

Explorations in *Tactile Arts*

Session 2: Art with InSight ~ Inspired by Us

Explorations in Tactile Arts for Students who are Blind and/or Visually Impaired

Who: Students Who Are Blind/Visually Impaired in Grades 7-12

Where: Missouri School for the Blind (MSB)
3815 Magnolia
St. Louis, Missouri 63110

When: July 18–29, 2016 (10 days)

What: *Explorations in Tactile Arts*, is a 2-week program designed to introduce students who are blind or visually impaired to a variety of tactile skills and concepts necessary to understand, create and appreciate what we traditionally think of as visual arts. The traditional approach to art instruction and art history is a combination of lectures and visuals including slides. In a semester a sighted student may be exposed to hundreds of slides to introduce and explore the details of paintings, drawings, sculpture, and architecture. Slides are useless to the visually impaired populations however, by utilizing a multi-sensory method of touch and sound students who are blind or visually impaired can have the same opportunity to learn, create, examine, admire, or even be surprised by a wide variety of artistic forms.

Students participating in *Explorations in Tactile Arts* will explore concepts and develop new skills by exploring and creating textile and fiber art, beading and fashion design. Students will have the opportunity to explore clay, pottery and sculpture and more. During *Explorations in Tactile Arts* students will be able to choose projects and determine what aspect of tactile arts they want to explore. During *Explorations in Tactile Arts* students will examine various aspects of Art within our Community. Students will visit the Laumeier Sculpture Park, attend a live performance at the Muny, tour a professional theatre and have the opportunity to discuss careers in set and costume design with professionals in the field. During *Explorations in Tactile Arts*, students will learn skills by experiencing and participating in a variety of lessons and activities culminating a Textile and Tactile Arts Exhibit and Artist's Reception featuring student's original works.

Costs: *Free.* Transportation, activities, room and board are all provided *FREE* of charge.

How: Just complete the registration form found on the MSB website and return it to MSB by May 15, 2016.

If you have further questions or need additional information, please contact Joy Waddell, Assistant Superintendent at 314-776-4320 or via e-mail at joyce.waddell@msb.dese.mo.gov