

Arts Academy

Visual Art Program



The Visual Arts Academy program at Helensvale State High is designed to provide students of Visual Art an extension on their knowledge, skill and ability to visually communicate across Years 7 to 9 in all areas of the Visual Arts. Helensvale State High's Arts Department recognises the need for our students to have a space for self-expression, exploration, imagination and cultural and historical understanding in today's ever-changing society. This three year program not only ensures the skill development, extension and practical application of Art, but also promotes an academic supportive program that will lay the foundations of preparing students for their senior schooling years.

Over the three year course students in the Arts Academy Visual Art program are involved in building a strong foundation behind the making skills, conceptual development and critical thinking necessary to question the world we live in and visually communicate their ideas. Students are assessed on their knowledge, understanding and application of ideas utilising the Elements and Principles (Visual Languages) of art to communicate visually.

Students are given the opportunity to create, display, respond and reflect on their own and others work. Students are encouraged to work individually and collaboratively as we build a culture of creative thinking in Art. These critical and creative thinking skills are transferable and valued across all units of study and industry, not just in the Arts. Student's hard work culminates in an exhibition evening, where we celebrate hard work and appreciate the creative voice of visual art students.



The Arts Academy Visual Arts program understands the importance of education beyond the classroom, and as such we ensure students are challenged and exposed to a range of experiences to consolidate and extend upon what is taught in the classroom. The program does this by providing opportunities for students to workshop with a range of specialised teachers, practising artists and industry professionals as well as engage in competitions both locally and state wide when available. In addition students experience various cultural settings such as the Gallery of Modern Art and Gold Coast Arts Centre, appreciating local and international perspectives.

If students make it through the first stage of the Application Process they may be invited to attend a trial. Trialling does not guarantee acceptance into the program.

Alumni Quotes

Carla Ferguson – 2010 Graduate

In 2006 I was enrolled in the Academic Excellence Program and in 2007 I was in Art Excellence. I enjoyed both programs and the challenges that they brought. These programs provided me with the necessary knowledge and skills to achieve my goals at a tertiary level. I am very thankful for the opportunities that I had at HSHS and the incredibly supportive admin and teaching staff. The teachers I had inspired me to become a teacher myself. I am now teaching Year 5 at a local primary school and moulding the minds of the next generation.

NB. An application fee is attached to this program and must be paid on submission.