

The Dreamer

Exclusive news for the St. Joseph's Indian School DreamMakers



May 2025

Students Can Earn Extra Cash by Painting and Selling Art

Art skills, hard work and dedication pay off for St. Joseph's students.



Recently, Lakota (Sioux) students at St. Joseph's Indian School decided to use their creative talents to earn a little bit of extra cash. All students could paint any picture in art class using an oil pastel and watercolor technique. Hannah, the art teacher at St. Joseph's Indian School, explained she chose this technique and project so students could be more independent while working on their paintings.

"I was trying to find something that was simple enough where they could be more creative, and I wouldn't have to guide them through every step — so it would show more of who they are," said Hannah.

The students' paintings were on display at the Aktá Lakota Museum & Cultural Center for a month. Museum visitors, staff and community members could view the student art gallery and purchase a student painting. St. Joseph's students were extra excited about this event because if their art piece sold, 100% of the sale went directly to the student artist!

Wanda, Aktá Lakota Museum Historical Coordinator, said the event

(over, please)



created excitement and a love for art in the community and on campus. This event is one the students enjoyed and put extra effort into. It also gave an incentive for kids to get creative and learn new skills.

“A lot of kids would run to the museum after school to check and see if their art sold,” said Wanda, smiling.

Flooding her heart and soul with happiness, Persais, a St. Joseph’s student, had a huge smile after discovering her art piece sold at the museum for \$6. Frequently staying after school to work on art, Persais loves the craft dearly. She usually creates pictures for her friends, but this was a chance to show her art publicly.

“This is the best thing that has ever happened to me because I have never sold my art before!” said Persais.

As a newer teacher at St. Joseph’s, Hannah explained her hopes to build more trust with her students, which will allow them to have more freedom with art mediums and styles.

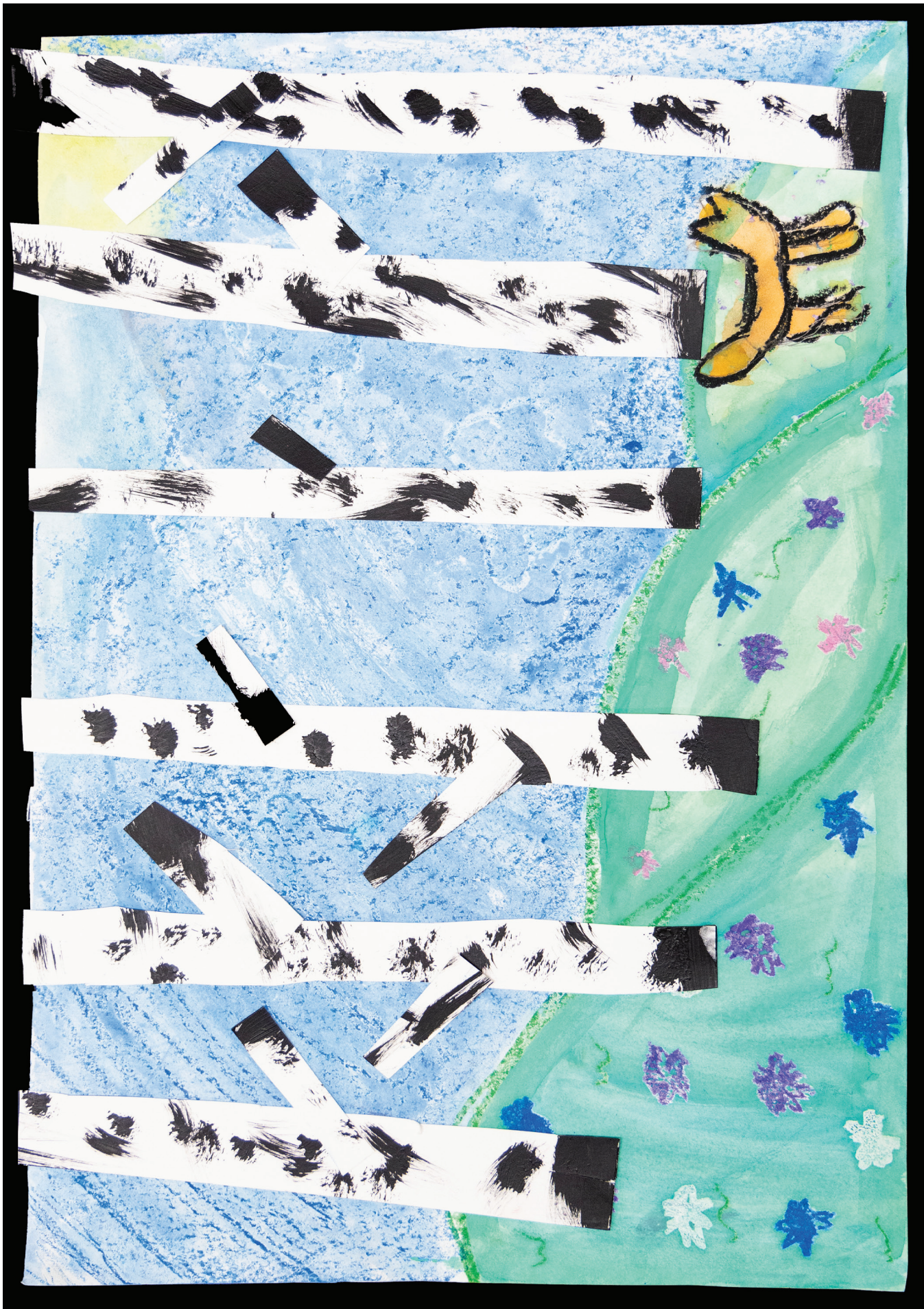


DID YOU KNOW?

Lakota culture is deeply rooted in artistic expression, extending beyond painting. Art in Lakota culture serves as a profound way to convey history, spirituality and identity. It includes a wide array of forms such as beadwork, hide painting, sewing and more! Learn more about the Lakota cultural components of art by visiting stjo.org/culture today!



St. Joseph's Indian School
We serve and teach, we receive and learn.
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