Summer Program Report
Academic Secondary Enrichment
Art from the Heart: One Week

Student:
Dates: June 16-21, 2013
Teacher: Katie Barnes
Teaching Assistant: Tim Carroll

Program Overview
The Academic Secondary Enrichment (ASE) classes are designed for middle and high school academic students. These students work hard in school to learn regular core curriculum subjects such as language arts and math in classrooms with their sighted peers. In TSBVI summer programs, they have the opportunity to practice these academic skills within meaningful, high-interest activities. At the same time, they learn and practice skills in the Expanded Core Curriculum for Blind and Visually Impaired Students (ECC). The ECC includes skills that are unique to the needs of students with visual impairments. ECC skills enhance an individual’s ability to access the regular core curriculum, live independently, and enjoy social and recreational activities. Skills in the ECC include compensatory academic skills (e.g., braille and tactile graphics), orientation and mobility, social interaction skills, independent living skills, recreation and leisure skills, career education, assistive technology skills, sensory efficiency skills, and self-determination skills.

Each ASE class has a unique theme, and students participate in a wide variety of activities related to the theme of their class. During these activities, students learn and practice specific ECC skills such as applying math and literacy skills when creating and following a budget), food shopping and preparation, managing and organizing their living area, planning and evaluating a project, using public transportation, keeping up with belongings, and using technology for various purposes including research and communication with family and friends.

An additional benefit of the program is the opportunity to interact with other students with visual impairments. For many, talking with other students about the challenges they face at home and school may both alleviate feelings of isolation and increase self-confidence.

The ASE classes taught during the summer of 2013 were: Camp Challenge, Camp Fine Arts, Catching Some Rays: Space Weather, Community Independence, Adventure/Outdoor Education, Middle School Enrichment, Performance Arts Intensive, Problem Busters, Video Production, Visual Arts and More, and Wildcat Catering and Bistro.
**Class Description: Art from the Heart**

Our class explored a variety of art mediums throughout the week, learning a variety of techniques and creating several of their own pieces. Some of our activities included:

- Printing with items that they found in nature during a visit to a local park
- Creating collagraph printing plates, for which students cut foam and different textured material and glued pieces on top of a piece of cardboard, then printed their image
- Pendulum painting, in which a cup of paint with a hole in the bottom is suspended and swung to create interesting compositions
- Creating clay sculptures
- Making pancake breakfast art with food-colored batter
- Making tactile self-portraits from craft foam, craft sticks, feathers, and other tangible materials
- Creating string art by hammering nails into a block of wood and connecting different colored yarn within the nails.

We also visited an art exhibit of a local artist, where they were allowed to touch all 3-dimensional works. Students also had the opportunity to work together to plan and execute an art exhibition to display their creations.

**Expanded Core Curriculum**

Students in Visual Arts and More participated in a wide variety of activities that supported their learning of Expanded Core Curriculum areas. Some examples are:

- Social Interaction Skills: Students practiced social skills while working together in large and small groups. They practiced appropriate behaviors and manners in the classroom and during off-campus activities.
- Orientation and Mobility: Students learned and practiced how to move about the environment safely and independently.
- Recreation and Leisure Skills: Students were taught a variety of art techniques, many which had not been taught to them previously.

**INDIVIDUAL COMMENTS**

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