



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF AMERICA**

Learning in the Arts

Creativity and the arts give people new and unique ways of thinking and expressing. For young people, arts experiences provide opportunity to explore, imagine and communicate through creative expression. At Boys & Girls Clubs, art forms are categorized into the following four pillars:

Performing Arts

- Drama
- Dance
- Music
- Spoken Word

Visual Arts

- Drawing
- Painting
- Sculpture
- Pastel

Digital Arts

- Graphic Design
- Digital Music
- Digital Photography
- Digital Storytelling

Applied Arts

*Coming Soon**

- Jewelry Making
- Woodworking
- Fashion Design
- Furniture Design

Arts programs and learning experiences in Clubs are grounded by evidence-based strategies that effectively drive engagement, retention and skill-building among youth. These strategies include developing positive relationships with adult mentors, cultivating a culture of high expectations and respect for creative expression, providing physically and emotionally safe spaces for creative expression and ensuring arts programming culminates in high-quality public events, experiences and/or products.

Boys & Girls Clubs of America's approach to the arts includes three levels of learning for creative youth development experiences:

Exposure: Foundational experiences that provide opportunities to explore, play and experiment with different art forms or media

Skill-Building: Intermediate experiences that build social-emotional skills and technical skills in an art form or media

Demonstration: Opportunities to demonstrate skills or techniques that contribute to a portfolio or culminating event, experience or product

*Applied Arts activities are forthcoming and not included in this map.

This resource can be used to identify what arts opportunities currently exist for youth across art forms and levels of learning to help youth grow as artists.



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ARTS Experience Map

Understanding Learning Levels

Level 1:

Exposure:

Foundational experiences that provide opportunities to explore, play and experiment with different art forms or media

Examples: Games, short experiences, My Future Activities, series of prompts for youth-led exploration

Level 2:

Skill-Building:

Intermediate experiences that build social-emotional skills and technical skills in an art form or media

Examples: Programs, badges on My Future and high yield activities

Level 3:

Demonstration:

Opportunities to demonstrate skills or techniques that contribute to a portfolio or culminating event, experience or product

Examples:

Performances, portfolios, presentations, publication, shows, culminating events/experiences/products



Get Started:

To explore the Arts Experience Map please login to your BGCA.net account for access to hyperlinks throughout this map.

Performing
ARTS

Visual
ARTS

Applied
ARTS

Digital
ARTS



Performing Arts

Theater

Level 1:

Level 2

Level 3:

Exposure Experience	Resource	Age	Skill Building Experience	Resource	Age	Demonstration Experience	Resource/ Experience
Make A Scene	Club Programs, Staff Practices, Energizer	6-18	What In The World Is Pantomime? (Youth)	Arts Activity Guide, Activity 6	6-9	Play Musical Circus Performance	No BGCA Supported Resource/Experience
What Are You Doing?	Club Programs, Staff Practices, Energizer	6-18					
What Is It?	Club Programs, Staff Practices, Energizer	6-18	What In The World Is Pantomime? (Tween)	Arts Activity Guide, Activity 6	10-12		
Animated Story	Club Programs, Staff Practices, Community Builder	6-12					

Dance

Level 1:

Level 2

Level 3:

Exposure Experience	Resource	Age	Skill Building Experience	Resource	Age	Demonstration Experience	Resource/ Experience
Circle Switch	Club Programs, Staff Practices, Energizer	6-18	What's Your Move? Youth	Arts Activity Guide, Activity 7	6-9	Musical Dance Performance Dance Company Choreography	BGCA National Talent Competition
Machine (Youth)	Club Programs, Staff Practices, Community Builder	6-18					
Machine (Teen)	Club Programs, Staff Practices, Community Builder	6-18					
Freeze	Club Programs, Staff Practices, Energizer	6-12	What's Your Move? Tween	Arts Activity Guide, Activity 8	10-12		
Mirror Me (Youth)	Club Programs, Staff Practices, Community Builder	6-12					
Mirror Me (Teen)	Club Programs, Staff Practices, Community Builder	13-18					



Performing Arts

Spoken word /Poetry

Level 1:

Level 2

Level 3:

Exposure Experience	Resource	Age	Skill Building Experience	Resource	Age	Demonstration Experience	Resource/ Experience
Identity Lines (Youth)	Club Programs, Staff Practices, Community Builder	6-18	Expressions Of My Day (Youth)	Arts Activity Guide, Activity 5 Arts	6-9	Slam Poetry Contest	BGCA National Talent Competition
Identity Lines (Teen)	Club Programs, Staff Practices, Community Builder	13-18				Writing Contest	
Spoken Word	My Future, Media Making, Filmmaker Badge	13-18	Expressions Of My Day (Tween)	Activity Guide, Activity 5 (tween)	10-12	Submit for Publication Open Mic Night	

Music

Level 1:

Level 2

Level 3:

Exposure Experience	Resource	Age	Skill Building Experience	Resource	Age	Demonstration Experience	Resource/ Experience
Rain Storm	Club Programs, Staff Practices, Energizer	6-18	My Musical Painting (Youth)	Arts Activity Guide, Activity 12	6-9	"Open Mic Night School Band/Orchestra/ Music Group Record an Album"	BGCA National Talent Competition
Conductor	Club Programs, Staff Practices, Energizer	6-18					
Visual Rhythm (Youth)	Club Programs, Staff Practices, Community Builder	6-12	My Musical Painting (Tween)	Arts Activity Guide, Activity 12	10-12		
Visual Rhythm (Teen)	Club Programs, Staff Practices, Community Builder	13-18					

Visual Arts



Visual Arts Intro

Level 1:

Level 2:

Level 3:

Exposure Experience	Resource	Age	Skill Building Experience	Resource	Age	Demonstration Experience	Resource/Experience
Color Exploration	Club Programs, Staff Practices, Community Builder	6-12	Visual Arts Exploration Badge	My Future	13-18	National Arts Contest- National Fine Arts	National Arts Contest- National Fine Arts Upload Creation to My Future or BGCA Creates
Color My Mood	Club Programs, Staff Practices, Community Builder	13-18					
Explore Shapes	Club Programs, Staff Practices, Community Builder	6-12					
						Submit to Gallery or Art Show	

Medium Exploration:

Level 1:

Level 2:

Level 3:

Exposure Experience	Resource	Age	Skill Building Experience	Resource	Age	Demonstration Experience	Resource/Experience	
Pastel	Explore Pastel Art	My Future, Visual Arts, Art Exploration Badge	13-18	Visual Arts Exploration Badge	My Future	13-18	National Arts Contest- National Fine Arts College or Art School Portfolio Submit to Gallery or Art Show	National Arts Contest- National Fine Arts Upload Creation to My Future or BGCA Creates
Mixed Media	Explore Mixed Media Art	My Future, Visual Arts, Art Exploration Badge	13-18	Me, Myself and I (Youth)	Arts Activity Guide, Activity 1	6-9		
	Make a (Mixed Media) Scene	Club Programs, Staff Practices, Community Builder	6-12	Me, Myself and I (Tween)	Arts Activity Guide, Activity 1	10-12		
	Our (Mixed Media) Scene	Club Programs, Staff Practices, Community Builder	13-18	Tin Foil People (Youth)	Arts Activity Guide, Activity 3	6-9		
Monochromatic	Explore Monochromatic Art	Club Programs, Staff Practices, Community Builder	13-18	Tin Foil People (Tween)	Arts Activity Guide, Activity 3	10-12		



Visual Arts

Medium Exploration:

Level 1:

Level 2

Level 3:

Level 1:				Level 2			Level 3:	
	Exposure Experience	Resource	Age	Skill Building Experience	Resource	Age	Demonstration Experience	Resource/ Experience
Collage	Explore Collage Art	My Future, Visual Arts, Art Exploration Badge	13-18	Distroy to Create (Youth)	Arts Activity Guide,	6-9	National Arts Contest- National Fine Arts College or Art School Portfolio Submit to Gallery or Art Show	National Arts Contest- National Fine Arts Upload Creation to My Future or BGCA Creates
	Self Portrait	Club Programs, Staff Practices, Community Builder	6-12					
	Pieces of Me	Club Programs, Staff Practices, Community Builder	13-18	Distroy to Create (Tween)	Arts Activity Guide, Activity 2	10-12		
Multi Color	Explore Drawing	My Future, Visual Arts, Art Exploration Badge	13-18	Exploring Lines	Arts Activity Guide, Activity 4	6-9		
Oil/Acrylic	Explore Oil and Acrylic Painting Art	My Future, Visual Arts, Art Exploration Badge	13-18					
Printmaking	Explore Printmaking Art	My Future, Visual Arts, Art Exploration Badge	13-18	Visual Arts Exploration Badge	My Future	13-18		
Collaborative Art	Explore Collaborative Art	My Future, Visual Arts, Art Exploration Badge	13-18					

Digital Arts

Digital Music

Level 1:

Level 2

Level 3:

Exposure Experience	Resource	Age	Skill Building Experience	Resource	Age	Demonstration Experience	Resource/ Experience
Journalism	My Future, Media Making, Audio Producer Badge	13-18	My Future, Media Making, Audio Producer Badge- All Activities	My Future (various badges)	13-18	Record or produce original work Submit to shows or contests	Upload Creation to My Future or BGCA Creates
Create a Podcast		13-18					
Join the Storycorps		13-18					
Create a PSA		13-18					
Karaoke Tracks	My Future, Media Making, Music Producer Badge	13-18	My Future, Media Making, Music Producer Badge- All Activities				
Build a Song		13-18					
Ringtone Reboot		13-18					
Nature Soundtrack		13-18					
Make an Instrument		13-18					
Tell It Like It Is	My Future, Media Making, Voice Badge	13-18	My Future, Media Making, Voice Badge- All Activities				
Record A Story		13-18					
Rewrite Lyrics		13-18					

Digital Arts

Photography

Level 1:

Level 2

Level 3:

Exposure Experience	Resource	Age	Skill Building Experience	Resource		Demonstration Experience	Resource/ Experience		
Portrait Photography	My Future, Media Making, Photography Badge	13-18	My Future (various badges)	My Future, Media Making, Photography Badge- All Activities; Alphabet Photography	13-18	Submit to National Arts Contest- ImageMakers	National Arts Contest-ImageMakers		
Nature Photography		13-18	Alphabet Photography- Club Programs, Arts Activity Guide, 6-9, Activity 9		6-9				
Photo Scavenger Hunt		13-18	Alphabet Photography- Club Programs, Arts Activity Guide, 10-12, Activity 9		10-12				
Light Painting		13-18	People of Our Club- Club Programs, Arts Activity Guide, 6-9, Activity 10		6-9			Submit to art show, contest or gallery	Upload Creation to My Future or BGCA Creates
Photo Manipulation		13-18	People of Our Club- Club Programs, Arts Activity Guide, 10-12, Activity 10		10-12			Compile in portfolio	
Lighten Up		13-18	Click, Drag, Create!- Club Programs, Arts Activity Guide, 6-9, Activity 11		6-9				
Portrait Perfect		13-18	Click, Drag, Create!- Club Programs, Arts Activity Guide, 10-12, Activity 11		10-12				
Filter Friendly		13-18	Click, Drag, Create!- Club Programs, Arts Activity Guide, 10-12, Activity 11		10-12				



Digital Arts

Design

Level 1:

Level 2

Level 3:

Exposure Experience	Resource	Age	Skill Building Experience	Resource	Age	Demonstration Experience	Resource/ Experience
User Experience	My Future, Media Making, Web Design Badge	13-18	My Future, Media Making, Web Design Badge	My Future (various badges)	13-18	"Create a website for personal or business Compile in a portfolio"	Upload Creation to My Future or BGCA Creates
Wireframe		13-18					
Design A Webpage		13-18					
Brainstorm		13-18					
Make My Future Better		13-18					
Accessibility		13-18					
Design A Poster	My Future, Media Making Design Badge	13-18	My Future, Media Making Design Badge My Musical Painting	My Future (various badges)	13-18	Submit to art show or contest	Upload Creation to My Future or BGCA Creates
Intro to Design		13-18					
Graphic Design		13-18					
Design Thinking		13-18					
Tinkercad 101	My Future, Media Making, 3D Design Badge	13-18	My Future, Media Making, 3D Design Badge- All Activities	My Future (various badges)	13-18	Compile in portfolio	Upload Creation to My Future or BGCA Creates
Press Print		13-18					
Design Project		13-18					
Design Challenge		13-18					
2D to 3D		13-18					

Digital Arts

Film Making

Level 1:

Level 2

Level 3:

Exposure Experience	Resource	Age	Skill Building Experience	Resource	Age	Demonstration Experience	Resource/ Experience
Become a Documentarian	My Future, Media Making, Filmmaker Badge	13-18	My Future, Media Making, Filmmaker Badge	My Future (various badges)	13-18	Submit to BGCA National Talent Competition	BGCA National Talent Competition Upload Creation to My Future or BGCA Creates
Video Role Call		13-18					
How Do You...		13-18					
Club Tour		13-18					
Say What?		13-18	My Future, Media Making, Storyboarding Badge				
Spoken Word		13-18					
Makin a Mobile Movie		13-18					
Going Green Screen		13-18	My Future, Media Making, Animator Badge				
Video Fast Forward		13-18					
You Call the Shots		13-18					
Story Boarding	My Future, Media Making, Storyboarding Badge	13-18				Compile in portfolio	
Create a Comic Strip		13-18					