

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## Let Your Imagination Run Wild

*Registration begins Jan. 2, 2010 for Children's Winter Art Classes*

**MEDICINE HAT, AB** – The Esplanade Education program just announced it is offering another group of art classes for children beginning in the New Year. Children who attend the Winter Art Sessions are given the chance to develop their artistic talent, explore a variety of different art techniques and have fun.

“Along with our regular programming, part of our commitment to meeting the needs of our community is to expose preschool and school-aged children to relevant, fun and practical art and cultural classes,” says Neil Sarjeant-Jenkins, Education Coordinator at the Esplanade.

There are three separate classes for different age groups:

- preschool session for children 3-5 years on Wednesday afternoons from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.
- first session on Saturdays for children 6-8 years from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
- second session on Saturdays for children 9-12 years from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m..

Registration fees include all materials. Some materials used in the classroom could stain clothing, so students should wear old clothes or bring an apron or paint shirt.

In the Esplanade Preschool classes, children will have fun playing, exploring their imaginations and creating a variety of art projects. Using story-time, music and the artwork in the Esplanade Art Gallery as inspiration, instructor Stephanie Dalla-Longa will lead the students through their art projects. They will begin to learn about colour, how to paint, sculpt with clay, make prints and draw with a different focus each week.

The school-aged Esplanade classes will be based in our Discovery Centre and, drawing inspiration from the Esplanade galleries and our environment, instructor Candice Arnold will guide students in their exploration of drawing and sculpting techniques such as contour and shading. Esplanade engage in a variety of projects during the eight week long session, including: drawing, painting with acrylic and watercolours, printmaking with the etching press as well as clay sculpting.

Winter Art Classes begin Jan. 13. Registrations are accepted in person at the Esplanade Information Desk, or by phone with a Visa or MasterCard by calling 403.502.8793.

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For further information, interviews or visuals please contact:

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