



## **SPECTRA ARTS at Hunsberger Elementary**

**What is Spectra Art?** S.P.E.C.T.R.A. is short for Special Teacher Resources for Art. This program is designed to introduce students to art and art appreciation. This is accomplished through grade specific programs which explore different mediums and techniques found in the “fine arts.”

**Who teaches it?** Parent volunteers are responsible for all of the preparation, instruction and clean up. Lesson plans are located in the library. The lessons are in binders by grade. The books may be not removed from the library. Materials and some completed projects are located in the Spectra Art room.

**When is it?** This is entirely up to the individual teacher. A majority of the teachers have parent volunteers come into the class room twice a month. You are typically given one hour for a lesson. Time management is essential! Prep and clean up time is project specific. As you can imagine, cleaning up after a clay project takes significantly more time than a drawing project. **It is essential that you schedule clean up time.**

**Who pays for the supplies?** PTA funds the Spectra Art program using the money raised from Fine Arts Night. Please note: some materials are not standard supplies. Please check with Christine if you need something that we do not have on hand (within budget restraints).

**What is Fine Arts Night (FAN)?** Towards the end of the school year (May), the students’ artwork is showcased. The artwork is typically displayed throughout the school hallways and Quad. The date for this year’s Fine Arts Night will be set at a later date. Spectra volunteers are responsible for preparation, set-up and dismantling the displays.

Last year during Fine Arts Night we not only had Spectra Showcase, we had Galena Chamber Orchestra playing throughout the night as well as the Drama Club’s play. Popcorn and water were available for sale. It was a great event. I anticipate this year’s event will be even more exciting!

**Fine Arts Class Project:** In addition to the student’s artwork displayed during FAN each classroom creates a class project to sell at a silent auction held that night. The proceeds from the silent auction money raised are used for Spectra’s budget the following year.

## **The Basics of Class Management**

Teaching art to children is a fun and rewarding experience. Some of your best memories of your child's years at Hunsberger can be those art moments. It is a privilege for the students to have you in the class. If you have a student who mistreats the art supplies or is disruptive, let them know that their behavior is unacceptable. The classroom teacher is there to provide you back up, don't be afraid to ask for help if the student is unresponsive. If you are feeling uncomfortable with asking the children to cooperate, let the teacher know. Another option is to ask the other parents who have taught what they do to work through similar situations. There are a lot of seasoned veterans out there who can help.

## **Success Is In Planning**

**Pick your project.** Communication with your teacher is essential. Many teachers have projects they like to do or they would like a project to coincide with a lesson. If your teacher is requesting a certain type of project in order to complement their curriculum ask them for ideas.

Use the Spectra binders located in the library. (The binders must remain in the library and may not be checked out.) You may make copies of a project in the copy room. In addition to the Spectra books there are other books that have great ideas that will complement the Spectra books. Please note: some completed projects are located in a completed project/sample binder in the library and in the supply room on top of the file cabinet.

**Sign-up for your Project.** Sign up for your project on the calendar located in the Spectra Room (D Hall). Put your teacher's name and a brief description of the supplies you will need. Please number your project - if you are the first one signing up that day please use the #1, if you are the second person signing up on that day use the #2, etc. Please review other projects for the day. If someone has signed up before you and are using the same supplies and equipment you might want to choose either another day or project as we have limited supplies and equipment.

**Supplies:** Supplies are located in the Spectra Room (D Hall). We keep most supplies on hand for the majority of the projects. However, if you are doing a project that requires special supplies please contact Christine well ahead of time. It can take in excess of two weeks to receive special orders. Also, please remember we are working within a budget so we may not be able to get all supplies!

**Communication:** It is vital that you communicate with your teacher. If life happens (as we all have experienced) and you cannot make your scheduled lesson, please call the teacher and let them know the change in status.

**Clean Up:** This one seems obvious; however..... **please** put the supplies back in their correct place after you have taken the time to clean them properly. This is a matter of common courtesy to the other volunteers. I know it takes time to clean up properly, but

there is nothing more frustrating than finding your supplies still dirty from the volunteer that used them before you.

**Encouragement:** Whether you are in the class to teach one lesson or all of the lessons, the students do appreciate you and your enthusiasm for art. Even though they may be self critical, praise them for their effort. It makes a huge difference. Remember to keep “hands off” the children’s artwork. Do not make or draw the creation for them. Their artwork might not look as you thought it would, but it is their artwork. Suggestions are welcome.

**Tools:** Review quickly at the beginning of the lesson what tools you are using, how to use them correctly and how to store them.

### **Housekeeping**

**Drop Cloths:** Always use a drop cloth when working with media that can stain the carpet. If you have spillage on the carpet, immediately douse it with water and call Frank. He has special equipment to get stains out.

**Paint Brushes:** The paint brushes must be cleaned after every use; NO EXCEPTIONS. The appropriate brushes to use are those that are located near your supply. For example, acrylic paints are located on one side of the room and the brushes to use are on the same shelf. Do not use the Bamboo Brushes for anything but India Ink! It completely ruins them. Please store paint brushes handles down in the bins.

**Paint:** There is a difference between Tempura and Acrylic paint. Please return the paints to the correct shelf. We have tried to organize the room in a way that keeps the paints in their own section.

**Art Prints.** Over the years we have given up on trying to hang the Art Prints. They are now located under the matte cutter.

**Cleaning the Art Room** – Every month one grade’s volunteers are asked to tidy the art room. Thank you in advance for keeping the room, equipment and supplies as tidy as possible.

**Kiln** – Please see separate instructions for the clay and kiln.

### **Who do I contact?**

Supplies and General Questions: Christine Duncan, camkierco@yahoo.com, 826-7646  
Kiln/Clay: Lisa Prikazsky, lprikazs@yahoo.com