

ART REACH 2023-24: THROUGH NEW EYES (AND TEARFUL GOODBYES)

March 15–April 14, 2024

The Art Reach Program:

Art Reach is PAAM's award-winning visual art education program for youth. Designed to support the growth and development of students over time, from beginner to advanced learner, peer mentor to teaching artist, Art Reach runs each year from October through March and is offered free-of-charge, including transportation, materials, and food assistance.

The Art Reach 23-24 Programmatic year was made up of three levels for young artists ages 9 through 18, as well as a peer mentorship employment program.

The youngest tier of the program **Art on the Edge (ages 9-11)**, co-taught by artist and writer Milisa Moses and program director Grace Emmet, introduces youth to artistic mediums and concepts while building technical skills.

From Curator of Community Education, Grace Emmet:

Upon Art Reach's inception in 2008, PAAM could not imagine the longevity and reach the program would have 15 years later. This current cohort of students has come to realize some of the deepest hopes for the program from those early days. Our students never cease to amaze us with their imaginative thinking, creative problem solving, and endless drive in artmaking. "Art" as defined by the Oxford Dictionary refers to the expression or application of human creative skill and imagination, typically in a visual form such as painting or sculpture, producing works to be appreciated primarily for their beauty or emotional power. This year we got to explore the

Art Reach 101 (ages 12-14), taught by photographer and graphic artist Agata Storer with assistance from artist Sophia Dress, pushes participants to dig into more complex concepts and engage in art in a broader context.

For Art Reach's most advanced students there is **Art Reach Studio (ages 15+)**, where artists focus on developing their portfolios and deepening their technique and conceptual skills: led by printmaker Vicky Tomayko with painter Bernadette Waystack.

All tiers work with the **Reaching Forward Mentorship Program**, which pairs high school students interested in progressing their professional and artistic skillset with younger peers to receive guidance and peer leadership.

boundaries of this definition, with students leading the way. By interacting with radical scales in cardboard collages, telling intergalactic stories through shadow puppetry, or perfecting one's signature style in spray paint, I hope that each participant found a new way to make art and make it their own.

PAAM's Reaching Forward Mentorship Program participants also enjoyed great artistic and professional gains through the year. Mentors' presence in the classroom has added immensely to the emotional and artistic support for their mentees and has facilitated deep connections between all tiers of the program.

ART REACH PARTICIPANTS:

Art on the Edge:

Grace Hoff
Marietta Russe
Ella Duarte
Charlotte Harper-Harriman
Kiva Mruk
Zoe Zacharias
Stella Messina
Evie Tomaney
Aylah Magid
Claire Whitlock
Abigail Kilmer
Cole Roberts
Olivia Noone
Ella Rome
Sofi Blandford
Gus Scalcione

Art Reach 101:

Xavier Hercun
Leo Riikonen
Maia Rollins
Evan Becotte
Stella Feen
Owen O'Neill
Jakob Bergquist
Sam Richardson
Felipe Diaz
Isaias Martinez
Ayla Swain
Chloe Collum
Lulu Edwards
Asa Valli
Elle Andersen Stanley

Nick Lambert-Pereira
Avery Garrison
Cole Escandel
Carter Escandel
Pilar D'Aponte

Art Reach Studio:

Simone Messina
Angel Blood
DustyO'Campbell
Hugo Ceraldi
Evaluna Hobart
Wilson Kerr-Havey
Lillian Rego
Ivet Nankova
Emma Casey
Mataya Valli
Ava Needel
Emily Carr

Reaching Forward Mentors:

Angel Blood
Emily Carr
Mary Keyes
Avery Kinnane
Anya Vargas
Victor Smith
Saffron Jalbert

Art Reach Education Staff:

Grace Emmet
Milisa Moses
Agata Storer
Sophia Dress
Vicky Tomayko
Bernadette Waystack

