Lee County School District
Artistically Gifted Education Questions and Answers

What is gifted art? It’s an enrichment program for students who’ve been identified as artistically gifted.

How are students identified? The identification process begins with a referral. Referrals are accepted from anyone who believes the student has exceptional artistic talent. Each school year, all fifth grade students participate in a screening process; however, a student may be referred in any grade 5-11. Two rating scales, the SIGS—Scales for Identifying Gifted Students: Creativity and the GRS—Gifted Rating Scale: Artistic Talent, are used to evaluate a student’s creative process and art abilities. From the results, students are referred for the audition process. The audition process is a two-step process measuring realistic drawing skills and creative ability. It takes place once a year in the spring semester. Judges include one district art educator and a panel of independent art professionals. A local survey committee meets to review the referral and audition results and makes a recommendation for placement in the gifted art program. A parent meets with the gifted art teacher and signs permission for the student to participate in the program.

Does my child have to go through the screening process every year they wish to participate? No, once your child is eligible, he/she/they are eligible from grade 6-12.

What kind of work is done in gifted art? The Gifted Art Program provides qualitatively differentiated educational experiences through at least five hours of weekly instruction. Thinking skills, creativity, communications, research, group dynamics, self-directed learning, art history/appreciation and individual portfolio development are the outcomes of Art Discovery. A detailed scope and sequence of each grade is available in the District Instructional Management Plan.

How are the outcomes met? Instruction may include: units of study, problem solving exercises, independent study and research projects, discussions, individual, small and large group projects and activities, field trips, computer and various technological instruction, art critiques, assigned reading, various instructional resources, and use of varied art media.

What is the procedure for remaining in art Discovery? Each student is reassessed at the end of the semester or year by the teacher. A decision is made regarding the appropriateness of placement for the coming term. The final decision is determined by the Local Survey Committee. The LSC is comprised of the gifted teacher, district gifted coordinator, and the district lead art teacher. A parent is welcome to participate in a LSC meeting involving his/her/their child.

Are grades given in art Discovery? A student evaluation will be sent home each semester. In grades 6-12, students will be evaluated according to the requirements set forth by the principal.

The Lee County Schools Gifted Art Program strives to encourage, develop, and meet the student’s creative growth potential.
Artistically Gifted Education Philosophy Statement

Art education plays a vital role in the development of the artistically gifted student. The visual art education of gifted students should include:

- Expanded self-concept through success in creation of artworks
- Opportunities for students to reach their maximum potential, both as artists and as contributing members of society
- Activities that require students to explore personal art interests
- Promotion of visual literacy
- Activities that require students to analyze their own work and works of others
- Development of higher critical thinking skills
- A discipline-based approach to learning about the visual arts

District Program Goals

- To serve the needs of students identified as artistically gifted
- To provide instruction in visual arts that is discipline-based, including art production, art history, art criticism, and aesthetics
- To encourage gifted art students to analyze a variety of visual art forms and images in different historical and cultural contexts
- To provide a curriculum that allows for student interest and the highest development of skill in a variety of media and techniques
- To increase student appreciation of works of art
- To make students aware of the contributions of the visual arts to the quality of their lives and to society as a whole

The gifted art program focuses on developing skills in the areas of communication, thinking skills, research, group dynamics, creativity, self-directed learning, art history and appreciation, and each student’s personal art portfolio.