

## PUSD Visual Arts

The Visual Arts Program at Prescott Unified School District offers a dynamic, sequential curriculum for grades preschool through twelfth. Students are exposed to a variety of media with opportunities in both two and three dimensional formats. Guided by certified visual arts specialists, students experience the wonder of creating and problem solving. As students progress from elementary through middle school and on to high school, art course offerings become more specific to the fundamentals of drawing, painting, and sculpting. Advanced courses include college level advanced placement portfolio development for students to pursue areas of interest for college and career.

The final step of art production involves displaying works in public spaces around the Prescott community as local businesses welcome the opportunity to exhibit work. Locally owned frame shops, The Frame & I and The Framers Market frame student produced artwork each month, proudly featuring the Artists of the Month in their windows then generously giving the work to the student for a lifetime of enjoyment. Additional community connections with The HIVE and Yavapai College provide opportunities for high school art students to compete for awards and scholarships. Recently, art students who have graduated from PHS have been accepted into prestigious art programs at Savannah School of Art and Design, Pepperdine University, and Minneapolis College of Art and Design to name a few.

PUSD proudly celebrates our young artists each year with the annual Youth Art Month exhibit of student artwork during the month of March. The works of Prescott Unified School District artists are featured in a variety of art exhibits around the community with the premiere event at the Ruth Street Theater Lobby Gallery. The walls of the gallery proudly display the creations of hundreds of students representing each school in PUSD and each grade level K-12. Families, friends, artists, teachers, district leaders, and community members are encouraged to gather to celebrate and support these young artists and bring an audience to their creations, further supporting our goals to promulgate the importance of a visual arts education. This annual tradition has been kept alive by the PUSD art teachers for over 40 years!

The visual arts program in PUSD is a fundamental component of the education of the whole student where critical thinking and problem solving skills flourish in a creative environment.

