Young Artist Explore at Second Annual Arts Festival

In February, Promise South Salt Lake held the Second Annual Elementary Arts Festival at the Columbus Center. This year, the Arts Festival consisted of eight different activities including watercolor painting, origami, breakdancing, and printmaking. Students were given a map of the building and activities, and were allowed to jump from activity to activity on their own terms. This format gave students the option to invest as much or as little time as they wanted in each project, allowing them to learn at their own pace.

The goal was to expose students to new mediums, which they may not have had the opportunity to work with before. A great example of this was the printmaking station. This medium was provided by Art Access, a local organization offering a diverse collection of mission-driven programs, including workshops and community outreach. The station was setup to allow students to carve a design of their choice into a special block of foam, which was then covered in ink and placed onto special paper, thus creating their very own print!

With an incredible turnout of over 200 students, all eight activities were extremely successful throughout the day. Students left with multiple art projects in hand and smiles of accomplishment on their faces!

Lincoln Elementary Serving Over 200 Students

The Promise South Salt Lake program at Lincoln Elementary has grown to its biggest size ever! This past year, over 200 students have enrolled in the after-school program and/or a specialized club.

From homework help to STEM activities to dramatic performances to career days (with even more activities in the works, including a visit from Olympian Jeremy Holm this month!), students have access to an incredible range of opportunities.

The program partners with many outside organizations to provide a wide variety of programming, free of charge for students. Currently, students can choose to participate in Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts, soccer (funded by CHG Healthcare), computer coding, basketball, theatre (from Utah Children’s Theatre), chess, and dance (from Bridges of Magical Dance). Multiple teachers, school staff members, Westminster College students, and community volunteers contribute to these clubs and also bring their expertise to the academic tutoring and homework help portions of the program. Additional volunteers are always needed; contact promise.volunteer@sslc.com for more information.

Students also have the opportunity to attend weekly educational field trips. This month, students will be going to the Leonardo Museum, the Utah Museum of Contemporary Art, the Dannon yogurt factory, and the Loveland Living Planet Aquarium.

In addition to the programming provided for students, Promise South Salt Lake and United Way collaborate to meet the needs of families as a whole in the community, from meeting basic needs requests to running a food pantry to bringing in outside service providers related to vision, health, and dental care.