

Free Art Friday at the Edna Vihel Arts Center

The City of Tempe Community Services Department enriches the quality of life for our community by providing accessible, friendly, and fun experiences. We accomplish this by connecting people with a variety of opportunities while providing superior customer service.

Offered through the Arts and Culture division of the City of Tempe's Community Services Department, Free Art Friday is a monthly family-friendly interactive art series that offers preschoolers and caregivers the opportunity to experience a wide range of art disciplines in a relaxed atmosphere at no cost. Participants can create art, learn about music and movement, enjoy a snack and make new friends. Each month features different art projects that explore various themes.

Although the program is geared for preschoolers there are a variety of participants who attend the program. Home schooled children, local preschools and group homes for persons with disabilities frequently attend. All projects offered are age appropriate and designed so that everyone can be successful regardless of age or skill levels. Bringing the arts into the community can help to teach participants of all ages many skills needed to succeed in life. It can help them; build self-esteem and self-discipline, develop the ability to imagine what might be and to appreciate and be aware of different cultures. Additionally, the arts can strengthen a person's understanding of reading, writing, math and science.

The Edna Vihel Arts Center offers four sessions of visual and performing art classes throughout the year. These classes operate with a budget provided by the city; however this budget doesn't include funding for the free programs offered; such as Free Art Friday. Funding from the Diablos makes it possible for us to continue to offer, grow and expand this program to reach even more members of the community.

