

## Visual Arts' Philosophy

We recognize that art is a natural activity for all our students today, as it has been throughout the progress of human civilization. We believe, the visual arts can enrich our students' present and future lives by providing powerful force, (i.e., problem solving, and creative, and critical thinking skills), that assists them in understanding and finding/reaching their place in society.

We acknowledge that the need to express, to experiment, to discover, to select, to organize, to create, to appreciate, and to understand, is inherent in each of our students; and, believe that art experiences help our students realize their undiscovered creative and expressive potential, while fostering pride and self-esteem.

We believe, furthermore, that through structured visual experiences, (designed to focus on art/design concepts), students become more sensitive to the aesthetic values in works of art/design, as well as the art/design in their own environment, and the world.

Art experiences, embraced by all cultures, can give meaning to life and improve the quality of life. Through the visual arts, students look at the world from within themselves as they build creative concepts and learn to speak and think about art/design.

Changes in our environment have come through our ability to imagine and produce, (i.e., to critically problem solve and aesthetically judge). Therefore, it is our judgement, that the structured and carefully developed art activities in our program, which embrace a multi-cultural perspective, are an essential investment in the creative energies of our community's youth who will be the future leaders and citizens of our world.