

CREATED BY: RACHEL ALLEN DILLON



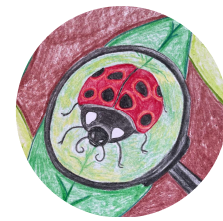
Helping elementary students explore art, think creatively,
and build confidence through engaging, hands-on lessons
led by passionate volunteer docents.



“Dolphins Art has taught students about dozens of artists from across the globe. It’s a truly special program.”

DAVID FRANKEL
RETIRED PRINCIPAL, CARL SUNDAHL ELEMENTARY





“I love this art program! It's absolutely wonderful. I even sit down and do the project with the students.”

FOURTH-GRADE
TEACHER AT
GOLD RIDGE
ELEMENTARY

MY INSPIRATION

Are you looking for a way to enrich your school's curriculum and foster creativity in every child? The Just Art Docent Program is designed to empower students to take creative risks, build confidence, and discover their individuality—all while supporting academic achievement and personal growth.

Just Art engages students from kindergarten through fifth grade in a dynamic, six-year curriculum. Schools like Gold Ridge and Russell Ranch have seen firsthand how Just Art boosts student engagement and builds a vibrant school culture. Every year, students experience new, thoughtfully designed projects that encourage both creative expression and critical thinking.





SIX ONE-HOUR ART LESSONS PER YEAR THAT INCLUDES:

ART HISTORY

The beginning of each lesson focuses on art history about one of the following:

- An artist's biography
- Art theory
- Cultural art
- A children's book author/illustrator

GUIDED ART PROJECT

The second part of the lesson includes a step-by-step art project. Each academic year provides a variety of lessons that include a mix of media:

- Acrylic painting
- Watercolor painting
- Oil pastels
- Collage
- Colored pencils
- Crayons

COORDINATOR SUPPORT

Just Art makes implementation easy for principals, coordinators, and teachers.

The program provides extensive support for your volunteer art docent coordinators, including:

- Art lesson summary sheets with supply list and California art standards
- Presentations and videos to teach the art docents the lessons
- An art docent coordinator guide
- A customized school web portal



Helen Hardin
1943-1984, New Mexico, US




Art Supplies:

- 5.5" x 8.5" White cardstock
- Acrylic paint
- Paintbrush
- Water cup
- Paper towel
- Pencil & eraser
- Palette
- Cotton swabs
- Placemat

Art Fundamentals:

- Cultural influence
- Expression
- Color mixing

Cubist Inspiration

When Helen returned to the U.S., her art became more geometric and abstract, and she used deep colored paints. Hardin was said to have brought a "new look" to Native American art by *New Mexico Magazine*.⁶⁷

The publicity was a turning point in her career; its publicity led to greater success and recognition.⁶⁸




THE PROGRAM

Just Art includes six hands-on training sessions per year. Docents learn the lessons, practice the projects, and build a supportive community—all of which lead to a more impactful experience for students.

Each art presentation features detailed notes and engaging questions, enabling docents of any background to deliver interactive, high-quality lessons.

Building on this foundation, the lessons support skill development with varied learning paths. For younger students, copy-ready handouts and additional guidance are available to ensure that all can participate successfully.

“Eagles Art is one of my favorite things I do at school. Every month, I love learning about a new artist and trying to make a piece of art like theirs. It’s so fun.”

FRANK, A FIFTH-GRADER AT GOLD RIDGE ELEMENTARY





RACHEL A. DILLON BIOGRAPHY

Rachel Dillon graduated from the University of Wisconsin, Madison, in 1994, with a Bachelor of Science in Art and Graphic Design. She received a Master of Science in Instructional Design and Technology from CSU Fullerton in 2022.

Rachel is the author and illustrator of the non-fiction children's book, *"Through Endangered Eyes - A Poetic Journey into the Wild,"* published in 2009 by Windward Publishing. Her book received an Eric Hoffer Honorable Mention award in 2010.

Rachel has been a featured artist in "Wildscape" magazine, shown her work in galleries and museum exhibitions, and has presented at Art Educator conventions and conferences. In 2015, The Nature Conservancy commissioned Rachel to create two paintings for them.

Rachel developed and taught the art curriculum at Brighton Private Elementary School in Folsom from 2012 to 2015.

In 2014, Rachel developed a six-year rotational Art Docent curriculum, comprised of six projects per year, for Gold Ridge Elementary in Folsom. The Just Art Docent Program now serves four Folsom elementary schools.

SOME OF THE ARTISTS REPRESENTED

Henri Matisse	Mary Cassatt
Claude Monet	Salvador Dali
Wyland	Claire Basler
Bev Doolittle	Sandra Boynton
Steve Jenkins	Gregory Kondos
Frida Kahlo	Vivienne Williams
Faith Ringgold	Vincent Van Gogh
Leonardo Da Vinci	René Magritte
Marcus Pfister	Yayoi Kusama

"I have so much fun during the art docent training. It's an hour where I get to learn and try out the art project. It's so relaxing."

VOLUNTEER ART DOCENT





PRICING

\$2,000 per year includes six PowerPoint lessons, art supply lists, and six in-person/video art docent training sessions. The school is also provided a web portal.

The program can be renewed annually.

(Art supplies are purchased by the school)

CONTACT INFORMATION

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ARTIST/STYLE	PROJECT MEDIUMS
YEAR ONE	
Henri Matisse	Acrylic paint
Paul Klee	Oil pastel on black paper
Perspective - Growing Veggies	Watercolors and crayon
Dutch Flower Field	Crayons
Reflections in Nature	Colored pencils and watercolor
Romero Britto	Black marker and crayon
YEAR TWO	
Claude Monet	Colored pencils
Vincent Van Gogh	Oil pastels on black paper
Wyland	Watercolors, crayons and salt
Bev Doolittle	Colored pencils and crayons
Culture - Aboriginal Art	Acrylic Dot painting
Steve Jenkins & Eric Carle	Colored paper and glue
YEAR THREE	
Color Theory Tornado	Oil pastel on black paper
Frida Kahlo	Acrylic paint
Pacific Northwest Tlingit	Black, red, blue markers only
George Rodrigue	Watercolors and crayons
Faith Ringgold	Collage, crayon, marker, cutout and glue
Leonardo Da Vinci	Colored pencils and oil pastels
YEAR FOUR	
Marcus Pfister	Collage
Close-up Perspective	Colored pencil and markers
Salvador Dali	Watercolors and black marker
Mary Cassatt	Oil pastels
Jasper Johns	Pencils, markers, crayons
Claire Basler	Acrylic paint
YEAR FIVE	
Sandra Boynton	Colored pencils
Georgia O'Keefe	Watercolors and crayons
Pablo Picasso	Colored markers
Gregory Kondos	Acrylic paint
Vivienne Williams	Oil pastels
Color Theory - The Wave	Watercolors and crayons
YEAR SIX	
Rene Magritte	Watercolors and crayon
Wayne Thiebaud	Oil pastels
Gail Gibbons	Colored pencils, marker
Yayoi Kusama	Colored Paper collage
Helen Hardin	Acrylic paint
Wildlife art - Eagle	Watercolors and crayon