

# ARTs Education Update

September 2021

Welcome to our ARTs Education Update, we hope this will be a useful place for you to find support for the awesome care that you give to our kids!

## A Quick Glance Inside . . .

- Young Artist of the Week
- Art Contacts at NVSD
- AFK After School Art Program
- *Beyond the Horizon*, Our Fall Teaching Exhibit!
- VSO at Your School?
- AFK Collector's Program!
- Looking at Residential Schools through the lens of the Visual Arts
- District ArtStarts Grant
- District Celebrations at NVSD, hopeful!

## Young Artist of the Week!



Artists for Kids and the North Vancouver School District are excited to spotlight excellence in the arts through the Young Artist of the Week program. The Young Artist of the Week program provides recognition to student artists and raises public awareness of the importance of the diverse Arts education offered in schools across the North Vancouver School District.

The program has expanded to include [visual arts](#), [music](#), [dance](#) and [drama](#). Students who have been nominated by their schools will be recognized on the AFK and NVSD websites and social media channels. Each nominated student will receive a letter of congratulations, a YAOW certificate and a printed professional portrait, all with the aim to recognize and celebrate their arts.

[Nominations will be accepted until October 8th](#). Our first photo shoot will be held on at the Gordon Smith Gallery on October 25<sup>th</sup>. More information can be found [HERE](#) on how to nominate a student.



## Art Contacts at NVSD

We are so grateful to all the Art Contacts that continue to support the arts programs within our schools. Thank you for all that you do! If the Art Contact for your school has changed, please email Chantal Pinard at [cpinard@sd44.ca](mailto:cpinard@sd44.ca).

## AFK After School Art Program

Explore the built environment through drawing and 3D design or bring your own stories and characters to life in AFK's interactive in person and virtual classes this fall!

With each virtual registration, AFK has lovingly created course

supply packs that can be picked up prior to the first class, all included in the class fee. Each pack includes a variety of art papers and drawing media. Students will learn to use these materials in the class and can continue to create with them at home. Registration begins on September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 12:00 pm.



## AFK Fall Teaching Exhibit Announcement!

Did you know that NVSD is probably the only school district in Canada that owns and operates an art gallery that is home to an extensive collection of Canadian Art, representing a significant cultural asset to our community? The gallery is [our place](#), beyond our vibrant schools. It is a welcoming place for our community to share their stories and to learn from each other. It is a place of memory and experience that we are incredibly grateful to have to welcome each other across the district. The gallery is a place to support you in the extraordinary work that you do with your students.

## Beyond the Horizon

*Beyond the Horizon* is an expression defined as, "farther than the possible limit of sight, beyond what we can foresee, know or anticipate."<sup>1</sup> It is both visual – what we see – and conceptual – what we know. The horizon as a metaphor provides us with an opportunity to challenge and evaluate our own ways of knowing. We can learn from artists' processes and works that represent ways to stretch our thinking, to experiment with new materials, to think expansively, and to create new conventions. This exhibit explores artist's use of materials and collaboration as a means to investigate and expand boundaries, break barriers and redefine their artmaking practices and ways of thinking.

This exhibit explores artists' use of materials and collaboration as a means to redefine their artmaking practices and ways of thinking. This physical and cognitive process is represented in a variety of visual forms including sculpture, photography, textiles, drawing, painting, and printmaking.

1. [thefreedictionary.com](http://thefreedictionary.com).



George Littlechild, *On Sacred Ground*, 1996, Acrylic on Canvas

For George Littlechild, the use of materials, vibrant colour, and personal imagery is therapeutic, purifying, and offers a means to reconnect with his culture. His work offers viewers opportunities to expand the horizon of thinking about history, culture, and identity.

*Beyond the Horizon* asks us, have you ever imagined how far the horizon stretches? What is beyond it? Will you explore it? What will you create as you expand your thinking?

This fall we look forward to learning with you at our gallery, together.

Public Gallery Hours:  
September 25, 2021 to February 24, 2022

Thursday, 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm  
Saturday, 11:00 am – 4:00 pm

Join curator Karl Hipol for a tour September 25, 2021 at 2:00pm.

## Visiting OUR Gallery this Fall

This fall AFK is excited to launch a blended model for our Grade 5 Gallery Program!

AFK will offer a half-day Gallery Program to ALL grade 5 classes (including split classes) in the school district. Each program, led by AFK art educators, will consist of two parts. Students will first take part in an in-person art workshop in their classroom, creating art inspired by the fall teaching exhibition. This workshop will be followed by a tour of the fall exhibition, either in-person at AFK or in classrooms via MS Teams.

The 2021-2022 Gallery Program will run from the week of Sept. 27 until the week of Feb. 21. AFK will contact schools to schedule Gallery Programs starting next week. We'll be in touch!



## VSO in Your Classroom?

VSO Education Programs 2021-22 offer elementary and secondary live, in-person concerts and encounters. For more information, check out their [website](#).

## AFK Collector's Program

After over 30 years of programming, it's extraordinary what can be possible when we come together with a common vision, supporting our kids, educators and artists in our community.

Our community's continued support has made such a difference!

With appreciation, we have brought back and renamed, our Loyalty Program at AFK.

We are pleased to launch the *AFK Collector's Program*, offering our valued customers the ability to receive significant discounts on our unique collection of Canadian fine arts prints. For more information on this print program, please visit the AFK website. For more information on the NVSD payment program, please click [HERE](#).



## Supporting Your Classroom: Looking at Residential Schools through the Lens of the Visual Arts

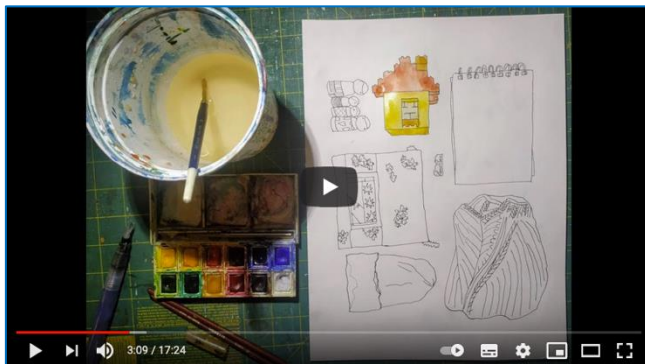
### Indian Residential Schools: Mixed Media Collages

This activity is based upon the work and process of two artists, George Littlechild and Jane Ash Poitras. Both artists have used research and mixed media processes to explore topics of history, story, and memory centering around cultural loss, exploration and re-learning.

Students will be asked to respond visually to Canada's historical and current issues surrounding residential schools. In the process of this response students will be asked to make emotional associations with colour, imagery, text, symbols, mark-making and patterning using the work of Poitras and Littlechild as sources of inspiration. Both a [Lesson Plan](#) and accompanying [Power Point](#) are available to support you.



### The Stories We Carry With Us: Mixed Media Drawing

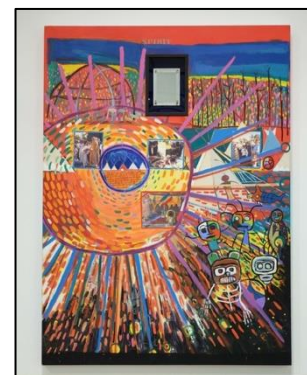


This [video](#) presents an art activity in which viewers create a mixed media drawing representing our personal histories through symbols. We also learn about Orange Shirt Day, an annual day dedicated to learning about the history and impacts of Residential Schools in Canada and to honouring Indigenous children who attended these schools. We explore a print by Canadian artist Kenojuak Ashevak and draw inspiration from a photography trend called “knolling”. As we create our own drawings we consider the

invisible backpack of experience and history that we all carry with us and ways that we approach others with compassion and respectfulness. Please find a supporting [curriculum document here](#).

### Recording Journeys of Learning and Unlearning: Visual Listening Journal

The activity presented in this [video](#) is inspired by the artwork of Canadian artist Jane Ash Poitras, who uses research and mixed media processes to explore the topics of Indigenous culture, history, and politics. Specifically, she examines the past and present impacts of colonial practices, such as the Indian Residential School system. In her artwork Shamanic Journey (1992), featured in this video, Poitras creates a visual record of her own journeys of knowledge, inspiration, and spiritual insight. In this video viewers learn how to create their own visual listening journal in which they record their personal journeys.





## AFK Enrichment

We will be hosting Artists to work directly with our students at the ESC building this year! Please mark your calendars to nominate a student to join our Enrichment program, where kids, teachers and artists work together in our Gallery and studios!

Photography • Birthe Piontek • November  
 Grade 7 • Amelia Butcher • January  
 Secondary • Sara Khan • April  
 Grade 3 • Russna Kaur • May

## District ArtStarts Grant

If you will be hosting an artist in your classroom or at your school this school year, please contact [cpinard@sd44.ca](mailto:cpinard@sd44.ca). Your support with this district funding makes a significant difference by providing funding to support district events, festivals, and artists in residence, a HUGE thank you!



North Vancouver School District has a unique funding model that brings funding to our district to host accessible events, workshops and festivals that can support our district as a whole. We are hopeful that next year, we can continue to host our traditional Jazz Festival, Primary Days of Music, Dance Festival and our Intermediate Music Festival! Thank you for your support to make this happen!

For educators who are interested in applying directly for additional funding in their classroom, ArtStarts has a grant just for you, please check out the details [HERE!](#)

## District Celebrations at NVSD, hopeful!

We are hopeful to host district celebrations this year, creating a space for educators and students to celebrate what can be possible ☺

Below is a first **DRAFT** of what we are beginning to build. Please stay tuned for more detail and confirmation.

Event	Date of Event	Location
Secondary Jazz Festival	February 12	Argyle
Intermediate Music	March 2 and 3rd	TBD
PDOM	May 31 - June 2	ESC 5th Floor

Art from 44	March 31 - April 7	GSG
Dance Festival	April. 20.	TBD
B&S Music Festival	April 6-8	Mountainside
Secondary Choral Festival	Feb 28 - Mar 3	GSG

It's going to be a FANTASTIC year!  
Arts Education Team