

# LEIGHTON ART CENTRE

## 2022 - 2023

### School & Community Groups Program Guide



[www.leightoncentre.org](http://www.leightoncentre.org)



Leighton Art Centre is an Art Gallery, accredited Museum, Gallery Shop, and Arts Education Centre located on 80 acres, featuring a spectacular foothills and Rocky Mountain view, just outside of Calgary, near Millarville, Alberta. Situated in A.C. Leighton and Barbara Leighton's original home and the Education Centre anchored by a historic one-room schoolhouse, the Leighton Art Centre is a vibrant display of Alberta's artists, both past and present. It was established by Barbara Leighton in 1970 and was incorporated as a charitable society in 1974.

Leighton Art Centre's team of dedicated Art & Nature educators offers quality educational experiences to elementary and junior high aged children and youth, at the centre (Art & Nature), at your location (Art To Go, available January & February) and virtually over the internet (Virtual). While schools use our programs frequently, our Art & Nature program is also a great fit for community groups such as Girl Guides, Scouts, clubs, and homeschooling groups.

See page 3 for detailed descriptions of each available program.  
See page 10 for answers to some Frequently Asked Questions.

Still have questions? Please contact us at [education@leightoncentre.org](mailto:education@leightoncentre.org).

### How To Book Your Experience:

Book Art & Nature school programs online: [leightoncentre.org/educators/art-nature-field-trips](https://leightoncentre.org/educators/art-nature-field-trips).

To book an Art To Go or Virtual school program, or an Art & Nature experience for a community group, please contact us at [education@leightoncentre.org](mailto:education@leightoncentre.org).

To ensure availability, we recommend booking *as soon as possible* and no later than 5 business days before your anticipated visit.

**Cancellation Policy:** 28 WORKING DAYS notification required or a \$100 charge will be incurred. This does NOT include WEATHER-RELATED CANCELLATIONS.

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**Rates** (price per student, minimum charges apply\*)

<b>Art &amp; Nature</b>	<b>\$20</b>	<b>Virtual Program</b>	<b>\$8</b>
<b>Art To Go</b> (Jan/Feb only)	<b>\$20</b>		

\* Minimum charges are as follows (per studio or Art To Go/Virtual experience):  
Schools - 20 students/studio or class    Community Groups - 14 students/studio or class

**Financial assistance is available for qualifying schools through the Linda Putnam Legacy Fund. Contact us at [education@leightoncentre.org](mailto:education@leightoncentre.org) for more information.**

**Our Mission: As a vibrant and open space for creativity, Leighton Art Centre provides you with the inspiration to explore, appreciate, and create.**

## Art & Nature (at our place)

During our 4-hour on-site program, your students will connect to the natural world and heritage through art making! Exploration of our 80 acres and thoughtful study during a tour of the heritage Leighton Art Centre Museum will create a framework of understanding for your students as they engage in a stimulating and expressive art lesson.

Your field trip experience will be guided by an artist-instructor who will promote visual literacy, thoughtful observation, and critical thinking. Lessons will be leveled to your students' ages and ability. Our diverse art project options allow you to make important curriculum connections to the learning presented in our programs.

We have two historic art studios available. There is a minimum charge of 20 students for one studio, or 38 for both. *Schoolhouse Studio* and *Sprung Studio* each hold up to 34 students. If you are booking a single studio, we will evaluate your booking request and either confirm that we can accommodate your group, or work with you to find a different date. We reserve the right to book your class in the studio that provides the best balance of student numbers that day.

Program Includes:

- Sketchbook
- Nature Walk
- Guided visit to the Leighton Museum
- Your choice of one Art Project\*

\* TWO ART PROJECTS: if a class would like to do two art activities instead of the regular 1/class, we charge an additional \$3/student, bringing the per student total to \$23. Required minimum program time of 4.5 hours, available for the Art & Nature Program only.

## Virtual (join from home or class)

Join us for a virtual field trip and we'll bring art and nature from Leighton Art Centre to you!

Using bones and antlers of local animals as well as photos and images we will explore the Foothills Region. Students will be guided through a landscape drawing and sketching game. We will share stories about the history of the Leightons and their contribution to Canada, Alberta, and Calgary. Through these stories, students will learn about the importance of art to the development of our region.

Sketchbooks and art supplies will be dropped off at your school for the students to participate in a guided online art project. Our educators will tailor your field trip to meet the unique needs of your classrooms.

## Art To Go (at your place)

Our in-school field trip delivers a talented artist-instructor armed with Art & Nature know-how and artifacts\* and a fresh art project right to your classroom.

Our experienced and enthusiastic educators bring exciting art techniques, materials, and instruction in an age-appropriate program. Students will learn new visual art skills and have a lot of fun too.

This program can be tailored to fit a curriculum focus or delivered as pure visual art instructions. It is an invaluable means of bringing art making to your students!

Class time is approximately one-half day (3 hours) and can be booked for either the morning or afternoon. There is a minimum charge of 20 students for this program.

Program Includes:

- Sketchbook
- Your choice of one Art Project

In addition to our great art projects, we provide the opportunity for students to interact with some of our natural and historical objects. We bring more of the magic of the Leighton Art Centre into your classroom with birds' nests, antlers, and other natural objects for students to explore, sketch, and find inspiration from!

Students will also have the opportunity to think about what a museum is by investigating a selection of creations made by Barbara and AC Leighton. Students will have the chance to handle these objects, ask questions, and draw inspiration for their own art project!



A few of the natural and museum artifacts our instructors may bring to your classroom.

# ART PROJECTS

**Clay** - Hands-on clay lessons will give your students the opportunity to form, imprint, create patterns, and sculpt! Each lesson includes a sketchbook activity developing skills and understanding that will be applied to their clay creation.



## Curious Clay Owl

**Grade Level: K+**

Fascinating facts about local owl species will inspire students to sculpt a charming clay owl using folding and imprinting techniques.



## Patterned Pinch Pot

**Grade Level: Gr 2+**

Using a hand-building technique that is centuries old, students will learn basic pinch pot methods to create a small, patterned clay pot. Can be tied to curriculum topics by special request.



## Sculpted Clay Landscape

**Grade Level: Gr 1+**

Using the natural world outside the studio door as inspiration, students will create a landscape in clay. Students will learn and apply additive and subtractive clay sculpting techniques.



Although time doesn't allow for it during your Art & Nature field trip, your students' clay projects, once fully dry, can be further embellished with paint and a protective coating. Ask your Art & Nature Educator (or email [education@leightoncentre.org](mailto:education@leightoncentre.org)) for instructions on how to do this back in your classroom!

**Painting**- Lessons will inspire your students to follow in the footsteps of renowned landscape artist A.C. Leighton. While touring the Leighton Museum students will make important connections to the artwork of the Leightons and the role it played in Canada's past.

Each painting lesson begins with a sketchbook activity that develops drawing skills, as well as an understanding of composition and landscape. These skills will be applied to a finished painting. Students will learn basic brush handling, colour mixing, and painting techniques. These lessons will have a seasonal focus, applying colours and textures from the current season to the finished painting.

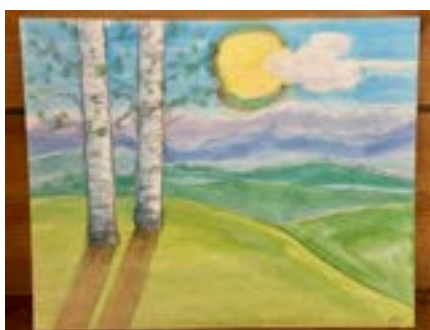


**“The mountains, the peaks, the glaciers: that is where I want to be and that is where I want to paint.”**  
A.C. Leighton

### **Mountain Landscape Study**

**Grade Level: K+**

Drawing inspiration from our spectacular mountain view and the historical paintings of A.C. Leighton, students will create a landscape painting.



### **Forest Shadow Study**

**Grade Level: K+**

Students will learn about the use of a resist in painting as they create a landscape painting with trees and shadows in the foreground.

**Fibre Art** - Leighton Art Centre founder, Barbara Leighton, was a passionate crafter! Taking inspiration from the art forms she loved best, we offer weaving and felting programs. The unique sensory qualities of working with natural fibres will fascinate your students! Each lesson will also include a sketchbook activity to design the finished product.

**ALLERGY ALERT** Fibre Art activities may involve the use of natural fibres such as wool. Before booking, please consider any allergies your students have.



### **Willow Loom Weaving\***

**Grade Level: Gr 2+**

Working on a natural, hand-shaped willow loom, students will create a wall hanging weaving using colours and textures to delight the eye! This heritage activity will present unique learning opportunities for your students to understand the origins and history of the materials used. \* Due to the nature of the materials required, quantities of this activity are limited and subject to availability.



### **Nature Inspired Needle Felting \*\***

**Grade Level: Gr 4+**

In this active, hands-on lesson students will use wool fibres to create a needle felted landscape or nature inspired picture. Seasonal colours and textures will be used. Throughout the lesson, students will learn interesting facts about the natural materials and their origin and history.



### **3D Needle Felting \*\***

**Grade Level: Gr 6+**

In this active, hands-on lesson students will use wool fibres to create a 3D needle felted animal. Throughout the lesson, students will learn facts about the animals that live in our Foothills region.

\*\* Due to the felting needles used, it is requested that teachers and adult volunteers are actively engaged with these lessons to support students and maintain good classroom control. \*\*



### Wire Sculpture - Human Figure

**Grade Level: Gr 2+**

One of our most popular lessons! Students will study proportion of the human figure and sketching techniques before creating their own expressive wire sculpture of a person.



### Wire Sculpture - Trees

**Grade Level: Gr 1+**

If nature and ecology are hot topics in your classroom right now, consider having your students apply the same creative wire sculpting skills to creating a whole forest of unique and colourful trees.



### Wire Sculpture - Animals

**Grade Level: Gr 2+**

After visiting our display of animal bones and antlers during their nature walk, your students will be inspired to create some creative creatures of their own. Whether they choose to make a critter that may call the Leighton property home, or one that lives elsewhere in Canada or the world, these critters can spark a myriad of classroom discussions and projects!



### Wire Sculpture - Flowers

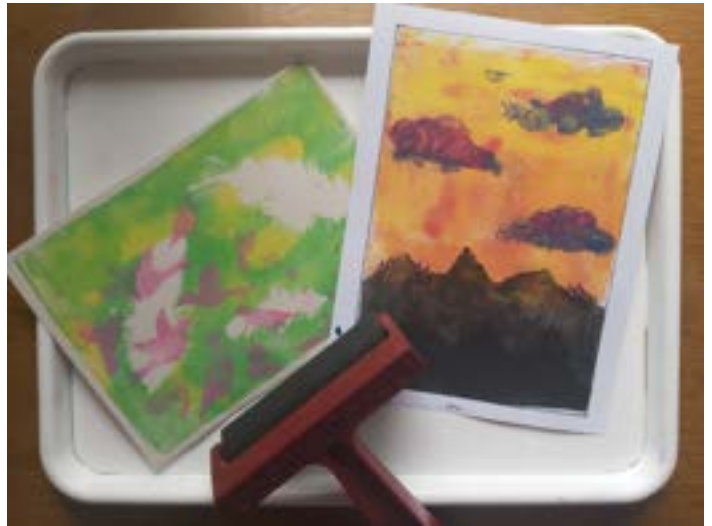
**Grade Level: Gr 1+**

This project encourages students to consider one of nature's most colourful gifts and to observe some of the smaller flora in our area. The flowers that grow on our property or elsewhere in the world are great discussion starters for topics surrounding how we should be treating nature. These wire sculpture flowers also make unique and thoughtful Mother's Day gifts!

## Monoprinting

### Grade Level: Gr 1+

After learning about Barbara Leighton's printmaking during their museum tour, your students will be guided to create unique, one of a kind prints by exploring and experimenting with the process of monoprinting.



## Printmaking\*

### Grade Level: Gr 5+

Students will dive into the history of Barbara Leighton making linoleum and woodcut block prints of A.C. Leighton's original paintings. Drawing inspiration from Barbara's work. Students will create their own stamp block.

\* Due to carving tools being used, it is requested that teachers and adult volunteers are actively engaged with this lesson to support students and maintain good classroom control.



## Oil Pastel Batik

### Grade Level: K+

Batik was a favorite art form for Barbara Leighton and was an important part of the era in which the centre was founded. We have adapted batik for use with students and to fit within the time frame of a school trip. Using oil pastels rather than traditional hot wax, students create landscapes or nature-inspired images. A wash of black paint will give your students' creations the unique batik charm.



## Winter is Wonderful!

Winter in our northern climate is often seen as negative - dark, cold, and lacking in colour. But winter can be magical!



### Winter Forest Clay Ornament

**Grade Level: K+**

By observing the shapes of the trees and snowbanks in the world around them, participants will sculpt a clay ornament. They will learn additive and subtractive clay sculpting techniques and explore the use of texture in this unique medium. The projects finished during the visit will maintain their natural, unpainted charm but instructions on adding colour at home can be provided upon request!



### Winter Needle Felted Ornament \*

**Grade Level: Gr 6+**

In this active, hands-on lesson students will use wool fibres to create a 3D needle felted ornament.

\* Due to the felting needles used, it is requested that teachers and adult volunteers are actively engaged with this lesson to support students and maintain good classroom control.

# Frequently Asked Questions

## Art & Nature - Schools

**Q: Is there a minimum number of students that can attend the program?**

**A:** We don't have a minimum number for attendance but we do have a minimum charge of 20 students for a single studio or 38 for 2 studios. This quota lets us cover basic operating and staff costs.

**Q: Is there a maximum number of classes our school can bring to Leighton?**

**A:** Our studios have a maximum capacity of 68 students when both studios are booked. Please divide your group so that there is no group larger than 34 students.

**Q: How many projects can we do in a day?**

**A:** All field trips include one art project per studio. If you have extra time and would like to do a second project there is a small extra cost of \$3 per student. Remember your day also includes the sketchbook session, the nature walk, and the visit to the Leighton's Residence and Gallery.

**Q: Will we have time for lunch?**

**A:** Yes! Our itinerary allows for a 20 to 30 minute recess. Please remember to bring your packed lunches and pack all garbage back to school. Play time must be supervised by the teacher and/or volunteers accompanying the group.

**Q: Why don't you do the Banner Project anymore?**

**A:** We received feedback from teachers indicating that the day was already full of fun activities and the banner project - as wonderful as it is - was many times rushed or incomplete. We wish to offer students and teachers the best experience possible.

**Q: Should I bring payment with me?**

**A:** Invoices will be sent back to the school with you on the day of your visit. Your office can forward a cheque to the Leighton Art Centre.

**Q: Is it free for adults to attend the fieldtrip?**

**A:** Yes, teachers and volunteers are free to attend. Volunteers who wish to create their own art projects while helping the children are asked to bring \$5 cash to cover material cost. If the school wishes to cover this cost, just let your instructor know and we'll add it to the invoice. Teachers may participate at no extra cost. We recommend a ratio of 1 adult per 8 children.

## Art To Go

**Q: Is there a maximum number of classes you can do in one morning or afternoon?**

**A:** We can normally do a maximum of 2 classes in the morning and/or the afternoon. This program is also subject to instructor availability and we will contact you if we are unable to teach all your requested classes.

**Q: How many projects can we do in a day?**

**A:** All in-school fieldtrips include one art project. Remember your day also includes a sketchbook session.

**Q: Will we have time for a break?**

**A:** Yes! Please communicate with your instructor about the preferred break time.

**Q: Do I need to book any volunteers for the Art To Go Program?**

**A:** We recommend having one or two volunteers in class to help students when needed. Volunteers who wish to participate in the art projects are asked to bring \$5.00 cash to cover material cost. If the school wishes to cover this cost, just let your instructor know and we'll add it to the invoice. \*Teachers may participate at no extra cost.

## Community Groups Only

For community groups, such as Guides or Scouts, we offer Art & Nature programs only.

**Q: Is there a minimum number of participants that can attend the program?**

**A:** We charge for a minimum of 14 participants.

**Q: Is it free for adults to attend the program?**

**A:** Yes, leaders and volunteers are free to attend. Adults who wish to create their own art projects while helping the children are asked to bring \$5 cash to cover material cost. If your group wishes to cover this cost, just let your instructor know and we'll add it to the invoice. We recommend a ratio of 1 adult per 8 children.

**Q: Can you adapt your program for our group's needs?**

**A:** We would love to work with you to create a relevant enriching experience for your group. Please email us about your requirements, including relevant topics that we may be able to incorporate into our programming. We will do our best to accommodate your needs.

**Visit our website to register:  
[www.leightoncentre.org](http://www.leightoncentre.org)**

For further questions about registration,  
availability, or projects please contact  
our Public Programs Manager, Coreen Thornhill:

**[education@leightoncentre.org](mailto:education@leightoncentre.org) • 403-931-3636**

