

Art For Their Future

Art can play an integral supporting role in the lives of individuals with developmental issues. Utilizing art and its different forms, methods for greater social assimilation and relief are diverse and plentiful.

Connection:

Instagram is famous for its platform supporting artists of all skill sets, from beginners to masters. Setting up an account is a simple process! If time allows, consider organizing a lesson focused on leveraging the app's benefits. Ensure that each student creates a separate account specifically for posting their artwork. This approach keeps their personal lives distinct from their art, although it remains their choice.

Relief:

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Expression:

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Social Media

With the presence of media in today's society and its key role in people's lives, alerting young artists of social media's advantages can be an essential method for their success. Social media not only showcases an artist's progress and skills but also helps them grow their platform through connections with like-minded individuals. If used safely, Social media can be a platform for a welcoming and encouraging community. It is a simple way one can grow and is a powerful tool for self-promotion/expression. The possibilities are endless!

Set Up Instagram:

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In addition, make sure to add captions with relevant hashtags. Hashtags are crucial for getting students' artwork seen on Instagram, providing an opportunity to showcase their hard work to others interested in art. The hashtags don't need to be too specific; broad ones can be effective. Suggested hashtags include, but are not limited to: #Art, #Artist, #Artwork, #ArtistsOnInstagram, #ArtLife, #Creative, and #ArtisticCommunity.

Caption Example:



“Expressive Study on human figures.
Sketchbook, colored pencils, and graphite pencils.
January 23rd 2022

#Art, #Artist, #Artwork, #ArtistsOnInstagram, #ArtLife, #Creative
#ArtisticCommunity #HumanStudies #ColoredPencils”

Competitions

The best part about being a student is the countless number of art competitions that are open. Although it may seem intimidating to the students, encourage them to search for and apply to free art competitions to submit artworks they have created. Although this may be targeted more towards students who allocate more time and effort into their work, as long as it is free, there is no risk involved and it is a great way to teach the students to search for and look out for opportunities where they can get money and scholarships. Additionally, there are certain competitions that are tailored towards individuals with developmental disabilities that can aid in allowing their work to be showcased.

Here is a list of free art contests:

- <https://free-art-contests.com/>
- <https://www.callforentries.com/category/art/competitions-and-contests/>
- <https://www.samanthasbell.com/art-contests-for-kids/>
- <https://intercompetition.com/art>
- <https://www.infodesigners.eu/free-art-competitions/1>

Here is a list of free art contests for individuals with developmental disabilities:

- <https://calendarforartists.com/events/online-art-competition-for-people-living-with-disability/> (australia only)
- <https://the-art-of-autism.com/> (new competitions posted regularly)
- <https://www.easterseals.com/news-and-stories/seals-competition.html>