

school programs

Fall 2025–Spring 2026

how to book

Scottsdale Arts Learning & Innovation is a vibrant hub for collective impact, uniting more than 90 community partners, 80 teaching artists, 25 schools, dedicated funders, and the wider community each year through powerful, arts-driven programming.

Our programs ignite the creative spark in every individual, making the arts a vital part of both education and daily life. We believe that when creativity flourishes, people thrive—and when people thrive, communities are transformed.

For more information or to book any of these programs, please visit ScottsdaleArtsLearning.org, call us at 480-499-8587, or email us at Learning@ScottsdaleArts.org.



programs at-a-glance

Visual Arts	Performing Arts	Arts Integration	Artistic Skill Development		
				On Our Campus	Grade Level
	●			Ballet Hispánico Student Matinee (page 1)	5+
●			●	SMoCA Discovery Program (page 1)	K–12
	●		●	Cultural Connections Dance (page 2)	9–12
●			●	Visions (page 2)	9–12
				At Your School	Grade Level
●		●	●	Alli Ortega Empty Bowls (page 10)	4–12
●	●	●		Activate Learning (page 6)	1+
	●	●	●	Arizona Wolf Trap (page 6)	Preschool–1
	●	●	●	Composer in the Classroom (page 6)	3+
●	●	●		Hope Chest (page 8)	7–10
		●		Hold on to Hope (page 9)	7–10
●	●	●		Picturing Story (page 6)	3+
	●	●	●	Poetry: Personal to Performance (page 7)	6+



Ballet Hispánico Student Matinee

Friday, January 30, 10:30 a.m.

Ballet Hispánico, the nation's leading Hispanic/Latine dance company, brings its unique interpretation of Bizet's *Carmen* to students. This hour-long, highly energetic performance boldly reimagines that classic tale through explosive movement and follows up with a student Q&A session. This field trip directly connects to the English language arts and fine arts curriculum.

- Length: 60 minutes
- Grades: best for grades 5 and up
- Cost: \$10 per student



Photo: Betty L Hum Photography

Cultural Connections Dance

Cultural Connections Dance gives high school and post-secondary dance students the opportunity to work with touring professional companies and their dancers. This multifaceted dance program helps students become more aware of their bodies and minds through masterclasses, performances, and workshops. This experience is a must for students wanting to add to their pre-professional experience or expand their knowledge of dance.

- Grades: high school and post-secondary
- Cost: \$500 per school

Cultural Connections Dance sponsored by Betty Hum and Alan Yudell, Nationwide Foundation, and Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community.



SMoCA Discovery Program

Using SMoCA's rotating exhibitions as a learning resource, this three-part exploration includes a pre-visit, in-classroom lesson; a field trip to the museum; and a post-visit, in-classroom activity. Each engagement opportunity directly addresses Arizona visual arts standards by creating, responding to, and connecting to visual art.

- Length: three one-hour sessions
- Grades: K-12
- Cost: \$100 per classroom

Background image: Photo: Betty L Hum Photography



Photo: Betty L Hum Photography

Visions

Visions is a year-long visual arts program provided to Valley teens. In collaboration with six high schools, advanced art students visit Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art (SMoCA) for discipline-based, contemporary, and civically involved art workshops with professional teaching artists. Field trips involve collaborative art projects designed to facilitate multicultural discussions, conflict-resolution practices, and innovative painting, digital, photography, video, sound, and sculptural techniques.

- Grades: high school
- Cost: \$700 per school

Visions is supported by Nationwide.



SmART Integration is all about mixing the magic of the arts—like painting, music, movement, and drama—into everyday classroom learning. Through exciting, standards-based residencies and workshops, educators pick up strategies they can easily weave into their lessons. The result? Curious, engaged students who think deeply, get creative, and connect with what they're learning in totally new ways. Learning has never been this fun—or this SmART!

SmART Integration is accomplished through a collaboration with more than twenty teaching artists, multiple school districts, and national partners, including the Kennedy Center, Focus 5, Wolf Trap Institute for Early Learning Through the Arts, and donors.

ARIZONA
WOLF TRAP

INSTITUTE FOR
EARLY LEARNING
THROUGH THE ARTS



Nationwide
Foundation



THINK
SPEAK
Laugh
REFLECT



fun facts

Stats: 95% of teachers report SmART Integration helped them re-engage with the subject matter they teach.

Testimony: "Thank you for making these experiences available for our students and teachers. They benefit so much from the artists' knowledge and are able to apply the experiences to learning throughout the year. They also grow immeasurably in confidence and engagement as they participate in these residencies!"

SmART Integration Residencies

These immersive, standards-aligned residencies support student engagement with academic content and develop essential skills in critical thinking, collaboration, and creative problem-solving. Educators gain hands-on training and mentoring to confidently integrate the arts into their curriculum, sparking fresh energy and innovation in their teaching practice.

Arizona Wolf Trap Early Learning Residencies

Looking for fun, creative ways to engage early learners? Our trained teaching artists demonstrate joyful, active learning through music, movement, storytelling, and puppetry. Teaching artists collaborate with classroom teachers to immerse students in their learning through an art form.

- Length: available in 5 or 16 sessions
- Grades: preschool–1
- Cost: \$500 and up

Interested in learning more about the Wolf Trap program? Let one of our teaching artists present a free demonstration lesson to teachers, parents, or a classroom.

Activate Learning

Students embody learning when lessons include kinesthetic learning strategies, such as tableau and movement. By choreographing movement sequences to music, students will enjoy engaging with classroom content and demonstrating understanding. Activate Learning can be adapted to various subjects, including science, English language arts, and social studies.

- Length: five 50-minute sessions
- Grades: 1 and up
- Cost: \$500

Composer in the Classroom

When students synthesize text through music, they gain literary comprehension while building confidence that anyone can be a composer. Professional musicians guide students to explore how sounds convey meaning and songs tell stories. The experience culminates with performances of original music inspired by a classroom text.

- Length: five 50-minute sessions
- Grades: 3 and up
- Cost: \$500

Picturing Story

Pictures come to life as students read illustrations, deciphering narratives conveyed through composition, images, and colors. By the conclusion of this five-day residency, each student will create a picture dictionary storyboard to inspire recall and retell of a classroom text.

- Length: five 50-minute sessions
- Grades: 3 and up
- Cost: \$500

Poetry: Personal to Performance

Professional poetry and spoken word artists engage students in writing that supports positive self-image and builds a strong classroom community. Students will connect with poetry by identifying literary devices in pop music lyrics and uplifting words of contemporary writers.

- Length: five 50-minute sessions
- Grades: 6 and up
- Cost: \$500

fun facts

Stats: 93% of teachers felt confident in integrating the strategies into their classroom after participating in the program.

Testimony: “The positive change I have noticed in the classroom is that the students value one another’s creativity. There is much more confidence in the kids’ behavior, and they are much more respectful. They understand that everyone has a different perspective, that others may see ideas a little differently, but all are welcome.”

SmART Integration Teacher Workshops



These workshops introduce SmART Integration, a flexible teaching approach that weaves visual arts, music, movement, and drama into your academic instruction to deepen student learning. Led by expert teaching artists, these hands-on, evidence-based workshops will equip teachers with practical tools to integrate these strategies into existing curriculum and lesson plans seamlessly. Scheduling is flexible to incorporate into any district professional development schedule.



- Length: workshop length varies depending on school or district needs
- Grade: great for any grade
- Cost: \$500 and up

Build upon the learning in the workshops by adding a SmART Integration residency. This scaffolded approach will help you apply strategies seamlessly into your classroom. Now that's SmART!



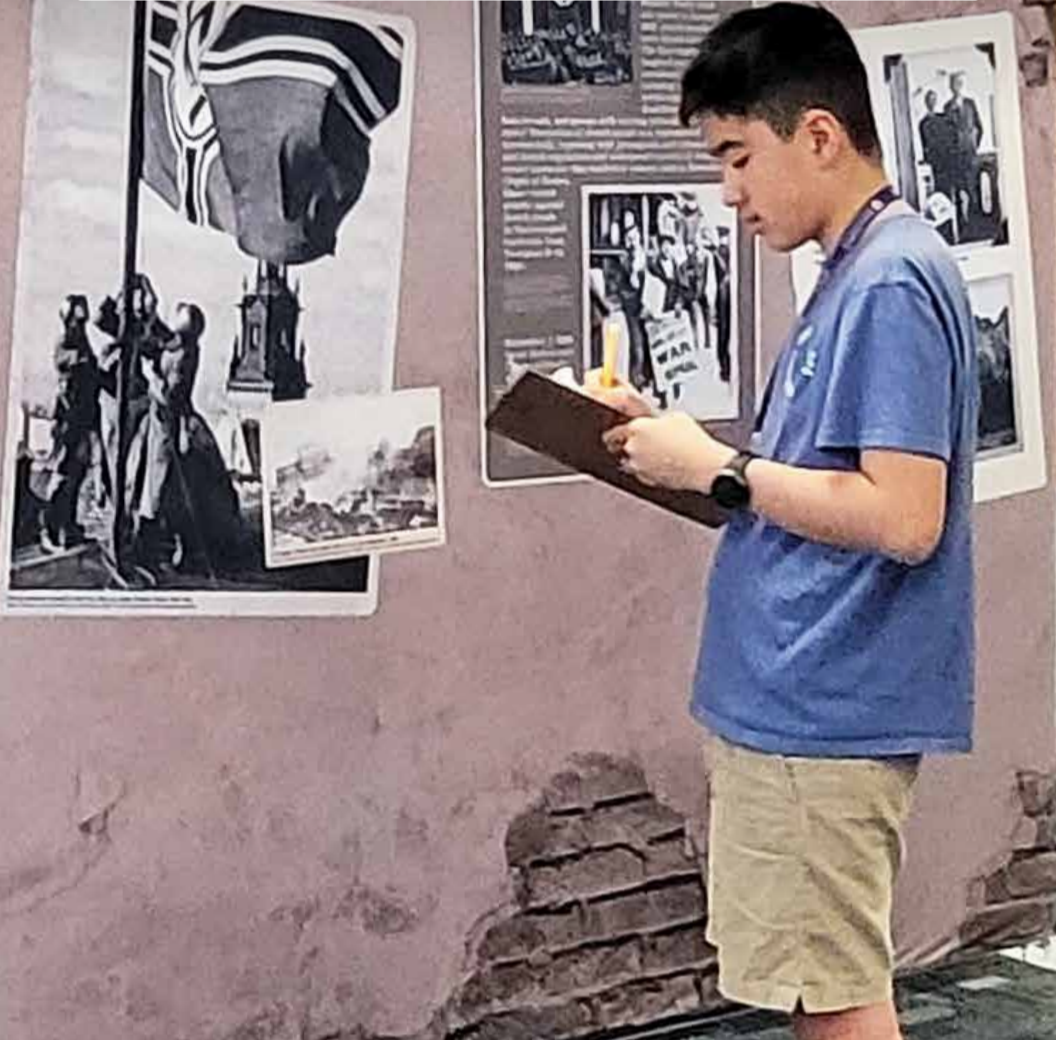
fun fact

Testimony: "Thanks for leading the workshop! I took the ideas and incorporated it with our end-of-module task for ELA in my second grade class, and it was a huge success for me and my students, especially the academic and behavioral outliers."

holocaust education kits

at your school

Hope Chest and *Hold on to Hope* are designed to inspire community through Arizona-based Holocaust survivor Oskar Knoblauch's memoir, *A Boy's Story, A Man's Memory: Surviving the Holocaust 1933–1945*. Oskar's story of survival and relevant themes of hope and respect shine light on living life not as a bystander but as an "upstander" and the tragic consequences of intolerance. Each kit guides viewers through the pages of Oskar's memoir to reveal timeless lessons of respect, perseverance, empathy, and hope.



Hope Chest: Remembering the Holocaust

Hope Chest is a comprehensive curriculum and kit of teaching resources designed to immerse students in Holocaust survivor Oskar Knoblauch's memoir. Included are a class set of books, authentic and replica artifacts for hands-on exploration, student journals with arts-integrated activities, journal prompts, critical thinking questions, and "Upstander" certificates with memento keys to success for students to keep.

- Length: eight weeks
- Grades: 7–10
- Cost: free with pick-up and drop-off at Scottsdale Arts; delivery available for a fee

Hold on to Hope

This traveling exhibition fits into any school, library, or community center and includes free-standing exhibition panels featuring compelling text and dynamic images, engaging hands-on and digital interactives, a collection of unique period and replica artifacts and newspapers, and customizable teacher and student guides for lesson extensions into the classroom. *Hold on to Hope* exhibition content is appropriate for all ages. Engagement materials and study guides target grades 7 through 10.

- Length: reservations can be made in one-week increments for up to four consecutive weeks
- Grades: 7–10
- Cost: free with pick-up and drop-off at Scottsdale Arts; delivery available for a fee

***Hold on to Hope* traveling exhibition is supported by Center for Jewish Philanthropy of Greater Phoenix and East Valley Jewish Community Center/Six Million Voices. Hope Chest is supported by Center for Jewish Philanthropy of Greater Phoenix.**

SCOTTSDALE FAMILY

ARTS FEST



Scottsdale Family ArtsFest

Friday, March 6, and Saturday, March 7, 2026; Free; Scottsdale Civic Center

The event is a partnership between Scottsdale Unified School District, Scottsdale Arts, the City of Scottsdale, and other community organizations.

Scottsdale Family ArtsFest is a free, two-day festival of creativity that includes performances, interactive demonstrations, creative interventions, and culinary delights from local food trucks throughout the Civic Center Park.



ticket discounts

We value our teachers and students and want to make it even easier for you to see incredible artists from around the world! In the 2025--26 season, we offer a limited number of discounted tickets to many shows at Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts.



To take advantage of this discount, please visit ScottsdalePerformingArts.org/education-listing, call us at **480-499-TKTS (8587)**, or scan the QR code with your mobile device.

ALLI ORTEGA



EMPTY BOWLS

Alli Ortega Empty Bowls

The Alli Ortega Empty Bowls program combines art and community service by guiding students through workshops where they learn to create handcrafted bowls while exploring the importance of giving back. These unique bowls are then sold at an annual event, with all proceeds supporting Scottsdale Community Partners and Scottsdale Human Services programs that assist youth, families, and seniors in crisis.

- Grades: 4 and up
- Cost: free to Scottsdale schools

Empty Bowls is supported by Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community.



thank you to our sponsors and partners



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