

# The Best Art Show



Welcome Your School Community

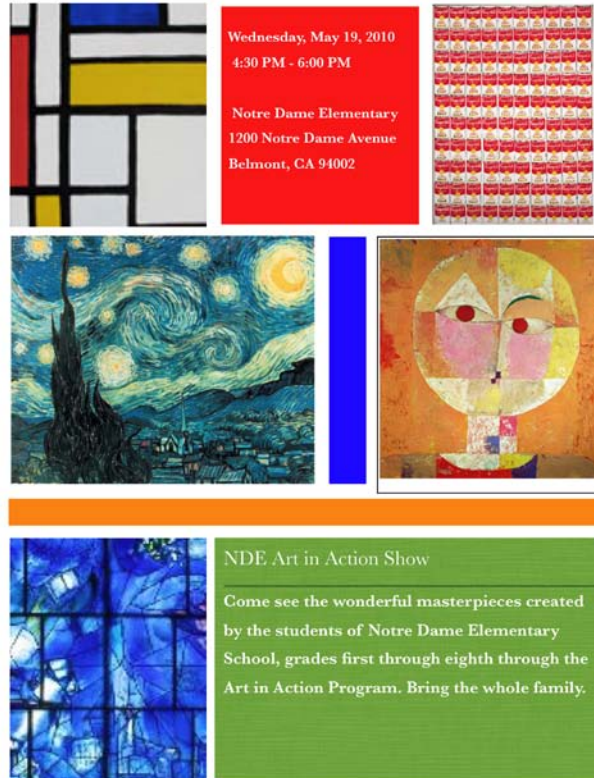
# Celebrate your Student Artists



Students can help plan creative displays. These life-size cut-outs are pinned to a stage curtain and make a colorful backdrop to an otherwise unused part of the room.

# Design an Art in Action Art Show Invitation

## NDE Art in Action Show



Feature the invitation on the school website and in the newsletter. Invite everyone – the superintendent, the school board, the mayor!

# Transform Your Gym Into a Gallery



These 8 ft. doors are hinged and covered in black craft paper. Artwork is displayed on four sides.

# Use Tables to Divide a Large Space



Rows of tables down the center of the gym help divide a large space and direct traffic around the displays.



Artwork is pinned to the sides of tables covered in fabric.

# Inexpensive and Creative Displays



Repurposed refrigerator boxes become an 8-sided display.



Folded lunch tables covered in craft paper become two-sided displays.

# Classroom Gallery



The art room becomes a gallery with art pinned on 3-panel display boards.



This proud teacher displays art in her classroom using wire and clips. A photo collage shows her students in action!

# Outdoor Gallery



4x6 light-weight panels are clipped to fence for an afternoon art show.



Use plenty of duct tape to attach panels of craft paper to outside walls. Make sure artwork is protected from weather.

# Educate Your Audience



Post pictures of the parent docents and helpers – everyone likes recognition!



PROGRAM 1

## Polynesian Art: *Tapa Cloth*

**Polynesian artists** from the Pacific Islands make cloth from tree bark and decorate it using natural pigments. The color is stamped on the tapa cloth, creating designs and patterns. The printed tapa cloth is used for clothing, bedding, and household decoration.



### Discussion

Students learn about tapa cloth from the Polynesian Islands. They talk about how tapa cloth is made and its many uses.

Students identify geometric shapes and symmetrical and balanced patterns in a sample of real Polynesian tapa cloth, and they feel its rough texture.

### Project: Tapa Patterns

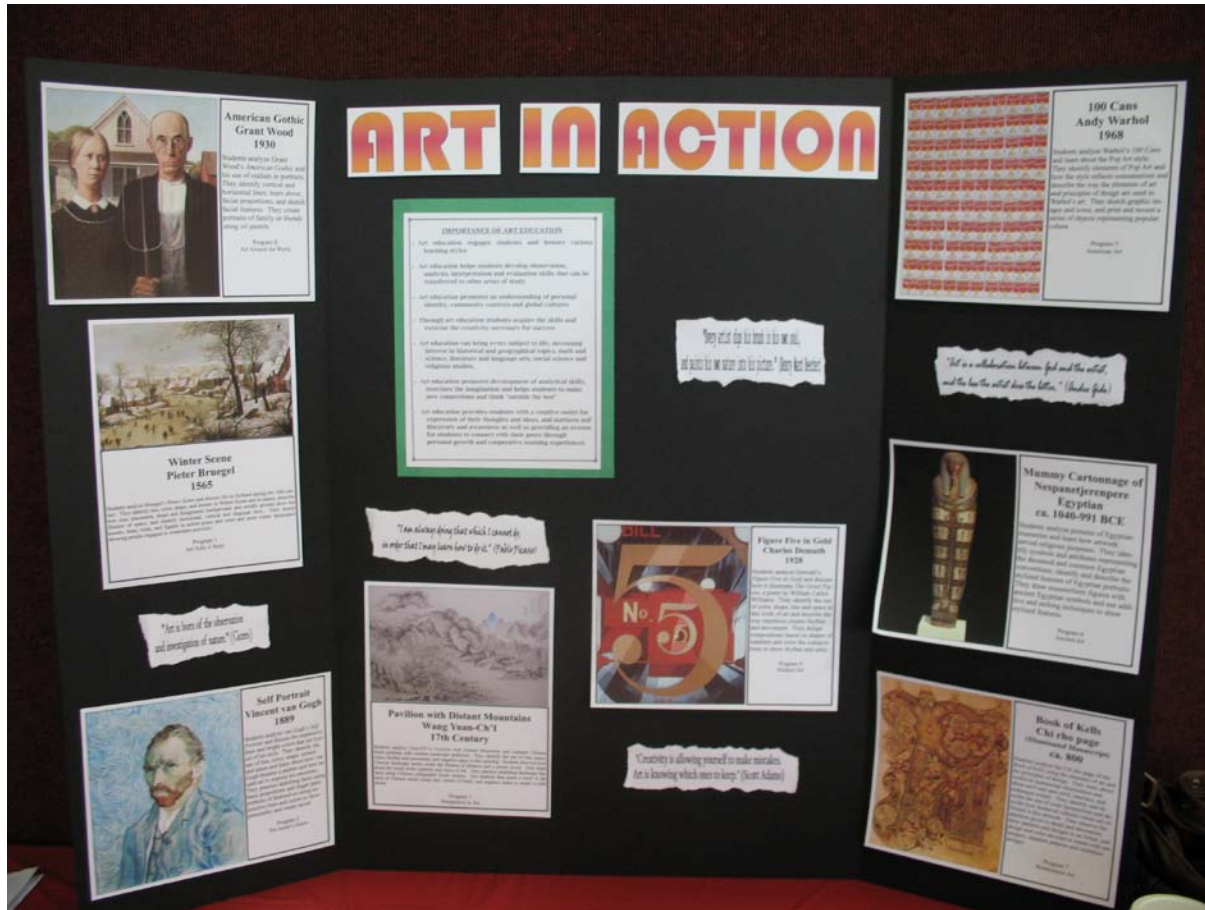
In their own artwork, students sketch symmetrical designs. They print patterns, inspired by Polynesian designs, with positive and negative shapes.

Polynesian, Tapa Cloth  
20th c., bark cloth and dye, 13 in. x 18 in.  
Fiji Islands

Art in Action is a nonprofit organization dedicated to enriching children's lives through art. Students learn creativity, problem solving, critical thinking skills and cultural awareness. Nine sequential programs for grades K-8 teach art appreciation, art history and art techniques.  
[www.artinaction.org](http://www.artinaction.org)

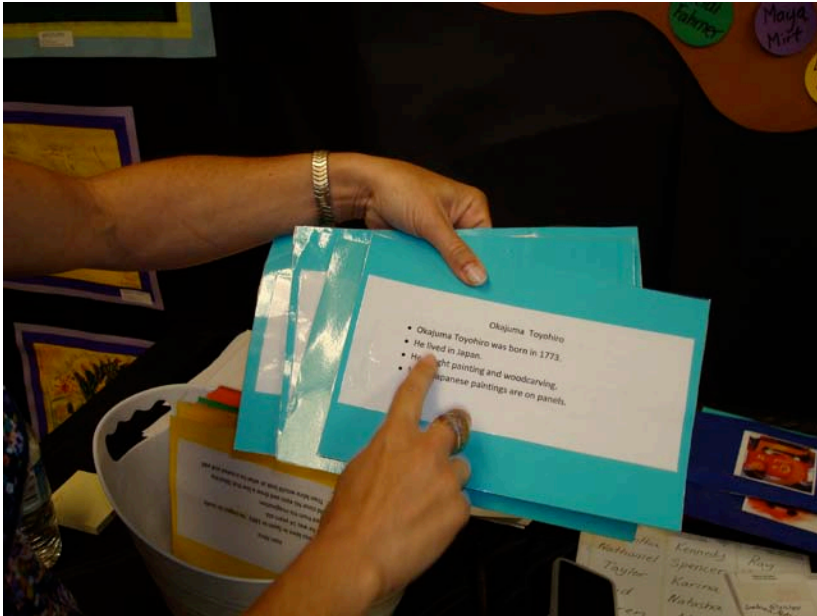
Print out lesson descriptions and display with the project. This helps parents understand and appreciate what their child has learned.

# Information Board



Fill a 3-sided display panel with information about the Art in Action Program. Parents will appreciate seeing the variety of artists and cultures their child is learning about.

# Student as Docent



Write a short script with a few facts about the artist, the masterpiece, and what art concepts the student learned.



Students take great pride in presenting information about an artist or a particular art project.

# Display by Project



African masks with raffia mounted in school hallway



Seurat-inspired butterflies on science board



Picasso Cubist portraits mounted on multipurpose room wall



Wire figure sculptures shown with poster of masterpiece inspiring the art project

# Display by Theme



Projects from several grades can be displayed together under a common theme. Here a seashore theme includes clay bathers, clay picnic food, fish mosaics, and finger paint seascapes.

# Clay Display



A small table set with clay desserts makes a clever display



Round tables invite visitors to view the sculptures from many angles. These Rodin clay figures were finished with bronze exterior spray paint and hot glued to a rock.

# Framing Ideas



Triangle corners for large projects



Creative label border



Border strips off-set above and below

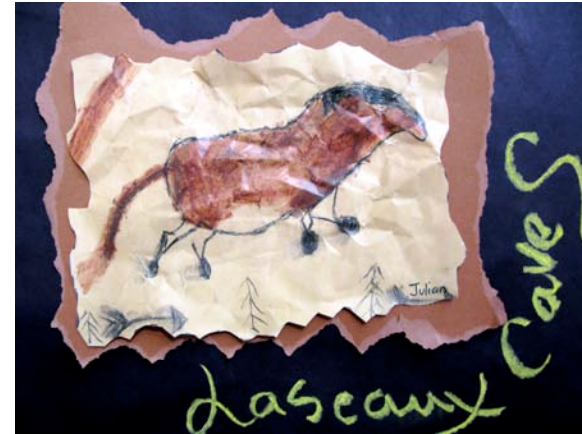


Double matted border strips

# Framing Ideas



Clip panels of craft paper from wire strung across a room. Attach artwork with blue tape and label with handwritten chalk descriptions.



Tear edges of mounting paper to create a dramatic effect.



Staple edges of mask to mounting paper to create 3-D effect.

# Build Support for Next Year



Your school's art show is the perfect time to build support and enthusiasm for Art in Action. Make it easy for parents to show their support!

