



## 6<sup>th</sup> Arts Olympiad Lesson Plan

### Invitation

The International Child Art Foundation (ICAF) invites your participation in the *6<sup>th</sup> Arts Olympiad* right away and the *6<sup>th</sup> World Children's Festival* this July 31<sup>st</sup> to August 2<sup>nd</sup> at The National Mall in Washington, D.C. Any student can participate in, and benefit from, the Arts Olympiad but your School Art Entries must be produced by students aged 8 to 12. The ICAF does not charge any fee for your school's participation in the Arts Olympiad of the World Children's Festival.

### Why?

A typical classroom is often comprised of young artists and young athletes. If not physically active, the artists may face obesity risk, which has become an epidemic. Those not artistically inclined may face the well-documented "4<sup>th</sup>-grade slump" in creativity, which can last beyond schoolyears if it gains a foothold.

The Arts Olympiad Lesson Plan addresses the rising obesity and decreasing creativity risks by inspiring students to embrace the "Artist-Athlete Ideal" of the creative mind and healthy body. This revised self-image solidifies when students depict themselves as "artist-athletes" in their paintings, drawings or digital art on the theme, *My Favorite Sport*.

The lesson plan, which can take 2 to 4 class sessions to complete, develops an empathetic understanding between artists and athletes, breaks old stereotypes, and creates a school community that is creative, healthy, and empathetic.

### Deadline and Submissions

The school can select and submit one or two best paintings or drawings and two best digital art as winners of the school Arts Olympiad. The selection of the school entry must be based on originality, technical merit alone, and can include a few students as judges.

Submissions must include: (a) a brief essay by the student about his/her artwork and (b) a completed School Artwork Submission Form. Please attach these two items to the back of the artwork with a paper clip.

The digital work can be emailed to [childart@icaf.org](mailto:childart@icaf.org) and copy to [media@icaf.org](mailto:media@icaf.org).

Schools must mail the winners' artwork to ICAF on or before [June 10, 2020](#).

Mailing address: ICAF, P O Box 58133, Washington, DC 20037, USA

### National Arts Education Standards

This lesson plan meets the National Arts Education (Visual Arts) Content Standards 3, 5 and 6, and the following related Achievement Standards: (a) Choosing and evaluating a range of subject matter, symbols, and ideas to convey meaning, (b) Reflecting upon and assessing the characteristic and merits of their work and the work of another, and (c) making connections between visual arts and other disciplines.

## Part 1: Instructional Group Activities

These three activities suggested allow students to develop connections between art and sport.

### Activity A. The Olympics Art Competitions

Reading Material: Smithsonian Magazine > <http://tinyurl.com/Olympic-Art-Competitions>

Students answer these three questions:

1. Should the Olympic Art Competitions be reinstated? Why? For what age group of artists?
2. What is your favorite sport? Why?
3. In which cities will the Summer Olympics take place in 2020, 2024 and 2028? Winter Olympics?

### Activity B. Thinking Outside the Box

Reading Material: ChildArt quarterly [https://icaf.org/childart/ChildArt\\_Q3\\_2017\\_Art\\_on\\_Brain.pdf](https://icaf.org/childart/ChildArt_Q3_2017_Art_on_Brain.pdf)

Students are asked to separate themselves into two groups: "Artists" and "Athletes."

"Artists" answer these questions:

Question 1. *Why do people run, swim or play soccer?*

Question 2. *How do you feel when you play a sport?*

"Artists" are asked to draw or paint any sports gear or equipment they have seen such as a bat, a ball, a goal post or an athletic t-shirt.

"Athletes" answer these questions:

Question 1. *Why do people draw, paint, sculpt or carve?*

Question 2. *How do you feel when you create art?*

"Athletes" are asked to draw or paint any art tool or equipment such as an easel, a brush, a crayon or an easel.

### Activity C. Building Peace through Art and Sport

Students read this quotation of Nobel laureate Nelson Mandela:

*"Sport has the power to change the world, the power to inspire, the power to unite people in a way that little else can. Sport speak to people in a language they understand. Sport can create hope where there was once only despair. It is an instrument of peace, even more powerful than governments"*

Question: If "sport" is replaced by "art" in the above quote, would it still ring true? Why or why not? How about adding art to sport? Does the quotation become stronger?

## Part 2: Original Art Creation

Students are to create art on the theme, *My Favorite Sport*. They can depict themselves as “artist-athlete” in any sport, Olympic, traditional or even an imaginary one. They can produce a painting, a drawing or digital art.

Painting or drawing can be on any material that is roughly 45x60 cm or 18x24 inches.

Each student writes a short essay about his/her work. The essay is clipped to the artwork.

## The World Children's Festival

The Arts Olympiad winners from participating schools across the United States and in nearly 100 countries can be the Official Delegates at the [6<sup>th</sup> World Children's Festival](#) (WCF) this summer in Washington, D.C. They must arrive on July 29<sup>th</sup> and depart on August 4<sup>th</sup>. ICAF imposes no registration fee. The delegates arrange their travel, meals, local transport, and accommodation.

If Covid-19 does not recede by late summer but lasts much longer, the WCF will be postponed. You can keep yourself updated via <https://Facebook.com/ICAF.org> or [https://twitter.com/ICAF\\_org](https://twitter.com/ICAF_org).

The WCF at The National Mall is a public celebration of “Creativity, Diversity, and Unity.” Students learn how to infuse their creativity with empathy. They broaden their global consciousness and enhance their global competencies.

## ICAF

ICAF serves American children as their national arts organization and the world's children as their global arts organization. Founded in 1997, ICAF fosters students' creativity, seeds their imagination, and connects them meaningfully with their peers worldwide through the universal language of art for a creative, healthy, and empathetic future.



**July 31 – August 2, 2020**  
**The National Mall**  
**Washington, D.C.**

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The 6<sup>th</sup> Arts Olympiad Artwork Submission Form

I. School

School/Institution name

Name of Organizer

Mailing Address

City

State  
Country

Zipcode

Telephone (with area code)

Organizer's email

How many students participated?

Comments on the lesson plan?

II. Student Artist

First name

Last name

Age

Date of birth

Title of work and medium

Parent's Name

Email

Telephone

III. Agreement

We hereby certify that the attached "My Favorite Sport" artwork is the original work of the student artist named above. We understand that the student's artwork becomes entirely the property of the International Child Art Foundation (ICAF) and cannot be returned. We agree that the artwork can be published, exhibited or reproduced by ICAF or transferred or loaned to another organization or individual without further authorization from or any compensation to the student or us, his/her teacher and parent.

Name of Teacher

Signature

Date

Name of Parent

Signature

Date