

ARTs Education Update

SPECIAL EDITION 2021

Welcome to the 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 . . .

- AFK Fall Teaching Exhibit Announcement!
- Visiting our Gallery next year
- Festivals at NVSD, let's get ready!
- Celebrating!

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.

We are all about to take a much needed summer break! We wanted to share with you though, our preliminary work for the upcoming Fall Exhibition to have in the back of your mind while you are doing all things summer! ☺ The gallery is a place to support you in the extraordinary work that you do with your students. We invite you to think about the possibly of collectively, learning together next year through this lens.

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.”¹ 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 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



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.

Visiting OUR Gallery this Fall

In the 2021-2022 school year 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. In each program, led by AFK art educators, students will create art inspired by our fall teaching exhibition. Students will engage with the fall exhibition, either in-person at AFK or in classrooms via a virtual tour. The 2021-2022 Gallery Program will run from the week of Sept. 27 until the week of Feb. 21.



By September 13, AFK will contact grade 5 teachers at schools that are in walking distance to the Gordon Smith Gallery. These teachers will have the opportunity to sign up for an in-person half-day Gallery Program at the Gordon Smith Gallery. Classes who are unable to walk to the Gallery will be contacted by October 15 and will have the opportunity to sign up for a half-day AFK Gallery Program in their classroom. An AFK Educator will travel to their school and lead an art activity in their class. This in-person school-based workshop will be followed by a virtual Gallery Tour, providing students with an opportunity to view and engage with artworks on exhibit.

Festivals at NVSD!

Let's get excited about the return of our festivals next year! If you are interested in getting involved, please look this fall in this update for what will be offered for the next school year. We will be able to start our planning as soon as our new Health and Safety guidelines are shared in August!



Celebrating all that you've done in the Arts!!



A special thank you to the many people who helped bring this video clip together. The video is not about a particular place and time (well a few masks share a bit of history and time :) but a feeling of who we are and what can be possible, yes even though a global pandemic!! Awesomeness!

Congratulations!

The happiest of summer all, what a year!

The Arts Education Team

Happy Summer!
Arts Education Team