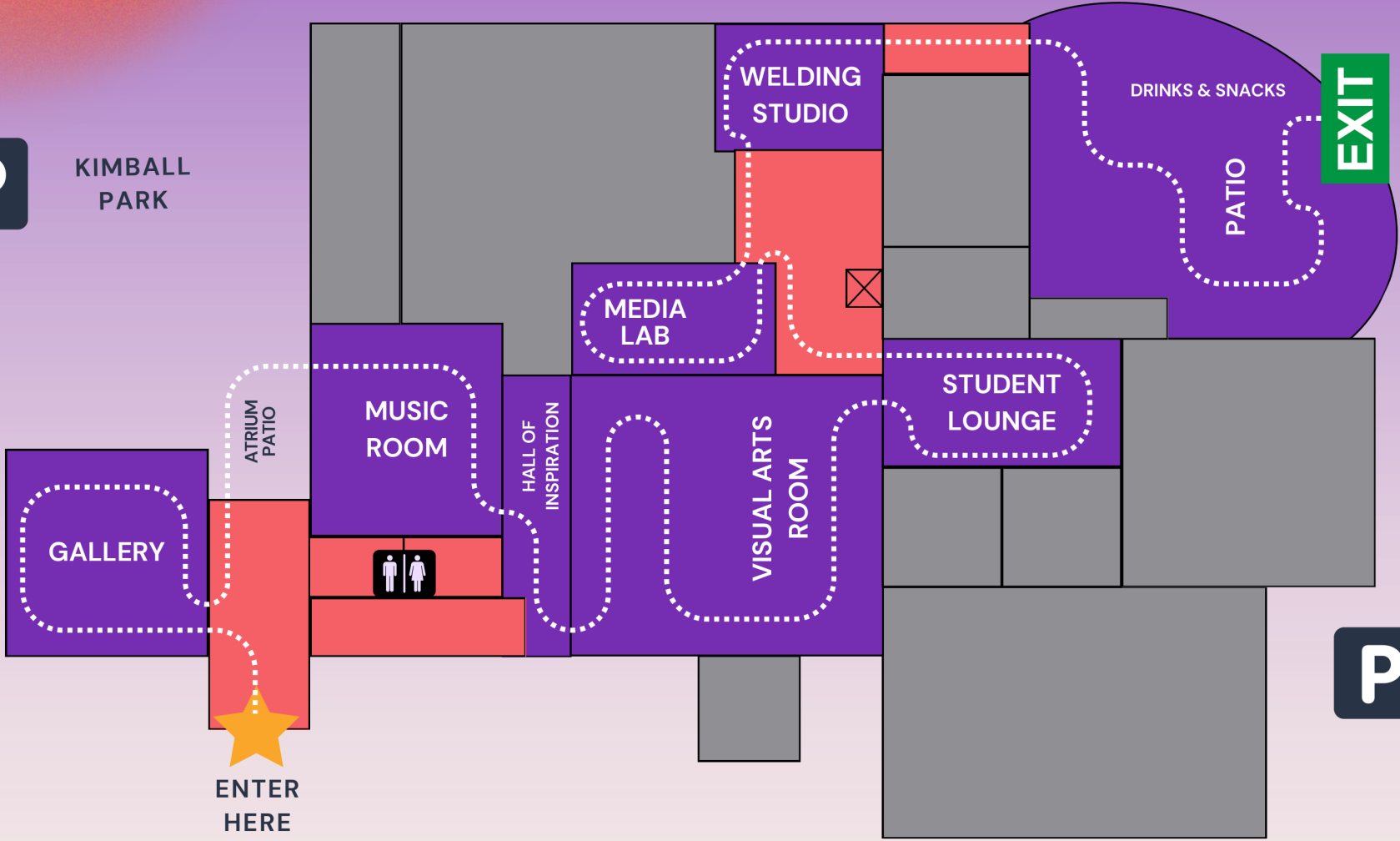
ARTS is proud play a role in nurturing this vibrant **artistic community.** As you explore the festival, we hope the brilliance of these young artists ignites a **spark of inspiration** within you.

Ask questions, explore, and let your curiosity shine!

Complete the activity and find us at the ARTS table in the patio to receive a fun reward!



KIMBALL PARK



EXIT



P



P



"C" AVE

12TH STREET

"B" AVE

MINI GALLERY

Show your art work in ARTS' Mini Gallery Exhibition! It doesn't matter if you are new to art making or a seasoned pro, all abilities are welcomed. Paint a mini canvas with acrylic paint or create a mini sculpture with air dry clay.

Sheena Rae Dowling, Marina McClane, Meghan Edwards & Riziki Omonde

Painting and Murals

 **HALL OF INSPIRATION**



LOUDER THAN SHADOWS

Join us in the music room where you can experience each sound collage individually using a QR code or sit and listen on one of our ipads and headphones. Check out our community project in which artists and members of the community worked on a collaborative painting capturing sounds from Kimball Park.

Pablo Doderó & Marina McClane

Sound Collage

 **MUSIC ROOM**

CYBERFORGE!

The Digital Sculpture project team focused its efforts on 3D modeling, a specific form of digital drawing. With a solid foundation in 3D modeling, young artists were able to create robots, dragons, bunnies, soldiers and more - both as two dimensional images and as three dimensional sculptures. Come see how we brought these creations to life in the Media Lab!

Christopher Lloyd Tucker, Carlo Jacobo & Kelsey Wismar

Digital Sculpture

 **MEDIA LAB**

LIGHT & SHADOW YOUTH MURALS

Come check out our youth murals created in our Paintings and Murals Project Team! We split up into teams to create these artworks based on the theme of light and shadow. Our final mural projects are the marks we leave for future students to feel inspired, welcomed, safe and free to be their unique artistic selves.

Sheena Rae Dowling, Marina McClane, Meghan Edwards & Riziki Omonde

Painting and Murals

 **HALL OF INSPIRATION**

LUMINOUS THREADS

Patchwork, totes, and pants, oh my! We had too much fun sewing up a storm filled with sewing confidence. Come check out our pieces and get a behind the scenes look into our creation process.

Claudia Rodriguez-Biezunski, Sonya Valle, Vesna Kerxha & Yaremi Martinez

Sewing 101

 **VISUAL ARTS**



WELDING PHOTO BOOTH

The ARTS @ Work Welding Interns invite the community to experience the Welding Studio and snap an unusual artistic photo to remember their experience. This photo booth has a shadow cast on visitors from remnants of their gallery piece.

Zac Keane, Nicole Deline, Emily Mchale & Kelsey Wismar

Sweetwater Welding Interns

 **WELDING STUDIO**

ABSTRACT SHADOW SCULPTURES

Young artists in ARTS 4 Justice played with shadows as their starting point to make abstract imagery and then carved an expressionist relief sculpture.

Rob Tobin, Kelsey Kenny, Vanessa Hernandez, Meghan Edwards & Kelsey Wismar

Juvenile Court Community Schools, South Campus & Global Academy

 **VISUAL ARTS**

GOING MOBILE

Make your own art piece to add to our communal mobile. See if you can keep this artwork balanced and what kind of shadows are cast on the wall.

Rob Tobin, Kelsey Kenny, Vanessa Hernandez, Meghan Edwards & Kelsey Wismar

Juvenile Court Community Schools, South & Global campuses

 **VISUAL ARTS**



FIRE AND RESILIENCE

Like a forest after a fire, we are resilient. Young artists use this analogy to reflect on the “fires,” or struggles in our own lives, and how they can make us stronger. The result is an acrylic painting on canvas that combines fire imagery with a personal resilience statement.

J Collier & Daniela Sebastian
Palmer Way Elementary

 **STUDENT LOUNGE**

CANDLELIT TRIBUTE TO CARAVAGGIO

The goal of this lesson was to learn about the 16th century Italian artist Michelangelo Merisi da Caravaggio (1571-1610) and to seek inspiration from the painting technique “chiaroscuro.” In art, chiaroscuro is the use of strong contrasts between light and dark, and it translates literally to “light-dark.” Artists first incorporated this technique in the Renaissance and Baroque periods of art, usually to create bold contrasts affecting a whole composition. As an intro to this concept, we looked at paintings by masters of this technique, such as Caravaggio, and paid tribute to the idea by re-imagining the candle light that would have lit the scenes and provided the artist’s dramatic lighting.

Helena Zadé Landegger & Barbara Salazar
El Toyon Elementary

 **STUDENT LOUNGE**

OUR PLACE IN THE UNIVERSE

Young artists forged a journey towards our cosmic frontier and created celestial bodies to design their own galaxy. In our discussion on the theme, we took inspiration from astronomy maps used by sailors, by Van Gogh’s infamous *Starry Night* and by visual artist Katie Paterson, who uses themes of celestial bodies in their artwork, such as mapping dead stars and creating a lightbulb that simulate the experience of moonlight and totality in eclipses.

Abraham Romero, Jess Garcia & Isabella Cervantes
Central Elementary

 **STUDENT LOUNGE**

SCULPTURE PARKS

For *Sculpture Parks*, young artists were tasked with creating sculpture park prototypes made of colorful construction paper for new parks in National City. They thought about the theme “Light & Shadow” when designing their sculptures and how light and the elements will interact with their outdoor parks. They also thought about “illumination” as play and how art in public spaces offers creativity and light into our everyday lives.

Ell Treese, Amalia Luque & Vanessa Hernandez
Las Palmas Elementary

 **STUDENT LOUNGE**

CREATURES OF THE DEEP

Young artists took a chance to explore the deepest depths of the ocean. Here, the water is so deep that no sunlight can reach, blanketing the bottom of the ocean in complete darkness. Organisms that live and survive down here create their own light with their bodies, allowing them to visibly pop amidst a sea of black. We recreated that effect by painting sea creatures you would find in these ‘midnight zones,’ like squid, jellyfish and anglerfish against a black canvas background.

Iris Rainbow & Sora Gallagher
Rancho de la Nación

 **STUDENT LOUNGE**

SPRING BATIK

Young artists learned about the Indonesian tradition of creating Batik fabric and how wax is used to create a resist. This project allowed students to explore themes of “Light & Shadow” by thinking about their design in positive vs. negative space. During our discussion for this project we encouraged students to create a spring themed design that they felt represented them, all while using a limited color palette to tie all the pieces together.

Lerida Armendariz, Ever Parmely-Den Herder & Aileen Puga
Kimball Elementary School

 **GALLERY**

MY OWN WORLD

Young artists created their own worlds! Vibrant realms living in unassuming tins, we explored light and shadow as a metaphor for the power of art. We created small spaces that challenge the expectations of our pedantic world. By harnessing their creativity through different mediums (markers, clay, felt, found objects, etc.), the tin worlds allow us to partake in the unique experiences of each artist and celebrate their voices.

Lian Verdeflor & Sarai Elguezabal
Olivewood Elementary School

 **STUDENT LOUNGE**

TRUE SELF PORTRAIT

Young artists go beyond the physical and create portraits that reflect their background, interests and experiences. Inspired by artists Yólanda Lopez, Adrian Brandon and Marcela Flórido, these portraits are a celebration of who we are on the inside. Multiple mediums are used to symbolize our multifaceted nature.

Leah Eria, Laura Acosta & Ava Smith
Ira Harbison Elementary

 **GALLERY**

BOTANICAL ILLUSTRATION

This two-week long project’s goal was to complete a nature journal and create two very different pieces of art based on observation of nature and flowers. We explored the work of two women artists of different times who gained success and financial independence through observation and passion for art. The results are watercolors in a classic, botanical illustration style and modern patterns with mixed media that let young artists use their gained knowledge of the flowers as a starting point for patterns that could easily be translated and applied to different products.

Adriana Quezada, Aurora Cruz & Sonya Valle
Lincoln Acres Elementary School

 **STUDENT LOUNGE**

JAPANESE NOTAN DESIGN

Japanese Notan Design explores the concept of light and shadow and how we are comprised of both. Students cut symbols and shapes representative of who they are out of colored construction paper and pieced them together to create a composition reflective of their contrasting characteristics.

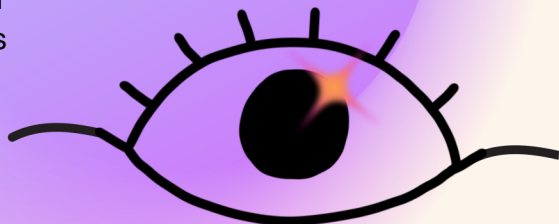
Courtney Heald, & Jerry Scott Lopez
John A. Otis Elementary

 **STUDENT LOUNGE**



PROGRAM PRESENTATIONS

Join us for live presentations featuring voices from both youth and Teaching Artists from our programs



12:25 pm

Welcoming Words
📍 Gallery

12:40 pm

Sound Collage Artist Talk
(Community ARTS)
📍 Music Room

12:50 pm

Paintings and Murals
Artist Panel
(Community ARTS)
📍 Visual Arts Room

1:00 pm

ARTS 4 Justice Teaching
Artist Conversation
(ARTS 4 Justice)
📍 Visual Arts Room

1:10 pm

Sewing 101/102 Artist
Demonstrations
(ARTS@Work)
📍 Visual Arts Room

1:25 pm

ARTS on Campus Teaching
Artist Panel
(ARTS on Campus)
📍 Student Lounge

1:35 pm

Digital Sculpture Artist
Demonstrations
(Community ARTS)
📍 Media Lab

1:45 pm

ARTS@Work Artist Talk
(ARTS @ Work)
📍 Welding Studio

2:05 pm

Guitar with Carlos E
(Community ARTS)
📍 Patio

2:15 pm

Raffle + Closing Remarks
📍 Patio

Gallery

Join us in the ARTS Gallery for an exhibition featuring work from all 4 of our programs!

We are excited to announce that our *Illuminated: Spring 2024 Youth Arts Show* will be on display through the month of May.

PATIO ACTIVITIES

LIFT EVERY VOICE

Aims to promote health equity and social cohesion across generations and backgrounds. By showcasing the writings of youth from LMEC, National School District, and Mercy Housing senior residents, it raises awareness of issues like anxiety, loneliness, LGBTQ+ discrimination, and grief, fostering community connection and understanding.

Artist Johnnierenne Nia Nelson
Far South/ Border North Project

📍 PATIO

GUITAR WITH CARLOS

Come join us in the the patio for an acoustic guitar performance by Carlos E, one of our youth participants in the Community ARTS project team, *Paintings and Murals*.

Carlos E.
Community ARTS

📍 PATIO

ARTS INFORMATION TABLE

Learn more about our programming and collect your scavenger hunt prize!

📍 PATIO

FACE PAINTING WITH IRIS

Iris Rainbow, Teaching Artist with ARTS on Campus, will be offering face painting on the patio as a fun activity for all ages to come and enjoy!

Iris Rainbow

📍 PATIO

NATIONAL CITY STEAM COLLABORATIVE

Full STEAM Ahead offers families enrichment opportunities that focus on science, technology, engineering, art and math, with a special emphasis on conservation. Check out our booth on the patio to learn more!

📍 PATIO

ART FOR PLANETARY HEALTH PROJECT

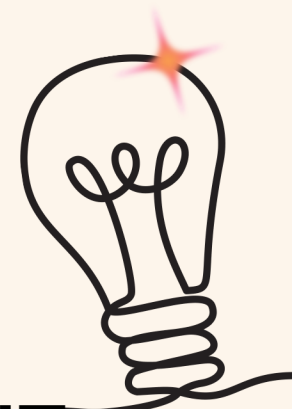
Artist Kline Swonger presents an innovative community art project that intertwines the natural beauty of rocks with the environmentally conscious art form of cyanotypes, fostering a dialogue on our relationship with the planet.

📍 PATIO

Illuminate our mission with your generosity
Every donation makes a difference!



Support ARTS in creating impactful programming that fosters community through the transformative power of creativity — donate today!



BE A BRIGHT LIGHT