

Artists for Kids Studio Art Academy

Artists for Kids Studio Art Academy offers young artists immersive experiences where they develop thoughtful, independent perspectives on visual arts and culture. Through hands-on learning with professional artists, visits to galleries, and access to high-quality studio materials, students build a personalized portfolio that reflects their voice, skill, and growth.

This advanced Academy places art-making at the centre of inquiry—encouraging creativity, communication, critical thinking, and collaboration. Working in the Artists for Kids Shadbolt Studio and the Gordon Smith Gallery, students gain the skills, independence, and confidence needed to thrive as emerging art practitioners. The year culminates in a professionally mounted exhibition showcasing their work.

Students explore a wide range of artistic processes, including drawing, painting, printmaking, and sculpture, offering both depth and breadth in studio practice. Intensive hands-on work is complemented by artists in residence and post-secondary and gallery collaborations, giving students a clear understanding of the skills, dedication, and pathways required for future studies in the visual arts.

The opportunity to engage with artists in residence each term enriches the learning environment and provides students with meaningful connections to the broader arts community. The Artists for Kids Studio Art Academy not only prepares students for post-secondary success—it empowers them to see themselves as artists now.

Students in the Academy are encouraged to:

- Explore identity, sense of belonging and express a personal philosophy of art
- Reflect critically and respond to personal work and the artworks of others
- Enhance understanding of contemporary Canadian art
- Understand that growth as an artist is dependent on perseverance, resilience, refinement, reflection and risk-taking
- Understand the career elements and habits required of professional artists
- Develop a portfolio of quality artwork
- Participate in a year-end exhibition



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Program Information

Who can Participate?

The Artists for Kids Studio Art Academy is open to all students in Grades 10-12.

Fees

The total cost for the Artist for Kids Studio Art Academy is **\$450** for the 2026-2027 school year.

Payment: To confirm a student's registration and secure placement in the Academy for the 2026-27 school year, payment may be made in full, or monthly instalments may be set up by the deadline stated in the acceptance letter.

Please note: Failure to pay the Academy Fee in full or set up monthly instalments by the deadline stated in the acceptance letter will result in automatic withdrawal from the Academy.

A limited number of bursaries are available for this Academy.

Location and Schedule

The Artists for Kids Studio Art Academy is located at Artists for Kids' Shadbolt Studio and the Gordon Smith Gallery during Period 4 or 8, from 1:50 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Transportation to and from the Academy site is the sole responsibility of the student and/or parent/guardian.

Ready to Apply?

New and returning Academy students must complete the online application. Applications will be accepted from January 15, 2026 to February 28, 2026.

Questions?

Email: academies@sd44.ca or artistsforkids@sd44.ca
Phone: (604) 903-3798



Student artwork on display at Griffin Art Projects
Photo by Khim Mata Hipol

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