The Finnish Association of Art Schools for Children and Young People



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The Finnish Association of Art Schools for Children and Young People

The Finnish Association of Art Schools for Children and Young People is a national umbrella organisation for art schools for children and young people. It was founded in 1982 and has 64 member organizations. Altogether, there are 150 visual art schools in Finland. These institutions provide basic education in the arts for 17 500 children and young people.

Basic education in the visual arts involves fine arts, crafts, architecture and audio-visual arts. The teachers in these institutions are visual arts teachers, artists, photographers, designers and media professionals.





The purpose of basic education in the arts is to offer long-term training according to person's abilities and interests and to create conditions for a life-long hobby in the visual art, as well as readiness for further studies. Basic education in the arts is regulated in Finland by Law (633/1998) and by Order (813/1998).

Visual arts schools are maintained by municipalities and private organizations. The schools participate in multifaceted cooperation with comprehensive schools, kindergartens, other arts, and actors in the field of children's culture. Some of the schools function as part of adult education centres.

The Finnish Association of Art Schools for Children and Young People:

- Represents and promotes the interests of schools that provided basic education in the visual arts to children and young people;
- Promotes the standard of art education provided by its member organisations;
- Promotes the status of the visual arts in the national school and art education system;

- Promotes the status of children's culture and art education in national cultural policy;
- Promotes awareness of the activities and goals of institutions that provide basic education in the visual arts;
- Develops cooperation between Finnish and foreign parties; and supports art education to improve the welfare of children and young people, sustainable development and cultural diversity.

REFERENCES

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The photos are taken in The Art School of Northern Helsinki.

Photographer: Maarit Kytöharju

