USD 259 Interactive Sculpture Project

Sponsored by Arts Council and CityArts
Developed and Directed by Dora Timmerman

The Mission of this project is:

- To educate children about sculpture, what it is, what it communicates, how it relates to children personally and what it does for our city.
- To develop children's pride in themselves, their school, and their city – through sculpture.

The Key to Success is the Team!

Each school involves a TEAM that consists of the COORDINATOR, the SCULPTOR and the ART TEACHER. They are chosen on their knowledge, talent, experience, enthusiasm, dedication, generous spirit, personality in working with children, and their love of art and children. They are positive role models that the children relate to and observe working with them in a unique experience of art making. Each team member brings a different perspective to the project, and the children see how people have enriched their lives through art and how people of all ages can work together and make a valuable contribution. Other people in the community are involved in different ways.

Programming: A series of Interactive Program Sessions

- Hands-on presentation using tabletop sculptures, sharing stories and comparisons of the sculptures, touching and discussing.
- Slide program of 30 of Wichita's outstanding sculptures with interactive discussion.
- Interactive bus/walking tour that introduces scale and setting of sculptures. The 3-hour tour includes stops at major sculptures and at Wichita State University.
- Introduction to the three basic methods of creating sculpture and discussion of what the class sculpture will be.
- 3 to 8 session to create a 3-dimensional work of art for the school under the direction of the sculptor.
- Unveiling and dedication ceremony, inviting parents, "celebrities", and the community.

This project lays the foundation for developing:

- A life-long interest in sculpture.
- Future citizens and leaders who will recognize the value of sculpture as part of their personal lives, its contribution to the world around them and its importance as part of their city's public image, character, personality and history.

TOP TEN LIST OF PROJECT BENEFITS

1. Excites children about SCULPTURE and opens their eyes and feelings regarding how it related to them.
2. Shows that art is for EVERYONE and will enhance everyone's life.
3. Gives children an opportunity to STRETCH their ABILITIES in a meaningful and enjoyable art experience that they might not otherwise have.
4. Through the art experience, brings out TALENT and, surprisingly, other latent ABILITIES such as writing and communication skills, creative thinking, and problem solving.
5. Provides an exciting, positive, wholesome experience with sculptors and coordinators as ROLE MODELS, which may provide a new interest to draw the students away from negative activities.
6. Teaches RESPECT for PUBLIC PROPERTY, which, hopefully, will cut down on vandalism through the development of a deeper understanding of sculpture and the hard work that goes into creating it.
7. Shows that sculpture communicates and gives children a WIDER VIEW of their city and their world.
8. Provides art-related IDEAS for classroom, home art and other studies.
9. ENCOURAGES self-expression and CREATIVITY by working with an artist to create a 3-dimensional work of art; shows that both individual and team efforts are necessary to the creative process.
10. Raises AWARENESS that SCULPTURE is timeless and must be appreciated and cared for as public treasures.