

Very Special Arts

2027 Regional Very Special Arts Exhibit

To: Parents/Guardians

From: Brenda Marino, Assistant to the Executive Director,
Midwestern Intermediate Unit IV (MIU IV)

Congratulations! Your student's artwork has been selected to be displayed at the 2027 Very Special Arts Exhibit sponsored by MIU IV. Now in its 38th year, this exhibit celebrates the creative & artistic accomplishments of students in our region.

Important: In order for your student to participate, please read and sign the attached Permission Slip. Please return to your student's teacher by **Friday, January 8, 2027**.

For more information or if you have any questions or concerns, please contact:
Devon Agostino at devon.agostino@miu4.org or Cheryl Karns at cheryl.karns@miu4.org.

The Very Special Arts Exhibit is presented by Midwestern Intermediate Unit IV's Design & Print Center.

Midwestern Intermediate Unit IV

Very Special Arts

MIU IU Very Special Arts Exhibit!

Very Special Arts (VSA) is an international program founded in 1974 by Jean Kennedy Smith as an affiliate of the educational programs of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C. VSA is designed to give special needs children and adults the opportunity to develop and showcase their creative abilities.

Created, managed, and administered by Midwestern Intermediate Unit IV since 1989, the Regional Very Special Arts Exhibit has grown from 30 students 38 years ago to an average of 500 students per year. Very Special Arts showcases the artwork from students, K-12, within the 27 school districts of Butler, Lawrence, & Mercer Counties. Artwork includes painting, drawing, sculpture, fiber, and ceramics. All work is juried and is included in one of the two (2) categories—Juror's Choice and Honorable Mention.

MIU IV's Very Special Arts has celebrated the abilities of special needs students through the art exhibit held at Grove City College. Our regional exhibit brings together students, teachers, families and the general public at an opening reception where the young artists receive certificates, awards, t-shirts, giveaways, and programs listing all participants.

Very Special Arts is founded on the belief that the arts are a universal language that challenges people to look beyond themselves and celebrate their diversity.

The Regional Very Special Arts Exhibit will be held **March 13 - 20, 2027**. The exhibit is open to students with disabilities from the schools in Butler, Lawrence & Mercer counties.

Celebrate your young artist with us at the 38th Very Special Arts Exhibit!

We invite you and your family to please join us at an open house honoring the artists on:

Saturday, March 13, 2027

Pew Fine Arts Center • Grove City College • Grove City, PA

10 am - 2:00 pm

Attention Parents

A Parent Permission Slip is required in order for your child(ren) to participate in the Very Special Arts.

Please read and sign the attached permission slip and return it to your student's teacher.

VERY SPECIAL ARTS
Permission Slip

Parent(s) or Guardian(s):

Congratulations, your student has been chosen to participate in the 2027 Very Special Arts Exhibit.

In order for your student to participate please read and sign this permission slip and return it to your student's teacher.

Your student's artwork has been selected to be displayed at the Very Special Arts exhibits sponsored by Midwestern Intermediate Unit IV. We would like to use your student's artwork, photograph and/or name as part of any news release, websites, social media, advertising, publications, and brochures.

Please Note: Your consent to the above is totally voluntary and can be revoked at any time. The revocation is not retroactive meaning that it does not negate an action that has occurred after the consent was given and before the consent was revoked.

Student's Name (please print): _____

Student T-shirt Size (please circle one)

Youth sizes available: YS YM YL

Adult sizes available: S M L XL XXL XXXL

School District (please print): _____

School (please print): _____

Parent/ Guardian Name _____

******* IMPORTANT*******

Please mark Yes or No in each section. Thank you!

Permission to be in the Exhibit

- ☐ Yes, I grant my permission for my child to be in the exhibit and for his/her artwork and/or name to be used as part of any news release, website, social media, publications, and/or advertising.
- ☐ No, I do not give my permission for my child to be in the exhibit.

Permission to be Photographed

- ☐ Yes, I grant my permission for my child's photograph and/or name to be used as part of any news release, website, social media, publications, and/or advertising.
- ☐ No, I do not give my permission for my child's picture to be taken.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date