



2022
2023

EDUCATION PROGRAMS

VISUAL ARTS FOR PRESCHOOL TO GRADE 6

Gallery@501 | The Clay Hut | Smeltzer House Visual Arts Centre



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and Studio Projects
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***Cross-curriculum
aligned visual literacy
programs***

Visual Arts Preschool – Grade 6

Explore, learn, and inspire through art and craft!

Discover curriculum aligned visual literacy programs in Strathcona County.

Gallery@501

Located in the Community Centre, Gallery@501 is a place where students can explore exhibitions by contemporary local, regional, and national artists through guided visits and hands-on art activities led by artists and arts educators.

Smeltzer House Visual Arts Centre

Hands-on art projects at Smeltzer House inspire communication, creative thinking and problem-solving in ways that are accessible to students of all abilities. The Clay Hut is a renowned and well-equipped pottery studio on the Smeltzer House grounds.

Program Booking

Gallery@501

Megan Klak
780-410-8575
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Clay Hut | Smeltzer House Visual Arts Centre

Ruta Nichol
780-464-2023
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Gallery@501

501 Festival Avenue, Sherwood Park, AB T8A 4X3
Located in the Community Centre
strathcona.ca/gallery501



Smeltzer House Visual Arts Centre

Clay Hut Smeltzer House Visual Arts Centre

1 Broadmoor Blvd, Sherwood Park, AB T8A 0Z6
Free Parking
strathcona.ca/smeltzer

gallery@501

Gallery@501 is a public art gallery focused on supporting, inspiring and growing a love of visual arts while providing a welcoming space for all.



Why choose Gallery@501?

Guided by artists and arts educators, students engage with professional artwork on display at the gallery — through discussion, observation, and activities — creating connections to their own experiences and the world around them.

After a guided tour, students take what they've learned into the Gallery's studio to create hands-on art projects that explore the themes of the exhibition — and connect to the core competencies of the Alberta school curriculum.

The projects at Gallery@501 involve special materials and equipment — like silkscreen frames and a printing press — that make your visit to the gallery a unique learning experience. We inspire communication, creative thinking and problem-solving through art.

Gallery school programs are connected and enhanced by the exhibitions on display.

Gallery Tour

Engaging, interactive tours of the gallery exhibitions focus on cross-curriculum connections, visual literacy and student participation. Gallery educators encourage students to discover the stories in art through observation, personal interpretation and cultural context.

Studio Projects

Hands-on studio projects are linked to each exhibit, further enhancing the learning that happens during the gallery tour. The focus in the studio is to experiment and explore ideas encouraging students to value both the artistic process and the end product.

STUDIO PROJECTS	See page 6 and 8 for project descriptions.	
LENGTH OF PROGRAM	Choose from 90 minutes or 3-hour programs	
GROUP SIZE	To ensure the quality of the program, a maximum group size of 30 is recommended. Exceptions apply upon request.	
HELPERS/ VOLUNTEERS	Teachers, education assistants and adult helpers attend for free and are required in the following ratios:	
	Preschool: 1 adult per 3 students	K to grade 6: 1 adult per 5 students
PROGRAM COST	90-minute program	\$8.25 per student
	3-hour program	\$9.50 per student
	Please note: a minimum charge of \$110 for the 90-minute program and \$120 for the 3-hour program is applied to all groups. If these costs present a barrier to your school group, please reach out to the Visual Arts Programmer at Gallery@501.	

Accessibility

The Gallery@501 Studio is an accessible space. The Gallery education team is committed to ensuring all students have an excellent visit. Please reach out to us to arrange accommodations as needed.

Bus Subsidy Program:

Thanks to the generous sponsorship of the Festival Place Cultural Arts Foundation, Gallery@501 is able to offer bus subsidies to schools in the Elk Island Public and Catholic School Divisions that book a Gallery@501 program. Subsidies are based on availability.



Program participants explore *Leda (2019)* by Tammy Salzl from *Tales from the In Between* at Gallery@501



Program participants explore *Threnodies (2019)* by Tammy Salzl from *Tales from the In Between* at Gallery@501



A program participant explores *Making Ready (2015)* by Tammy Salzl from *Tales from the In Between* at Gallery@501. *Threnodies (2019)* by Tammy Salzl in background.

Gallery Exhibitions



"Alex Janvier, 2014", Photo credit Bluefish Studios

The Healing Language of Alex Janvier

Curated in partnership with Janvier Gallery and Gallery@501

September 9 – November 20, 2022

This autumn, students can learn from the powerful residential school stories shared by world-renowned Denesuline artist, Alex Janvier, from Cold Lake First Nation, Treaty 6 Territory. In this exhibition, Janvier describes his experience within Canada's residential school system through paintings, sketchbook drawings, video, and audio works. The artist creates visual narratives using vibrant colours, flowing lines and symbols that express subject, emotion, and spirituality. Students will learn about his journey from the traumatic loss of language, culture, and family, to finding a voice through his art, and a way forward on the path towards healing and reconciliation.

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Financé par le
gouvernement
du Canada

Canada



gallery@501

STRATHCONA
COUNTY

Alex Janvier Exhibition – Studio Projects

Our experienced arts educators lead students through this powerful exhibition, which is linked to Janvier's own experience of residential schools. Students will be thoughtfully led on an age-appropriate tour of the exhibition, including a reflection on residential schools..

Choose between two studio projects:

Meaning-Making: Colours and Feelings – Kindergarten to Grade 3

Explore the links Alex Janvier makes between colours and meaning. In the studio, students will create a painting that explores their emotions through colours.

Curriculum connections: Social Studies Grade 1 Moving Forward with the Past: My Family, My History and My Community; Grade 2 Canada's Dynamic Communities; First Nations history and current events.

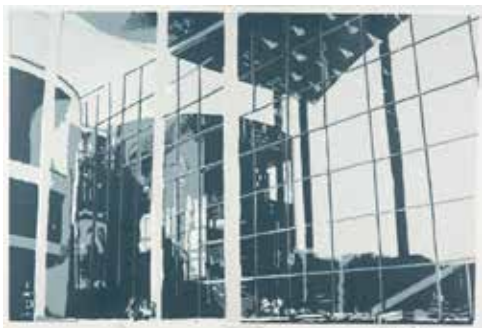
Story Painting – Grades 4 to 6

Discover how Alex Janvier uses painting as a tool for storytelling. In the studio, students will create a painted reflection on what they have learned.

Curriculum connections: Social Studies Grade 4 The Stories, Histories and Peoples of Alberta, Alberta: Celebrations and Challenges; Grade 5: Canada: Shaping an Identity; First Nations history and current events.



"Blue Quills Scar", 1991, oil on canvas, © Alex Janvier



Richard Borowski, *Later That Day*, 2019, woodcut print.
Photo courtesy of Strathcona County Collection.

Members Show

Gallery@501 Members

December 9, 2022 – January 21, 2023

Discover the diversity of art expression of Gallery@501 member artists in this exhibition of visual arts and crafts. Artists are given a theme in advance to inspire their artwork. Their interpretations may encompass various media, such as painting, drawing, printmaking, sculpture, textile art, photography, pottery and more. This exhibition highlights the fundamentals of art, as these emerging and professional artists explore new ways to express their stories and use their skills.

Did you know?

Artists working at all stages (absolute beginner to professional) are encouraged to join our membership. With exhibit opportunities, artist talks, special events and more, Gallery@501 is supporting artists in their creative journey.



Special Olympics Exhibition

Local Artists

February 3 – March 3, 2023

Strathcona County hosts the Special Olympics, Alberta Winter Games 2023 from February 24 to 26. We are celebrating with a special exhibition! In partnership with local groups that focus on inclusion and accessibility for people with disabilities, Gallery@501 is pleased to present an exhibition of artwork from these talented artists and community members. Everyone has a voice and a story to share. This exhibit inspires students with themes of diversity and inclusion in artistic expression.



Joe Reimer, *Golden Elk Island*, 2021, oil on canvas. Photo courtesy of Strathcona County Collection.

Strathcona Salon

Local Artists

May 12 – June 24, 2023

Explore a vibrant and varied exhibition featuring submissions and acquisitions for the Strathcona County Permanent Art Collection, in adult and youth categories. The Strathcona Salon Series includes a variety of thought-provoking works from professional to practicing artists, from beginners to students. This is an exciting exhibition for a field trip due to the endless range of artwork and themes on display.

Did you know?

Gallery@501 renovated its exhibit spaces and now hosts multiple exhibits and displays at the same time.

Visit strathcona.ca/exhibits for updates on new exhibitions that will be added to our lineup in 2022 / 2023!

Studio Projects



Participant project - Symbols and Our Senses

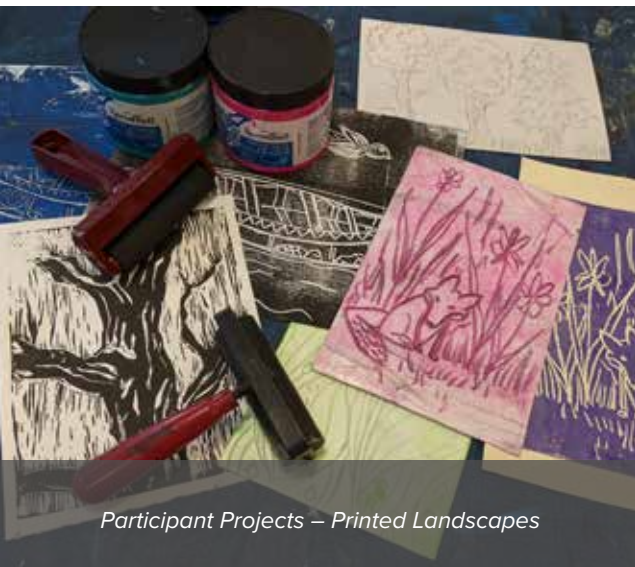
Studio Projects:

From drawing to painting and printmaking to mixed media, students learn and practice art vocabulary, then create art in response to what they see at Gallery@501. Projects and materials are tailored to the current exhibition and age group.

Symbols and Our Senses – Kindergarten to Grade 3

What can we smell, hear, touch and taste in an art gallery? Students explore art on display and make connections between colour, line, shape, symbols, and senses. Back in the studio, students will create a collage based on their five senses.

Curriculum connections: Fine Arts: shapes, texture, primary colours, tints and shades



Participant Projects – Printed Landscapes

Placemaking: Printed Landscapes – Grades 3 to 6

From wetland eco-systems to prairie lands, from northern tundra to small towns and big cities —landscapes provide artists with endless inspiration. Through this relief printmaking session students learn ways to portray the natural and man-made world in art, how people relate to the land they inhabit and how artists can be active citizens and champions of the environment.

Curriculum connections: Science Grade 4 Waste and our world, Plant Growth and Changes; Grade 5 Wetland ecosystems; Grade 6 Trees and Forests



Add on Activities



Public Art Tour

The Community Centre features unique and dynamic public art pieces, including murals by recognized Indigenous artist Alex Janvier, slumped glass murals by Manola Borrajo-Giner, a lenticular print by Celse Boida and Mark Feddes, and an abstract steel outdoor sculpture by Catherine Burgess, Walter Jule and Royden Mills.



Artrium Tour and Activity

The Artrium is a diverse and ever-changing display of artwork located in the Community Centre building. Find artwork from the Strathcona County Permanent Art Collection, Gallery@501 artist members, as well as exhibits by local community arts groups. Activities are tailored to the current display of artwork and age group.



Strathcona County Library Tour / Program

30 minutes: Interactive tour of the library, including a great introduction and orientation to the library services.



Art Story and Reflection

Younger participants will read an art-themed storybook as a group. Older students will learn and discuss works by contemporary artists and famous works of art. Stories, discussion, and written reflection exercises are great activities for cross-curricular learning!



*Snack and Lunch Space

Please inquire about a dedicated snack or lunch space for your students.

Clay Hut

Smeltzer House Visual Arts Centre

Introduce your students to the word of clay through one of our pottery programs. Working with clay enhances sensory development, motor skills, problem-solving and self-expression.

Clay Programs



Ranked as one of the best pottery studios in the province, the Clay Hut has been home to Strathcona County's iconic pottery program since 1978.

Our seasonally based programs are designed to “bring the curriculum to life” and offer a challenging, creative educational experience to your students. We'll provide a one-of-a-kind experience that students wouldn't normally get in school – working in a real pottery studio setting, learning hand building, texturing, slab building and joining clay to create a permanent keepsake of their learning experience.

Clay programs are designed for preschool, kindergarten, and Grades 1 through 6. We offer a variety of projects for special events such as Christmas, Easter, Mother, Father's Days and more. Programs can also be designed around a specific area of study.



“Students learn problem-solving, planning, new skills, patience, sense of accomplishment, and a love of learning!”

Teacher feedback

Preschool to Kindergarten

Play with clay is a confidence-boosting activity that stimulates curiosity, intelligence and imagination. It builds fine sensory and motor skills, fosters hand-eye coordination and empowers students to keep experimenting.

Grade 1 to Grade 3

Engaged by the immediate tactile experience, participants experiment with simple and familiar forms while learning ancient pottery-making techniques: pinch, roll, coil and texture.

Grade 3 to Grade 6

Empowered by responsive qualities of clay participants learn the fundamentals of hand-building pottery techniques using slab and coil construction, pinching and texture.

STUDIO PROJECTS	Pinch pot animals, critters, textured bowls and vessels, decorative tiles, masks and sculptures.	
LENGTH OF PROGRAM	90 minutes	
GROUP SIZE	To ensure the quality of the program, a maximum group size of 22 is recommended. Exceptions apply upon request.	
HELPERS/ VOLUNTEERS	Teachers, education assistants and adult helpers attend for free and are required in the following ratios: <div> Preschool: 1 adult per 3 students K to grade 6: 1 adult per 5 students </div>	
PROGRAM COST	\$8.25 per student	Built projects are bisque fired. Apply acrylic or tempera paint and a sealer to finish projects.
	\$10.50 per student	Students build and paint projects with underglaze. Projects are bisque fired. Apply a sealer to finish projects.
	\$11.50 per student	Students build and paint projects with underglaze. Built projects are bisque and glaze fired.
	Please note: a minimum charge of \$135 - \$175 is applied to all groups. If these costs present a barrier to your school group, please reach out to the Visual Arts Programmer at Smeltzer House.	
PROJECT PICKUP	Turnaround time for completion of clay projects is 2 - 4 weeks. You will be notified when your projects are ready for pickup.	



Accessibility

The Clay Hut is an accessible space. The Smeltzer House education team is committed to ensuring all students have an excellent visit. Please reach out to us to arrange accommodations as needed.



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