



# WELCOME TO DANDELION DANCE™ ARTS CONNECTION!

At Dandelion Dance™, we offer life changing programs that support every girl to experience joy, connect with others, build community, discover her best self, and share her voice with the world!

COVID-19 has impacted everyone in our community in different ways - but the one thing we all have in common is our need to feel connected to others, and to know we are all in this together. Online and outdoor programming help, but these options don't always offer the best solution for every girl.

That's why we are so excited to introduce the brand-new Dandelion Dance™ Arts Connection program! With the help of our amazing team of trained volunteers, this program will enable us to reach girls TODAY who are experiencing barriers to accessing our core programs.



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## HOW DOES IT WORK?

### It's simple!

Over a period of six weeks, our team will provide each girl a weekly touchpoint with a safe, warm, friendly adult volunteer who will bring an Imaginarium Kit filled with a fun activity and art supplies directly to her door.

## WHAT'S AN IMAGINARIUM KIT?

Our Imaginarium Kits have been expertly designed to provide fun, age-appropriate activities that girls from ages 6 to 11 can do at home. They enable girls to go on their very own creative adventure every week through activities that foster their imagination.

**The kits are FREE and include all necessary materials!**

## WHO CAN GET ONE?

The Arts Connection program is geared to girls ages 6-11 who, due to COVID-19, may be feeling isolated or missing extra-curricular activities and community programming. They may be unable to get to and from in-person programs or get regular access to online programs.

Whatever the reason, the Arts Connection program is available to any girl who would benefit from a friendly delivery of FUN and JOY directly to her door!

*Due to COVID-19, volunteers and participants will meet OUTSIDE participant homes. For deliveries to apartments, our volunteers will remain in the lobby or the hallway.*



## WHAT SETS ARTS CONNECTION APART FROM OTHER PROGRAMS?

**Face-to-face connection remains one of our most important values!**

Not only do volunteers drop off an Imaginarium Kit to each participant's home every week, but they are also trained to provide a warm, safe point of connection in the process.

Along with offering a friendly smile and an enthusiastic "Hello!", the volunteer will describe the activity and answer any questions the girl may have. The volunteer will encourage her in her creative explorations, without making her feel pressured to do the activities in the "right way" or that she has to do them on a certain schedule.

OUR VOLUNTEERS  
CONNECT WITH PROGRAM  
PARTICIPANTS OUTSIDE

(or in the public spaces of apartment buildings) and while following all public health guidelines.

## REGISTRATION IS SIMPLE AND STRAIGHTFORWARD.

Parents/guardians can complete the registration form online or over the phone with our administrator. We also accept registrations through staff referral.

**We match each girl with a volunteer based on availability, preferred language, and any special needs she has.**

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## HOW CAN WE WORK TOGETHER?

Just like you, we want to help girls in our community feel connected, have opportunities to play, create, and HAVE FUN!

By partnering with you, we can support girls from ages 6-11 who are already known to your organization to participate in the Arts Connection program.

Ultimately, by working together, we can reach more girls who are facing additional barriers to accessing programs at this time.

**We are committed to structuring every partnership to be as efficient and effective as possible:**

- As we recruit and train volunteers to deliver kits, we would be glad to include any volunteers that are already known and trusted by your organization.
- If you have outreach staff that might be able to deliver kits, we would love to get them involved as well.
- While we have our own intake process to gather necessary information from participating girls and their families, we can work with you to modify this process in order to better serve families that are already connected with your organization. Just let us know and we will work it out together.

**And if you have any other ideas, please don't hesitate to reach out. We'd love to hear them all!**

## COVID-19 SAFETY PROTOCOLS

We have implemented policies and screening procedures in accordance with Ottawa Public Health guidelines.

To learn more about how Dandelion Dance™ is responding to the risk of COVID-19 transmission, please see our COVID-19 Participant Protocols which all participants and volunteers are required to follow. To keep everyone as safe as possible, Arts Connection program volunteers will not be able to come inside participant homes.



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# NEXT STEPS

If this partnership is of interest to you or if you have any questions, please contact our Program Director:

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