

MOCHA's School & Community Programs provide students of all ages opportunities to build their creative, academic and socio-emotional skills through in-depth, hands-on visual arts learning.

MOCHA brings more than two decades of experience delivering high-quality arts learning programs to the community. We work closely with each school or organization to design a program tailored specifically to your goals. To begin your partnership with MOCHA, contact Kristin Palm at (510) 465-8770 x313, kristin@mocha.org

School-Age Residencies (School Day, After School & Summer)

Through MOCHA's School-Age residencies, students gain fundamental visual art skills, in alignment with state standards. MOCHA's K-8 residencies also help build socio-emotional skills that provide the foundation of a healthy and successful learning environment, including creative and critical thinking, constructive communication, self-esteem and the ability to collaborate.

Our lessons also enhance learning in other academic subjects. We have extensive experience linking arts learning to language arts/literacy, and we also use art to build skills in math, science and social science.

Residencies take place in schools, libraries and other community sites. Residencies are led by our highly trained staff of Teaching Artists and take place during the school day, after school or during the summer.

Preschool Residencies

MOCHA's Preschool Residencies introduce preschool-age children to visual art activities that build school readiness skills and support healthy emotional and social development. Lessons are hands-on and open-ended, and include texture/sensory exploration, practice with shapes and patterns, color mixing, manipulation of various materials and introduction to spatial concepts.

Art for English Language Learners

Art is an especially effective tool for teaching English language learners. Art enables children to communicate across linguistic and cultural boundaries, and it helps them make concrete connections to abstract ideas and concepts. Art helps students develop vocabulary and to generate and articulate more vivid ideas.

Art for Special Needs Students

Art is an equally effective tool for teaching special needs students. Art helps students with limited verbal abilities express a range of ideas and emotions. Art also teaches fundamental life skills like persistence, focus and negotiation with others.

Professional Development for Educators

MOCHA trains educators to effectively integrate art into their curriculum. Our Professional Development programs are designed to meet the needs of each site, and may include in-service workshops, curriculum coaching, mentoring and lesson modeling. MOCHA also collaborates with teachers to create arts-integrated curriculum units and with entire staffs to create authentic, comprehensive arts-integrated schools.



Outcomes

Through MOCHA's School & Community Programs, all students:

- Develop their creative thinking
- Learn to communicate and express themselves constructively and effectively
- Build confidence, self-esteem and willingness to take risks
- Develop persistence, concentration and focus
- Learn to collaborate

In addition, students in our School-Age Residencies:

- Develop critical thinking skills
- Build awareness and understanding of themselves and others

Children in our Preschool Residencies develop school-readiness skills, including:

- Basic fine and gross motor skills
- Language development and cognition
- Positive socialization skills

Teachers in our Professional Development programs learn how to teach and integrate art in ways that achieve the above outcomes. As well, educators:

- Develop effective strategies for using art to reach students with a variety of learning styles
- Learn to talk to children about their artmaking in ways that foster critical thinking and cognitive development

Funding Sources

MOCHA subsidizes all of our School & Community Programs to keep our rates affordable to our partners and to bring the critical benefits of visual arts learning to students in schools and organizations across the economic spectrum. Sources for funding MOCHA at your school or organization include:

Title I funding
Arts Anchor Schools (Alameda County)
Categorical funding (for English Language Learners and students with special needs)
School site funds
GATE funds
ASES/21st Century Funds (afterschool)
Oakland Fund for Children and Youth (afterschool)
PTA/PTSO Funding

