

# NWC Student Showcase Abstract

## Wild West Art Teachers

April 2023

Since the beginning of our journey at Northwest College last year; we have all had the incredible opportunity to teach Art in the elementary schools in Cody, Wyoming. Six Northwest College students teach 1000 students each week in grades Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade in five different schools. It has been a phenomenal hands-on experience to be in the classroom teaching 18 classes per week. As college students, there is only so much we can do to learn from our textbooks, so we have all benefited from being in the classroom and teaching; whether it be solo or with other Wild West Art Teachers.

We all appreciate the opportunity to teach Art because we are also learning from the teachers and the students each week. Being involved in the Art initiative in the Cody Schools has taught us a tremendous amount of new information about classroom management, developing positive relationships with students, and how different classes and various grade levels require differentiation of instruction. As we are in the classrooms teaching Art, we can see how other teachers interact with their students, and it provides us with ideas on how to manage our own classrooms now and in the future.

We are pursuing our dreams of becoming teachers; and by teaching Art, we are learning how to manage whole groups and to motivate them in fun and exciting ways. We have also learned about several famous artists, mediums, Native Americans, Wyoming History, Art History and various Art techniques. We have learned to integrate instruction by teaching multiple subject areas throughout our Art lessons such as Native American History, Western History, Wyoming History, Life Sciences, Art History and Fine/ Performing Arts standards. Working as a Wild West Art Teacher has been an incredibly valuable and joyful experience that will continue to serve us well in our future teaching positions.