

## Global Voices - ArtLink

An award-winning global initiative that empowers students to become global citizens through the universal language of art and story telling.



*Catching Fish, by Zhang, China*

### ABOUT OUR PROGRAM

In our unique connection program, the exchange of art and virtual engagement serve as a springboard to cultural discovery and global understanding, empowering students to embrace diversity and become empathetic, informed, and engaged global citizens.



#### Participants

- Grades 4-12
- Worldwide
  - Languages: English, Spanish, Mandarin, Arabic, Ukrainian

#### Timing

- 6-9 Class Periods
- 12 Weeks
- Cycle 1: Sept - Dec
- Cycle 2: Jan - May

Applications  
accepted  
year-round

#### Students in partner countries:

- ✓ **Storytelling:**  
Conceive and create art work that conveys the stories they want to tell, ones that most often originate from their own experiences, culture, and values.
- ✓ **Art Exchange:**  
Exchange their pieces with a partner classroom in another country, on a dedicated, interactive, on-line site. Examine and enjoy the art of their partners, gaining new perspectives into both their own and their partner's cultures.
- ✓ **Dialogue:**  
Share insights with one another virtually through asynchronous posting and via two fully-facilitated Interactive Video Conferences (IVCs).
- ✓ **Global Citizenship:**  
Gain wider global perspective by viewing art and artist descriptions from ArtLink students around the world on our online Global Voices site.

## GLOBAL VOICES - ARTLINK PROGRAM OUTCOMES

1

### EMPOWERMENT

Students gain a sense of empowerment as they express their voices through art and dialogue. They also come away with greater self-confidence and a deeper understanding of their unique identities.

2

### CULTURAL UNDERSTANDING

Students are exposed to diverse narratives and experiences. This cultivates a greater appreciation for cultural diversity, breaks down stereotypes and builds bridges of cultural understanding between partner communities.

3

### EMPATHY & COMPASSION

Students experience a form of storytelling that nurtures empathy and compassion as they connect emotionally with their peers' experiences and challenges, fostering a sense of shared humanity.

4

### AMPLIFYING UNDER-REPRESENTED VOICES

Students not only come to embrace their own unique narratives, but also those of peers from marginalized or under-represented communities - amplifying voices that might otherwise go unheard.

5

### GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP

Students begin to actively address real-world issues, inspiring them to become proactive global citizens committed to fostering and facilitating positive change.



IVE between partner teachers in Guatemala and USA

## FOR TEACHERS

Our Global Voices ArtLink program is designed to not only empower students, but teachers as well. We work with our partner educators to:

- Experience and learn effective VE (Virtual Exchange) methodologies
- Offer support throughout the exchange process by:
  - Motivating their students with engaging lesson plans
  - Facilitating all IVC's
  - Offering translation services as needed
- Provide connection and network opportunities with international colleagues through introductory teacher IVC's and EducatorsConnect workshops