

## Program Summary

The Artful Living Program stimulates children to realize that they have the ability to create something that does not already exist.

- Studies show a link between arts and leadership. Both are founded on vision and creativity.
- The Artful Living Program was created to immerse developing minds in the fine arts to enhance vision and creativity.
- The program involves parents in their children's creative and academic development.
- The Artful Living Program provides a uniting collaboration among community fine arts organizations and the public schools.
- The program is replicable for other school districts.



## PARTICIPANTS

The Ananda Center of Massillon  
Ashland University, Stark Campus  
Canton Symphony Orchestra  
Massillon City Schools  
Massillon Museum  
Massillon Public Library  
Stark Education Partnership  
The Stark County Educational Service Center

## FUNDING PROVIDED BY:



Charity Rotch School of Kendal Foundation

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The Artful Living Program



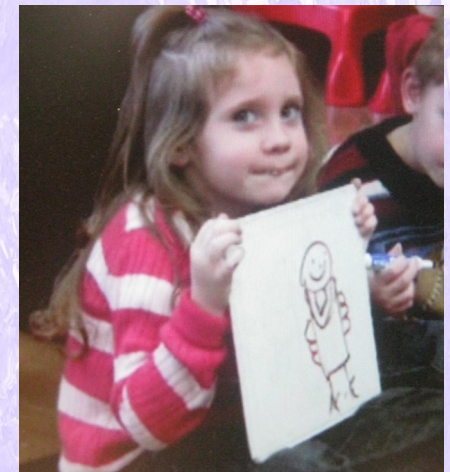
## The Artful Living Program

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# THE ARTFUL LIVING PROGRAM

Everything man-made is art.



Immersion in the arts enhances vision and creativity, increases academic performance, and stimulates leadership characteristics.

## Phase I: Classroom Immersion

The earlier “effective nurture” is applied, the more effective it will be. This is why the Artful Living Program chose preschoolers as its audience.

### The Artful Living Program:

- Fine arts immersion reinforces creativity over an extended period of time.
- Arts providers’ lessons reinforce teachers’ daily lesson plans and meet state educational standards.
- Lessons are taught by professionally trained artists.
- The program can be easily replicated in other schools.

The pilot program in the Massillon City preschool includes daily lessons in one of these fine arts: visual arts, literature, music, or dance. The response from teachers, parents, administrators, and observers for this phase of the program has been enthusiastic.



## Phase II: Family Environment



Children spend more time at home than they do at school. In order to enhance children’s exposure to the arts the Artful Living Program has invited families to participate in the program outside of the school environment.

### The Artful Living Program:

- Hosts regularly scheduled family meetings.
- Offers art classes for all children in the family.
- Presents helpful information for parents on topics of wellness, nutrition, local social services, and more.
- Provides art supplies to all children in the family to use at home.

This phase invites the parents to become involved in their children’s education and creativity in a non-threatening environment.

Family feedback indicates a desire to extend this phase of the program.

## Phase III: Research

### The Artful Living Program:

- Has recorded academic improvement through the state mandated “Get it, Got it, Go” evaluation.
- Has created a tracking process for measuring achievement throughout the students’ academic careers.
- Creates a basis for establishing standards for early childhood development.
- Evaluates each child with a pre-test and post-test designed specifically for The Artful Living Program.
- Will engage Faculty of Ashland University for data analysis.

