



cultivating
the arts



ARTISTS IN COMMUNITIES AND SCHOOLS – *Arts After Hours* FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What makes a good *Arts After Hours* project?

- The involvement of an experienced, professional artist who believes in the importance of exploration processes in the arts
- A well-designed, collaborative arts project in any arts discipline that evolves with youth input and problem solving
- A project in which all participants explore and learn together
- A project that invites the public to share in or celebrate what the youth have achieved and how it has impacted their creativity or creative processes

What are some examples of things that don't fit well with *Arts After Hours*?

- Lessons where the artist is teaching according to a step-by-step plan
- Daily crafts or other such activities
- Projects or art forms that have no obvious relevance to the participants
- Projects that do not invite youth input and problem solving throughout

Why are exploration processes important?

- Exploration processes encourage youth to participate in determining what they want to achieve and in planning how they will engage in creative processes.
- It instills positive attitudes toward lifelong skills.
- It empowers youth to think about creativity as something they can develop rather than something that is determined by others.

Why are the arts so appropriate for exploration learning projects?

- Artists continuously engage in exploration processes as part of their own artistic practice. Creation in the arts is by its nature an exploratory process that includes ongoing rethinking and problem solving.
- The arts provide a safe way for youth to experiment and take risks in order to develop.

What is the connection between *Arts After Hours* projects and schools if the projects do not take place in a school?

- It has been shown in many studies that youth who engage in exploration processes in the arts develop positive attitudes toward learning in other situations.
- *Arts After Hours* projects take place in locations where youth can be creative in a safe environment (libraries, community centres, schools, etc.).

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

Jody Greenman-Barber

Program Consultant
Community Engagement
Saskatchewan Arts Board
(306) 787-4659 (Regina) or 1-800-667-7526
jgreenmanbarber@saskartsboard.ca

Lindsay Knight

Program Consultant
Aboriginal Arts & Community Engagement
Saskatchewan Arts Board
(306) 964-1165 (Saskatoon) or 1-800-667-7526
lknight@saskartsboard.ca

*For programs serving Aboriginal communities and/or related
to Aboriginal art, skills or knowledge*