



Dream School of the Arts



Hello and Happy Summer to everyone!

Not only have we already moved into the heat of the summer months, but did you know that Dream School of the Arts has been in celebration mode? That's right! In May we celebrated the end of our first academic school year, and in May we celebrate our official one-year anniversary! We didn't stop there either, just this past week we celebrated the end of Summer Session One, YEAR TWO! Lots of exciting things have been allowing us to feel the joy in and around Dream School of late.

Quarter two was full of milestones. We were so grateful to have extra hands on deck throughout the spring semester. In late April we said our goodbyes and thank yous to our amazing interns from San Diego State University. Ana and Serena both successfully completed their course requirements and enjoyed their time learning and leading at Dream School. Both students grew immensely in their preparation of lesson plans, and in their confidence leading and guiding our students through the weekly activities. Some of those activities included lessons on nutrition and the five food groups, wellness and relaxation, sentence structure and grammar, stress management and journaling, cultural art history, and financial literacy through meal budgeting.



Our Golden Volunteers

We are also so grateful for Ms. Cathy, Ms. Laurie and Ms. Claire. Each of them volunteer at least one hour a week, sometimes more. Our “Golden Volunteers” play a big role at Dream School, helping with everything from being reading buddies, to supporting fitness and music classes, to pitching in during “Beautification Time” when our whole community cleans up both inside and outside together. The kids love having them around, and it’s a joy to see the intergenerational relationships and collaboration grow week after week, and month after month



Thank You to Our AWESOME Community!

Dream School continues its partnership with Ms. Sheilah, LMFT who returned again this spring semester to lead Mental Health workshops and was so kind to bring along a new friend to Dream School, Ms. Maxine, LMFT, to begin leading Kids Art Workshops, through the lens of Mental Health.

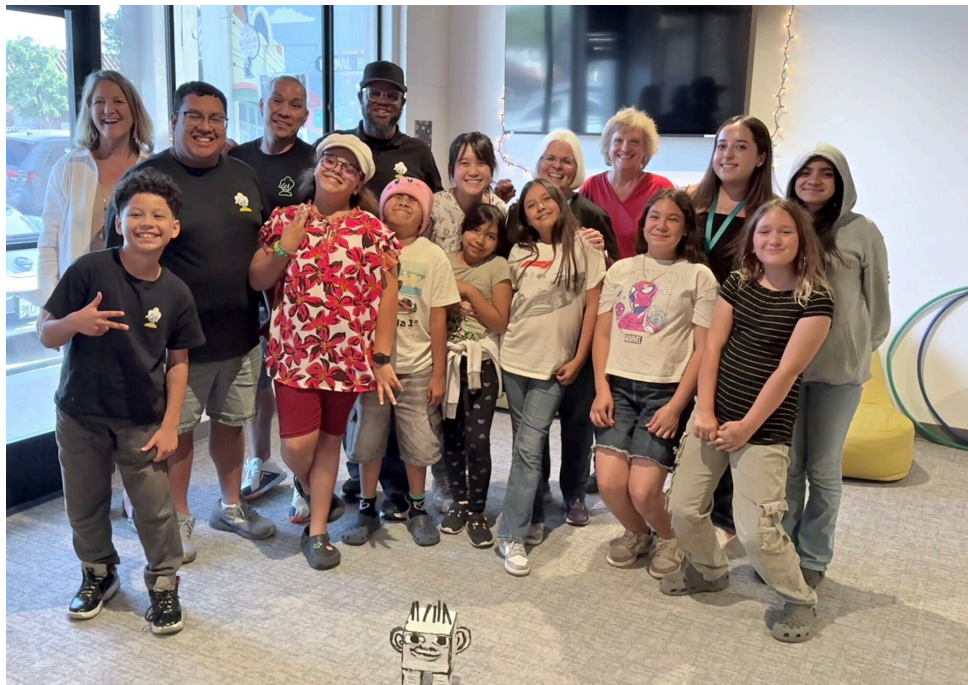
While we’re with the “Thank You’s” and “Shout-Outs” I personally want to take a moment to thank so many of my friends in the San Diego running community. We’ve developed some special partnerships with some special people, but I especially want to shout out Coach John, our Fitness Instructor, Ms. Cait who helped us launch our art classes last fall, Ms. Jenn teaches our students American Sign Language and Ms. Laura who came in recently to work with the students to understand Neuro-Linguistic Programming. I look forward to fostering and growing these relationships along with others such Mr. Mensah and Ms. Claudia, who’ve also spent some quality time getting to know our program and our students, becoming part of the Dream School family.

Our First Academic Year in the Books



May 22nd was a very special day for us here at Dream School. We shared homemade pizza, fruit & vegetable plates, cookies & chips, and most importantly we shared time & space together. On this date, together included, students on their way out, and new students anxiously awaiting their summer start date with us. Together also included staff, volunteers, parents & siblings, our awesome intern from USD, Ms. Anahi, and a board member, Ms. Rebecca who also joined us and shared kind words and gifts on behalf of the DSOA Board of Directors. Beautiful words were spoken, the students showed off some of the songs they've learned on piano with Mr. Brian and had a chance to share their artwork that decorated and made cozy the walls inside of Dream School. It was a beautiful celebration of an inspired year of learning and growing together.

After wrapping up our first academic year with such a joyful celebration and inspiring exhibition of student work, we took a short but well-earned two-week break before diving into Summer Session One. This three-week academic enrichment program, which concluded just last Thursday, brought fresh energy and creativity to Dream School with nine excited and engaged students. While we were sad to see our newly promoted sixth graders move on, we're excited to welcome back seven familiar faces—and we still have room for more students to join the fun!



Summer Session at Dream School!



Summer Session One marked the return of our very first art instructor, Mr. Philip, who guided students through the design and construction of their own kites using thrifted fabric and wooden spars crafted from reeds gathered along the San Diego River. In the process, students reflected on what it means to feel free while staying grounded to the people and places that matter most. Ms. Laura introduced them to the basics of Neuro-Linguistic Programming, Ms. Jenn returned to share the beauty of ASL, Coach John kept the energy high with creative new fitness games, and Mr. Adrian from Villa Musica was welcomed to share his passion for music with beginner guitar lessons. Although our field trip plans fell through on the last day of Summer Session One, we made the most of it with a fun walk down the block for fresh smoothies! It was a session full of learning, laughter, and lift-off—just like those kites.



Our team is gearing up for an exciting Summer Session Two! We look forward to welcoming Mr. Brian back for our piano classes, new learning labs, field trips and fitness in the park! You can believe that we're also firming up our plans for fall and back to school, in the meantime.



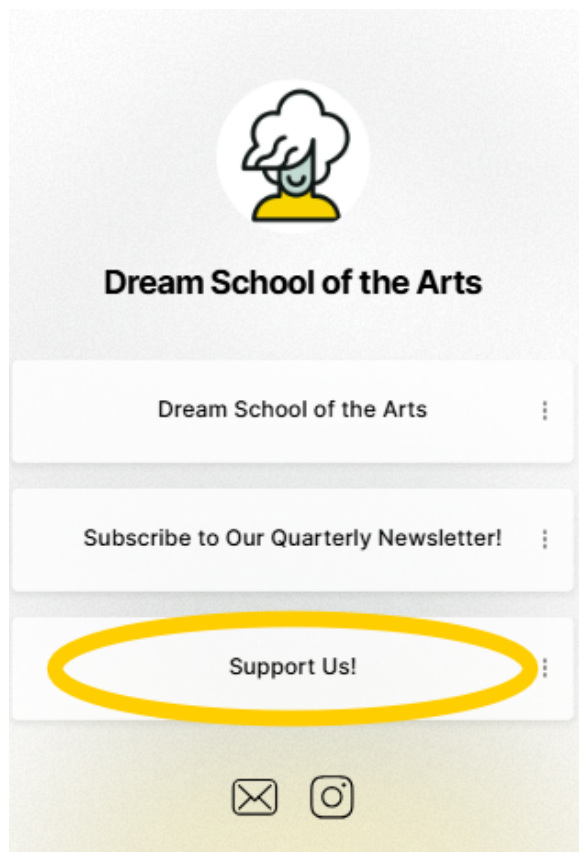


Thank You for Your Support!



Your continued commitment and support show us what's possible when community, creativity, and education come together to dream. Through the arts, movement, and a fun welcoming environment the students look forward to impactful learning experiences. The kids that we welcome into Dream School are growing and learning in ways that truly matter—and we couldn't do it without the many hands and hearts that support us. If you haven't already, follow along on Instagram to see how year two unfolds at Dream School of the Arts. If you're able to give, your financial support helps us keep dreaming of dynamic ways to inspire and encourage kids to find their A-HA! Every contribution—big or small—makes a lasting impact.

Support Us!



Looking for a Special Way to Show Your Support?

We have Dream School of the Arts merchandise! These items are a fantastic way to wear your love for the arts and represent our program. Purchasing merchandise directly contributes to supporting our mission and program.

Here's how to buy your Dream School Merch:

- Go to this webpage: linktr.ee/dsoasd
- Click the "Support Us" button in our Linktree link.
- In the "Fund Section," choose "DREAM SCHOOL OF THE ARTS"
- Enter the amount that matches the price of the merchandise you'd like to purchase

Thank you again for your unwavering support! We look forward to seeing you all again soon.

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