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White Bear Lake Area Educational Foundation

The White Bear Lake Area Educational Foundation Awards Four Ryan Family Art Grants for 2022

WHITE BEAR LAKE, Minnesota (October 14, 2022) – The White Bear Lake Area Educational Foundation (WBLAEF) recently awarded four Ryan Family Art grants to Elementary School teachers in the WBLA school district totaling \$2000.

Exploring Art, Story, and Meaning - Heather Berry, Lakeaires Elementary 4/5th Grade

This project will run for the duration of the school year on Friday afternoons. The first part will include the foundational study of the principles/elements of design. From there, students will explore different artists, art styles, mediums, and techniques. The artist studies connect to literacy standards around research. During this, students will create projects that connect to both group and individual research about the life and work of artists. The artists studied will include, but aren't limited to Kusama, Vincent Van Gogh (and his inspiration from Japanese art), Jen Aranyi, and Frida Kahlo. In addition, students will explore connections to specific genre studies, analyzing how visual elements contribute to the meaning, tone, and beauty of a text. Students will create a painted sculpture, representing a character from our study of traditional literature and character traits.

Variety of Mediums Help Artists Grow - Kelly Humphrey, Lakeaires 2nd Grade

The objective of the project is to have a large variety of mediums for students to use. They will use: water colors, acrylic paints, clay, oil pastels, sketching pencils, stones, resin, resin molds, canvases, weather proof paint, sketching paper, wood, and brushes. By having this large assortment of mediums available, they will be able to learn and create using techniques that are completely new to second graders. Every two weeks they will learn a new technique. Techniques can then be used on a variety of surfaces. Each student will bring home at least six different pieces of art throughout the year. When creating different types of art they will incorporate different artists.

Matoska International Learner Profile Collage - Julie Stonehouse Matoska International

On October 17th and 18th, all Matoska students (K-5) will participate in "Community sessions" that connect with school wide inquiry into how understanding and valuing ourselves leads to positive relationships in an inclusive community. One of these sessions will feature an art project where students choose one of the Attributes of the Learner Profile (inquirers, knowledgeable, thinkers, balanced, caring, communicators, principled, open-minded, caring, risk-takers, reflective) that they feel describes them, and represent that characteristic on a flat river rock, using paint and permanent markers. Color photographs will be taken of each rock and those photographs will be included in a collage that will be installed in the east stairwell of the school, representing the entirety of our Learner Profile. The rocks will then go home as a reminder of the Learner Profile beyond our school walls.

Building a Foundation in Art - Shannon Nicholas, North Star Elementary

North Star is a new Elementary School in Hugo that opened this fall. As a new school, they are trying to establish a baseline of materials required to conduct art lessons using a variety of tools. A common introduction to elementary art is through watercolor so having the appropriate materials will allow teachers in grades K-5 to utilize the materials in the building multipurpose lab set up for activities like this. Teachers will refer to past experiences with the district White Bear Lake Center for the Arts partnership along with online resources for watercolor lessons. In addition, a building team of teachers will work together providing a K-5 watercolor lesson template that can be followed when using the multipurpose lab.

About the White Bear Lake Area Educational Foundation:

The White Bear Lake Area Educational Foundation (WBLAEF) supports White Bear Lake Area Schools with the help of local businesses, alumni, and community members. The Foundation administers teaching grants, scholarships, fellowships for teachers, and an Angel Fund for families with special economic needs. For more information about the WBLAEF please visit www.wblaef.org

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