

# Art on the Edge a Creative Alternative for Youth

Did you know that according to the Juvenile Information Network, alcohol is the drug most commonly used by youth, is one of the most common contributors to injury, death, and criminal behavior among young people, and early onset of alcohol use increases the risk for chronic alcohol addiction?

In Kootenai County, as shown by the Kootenai Alliance for Children and Families CTC Youth Survey Report, even Coeur d'Alene School District students recorded the highest lifetime prevalence-of-use for alcohol at 71 percent!

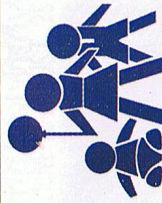
Why are the numbers so high? Why are more and more of our youth using alcohol, a behavior that increases many other risk factors in their lives?

While the reasons are many and vary from youth to youth, studies have shown that children who have quality adult mentors and supervised structured activities both after school and during the summer are less likely to participate in risky behaviors, including the use of alcohol.

St. Vincent de Paul's Art on the Edge is designed to do just that! A free art program for all area youth ages 6 to 18, Art on the Edge gives children throughout Kootenai County a positive, creative place to explore art concepts while using art as a tool for learning problem-solving, goal setting, community values, and increased self-esteem. Using quality adult mentors and local artists, youth get a chance to explore themselves and their artistic abilities while building more positive behaviors and learning better interaction with peers and adults - all of which will help them make better choices in their lives.

Classes, where all types of art mediums are explored, are offered on Tuesday and Thursday from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. for middle and high school-aged youth, and Wednesdays from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. and 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. for elementary-aged youth.

**Art on the Edge summer camp will be held the second week of July, Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Registration for the summer camp will start in May with space available for up to 60 youth. Classes are held in Coeur d'Alene at 1416 N. 1st. For more information on the weekly classes or the summer camp, please call Art on the Edge at 208-676-0917.**



**Coeur d'Alene  
Pediatrics**

- Terence E. Neff, M.D.
- Beth Ann Martin, M.D.
- Cheri Savage, M.D.
- Debbie Mykkanen, F.N.P.
- Nicola McLachlan, P.N.P.
- Thomas R. Rau, M.D.
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## CHILDREN'S AUTHOR - SNEED

Sneed B. Collard III, the author of the award-winning books *Beaks!*, *Animal Dads*, *Butterfly Count*, and *The Forest in the Clouds* will appear at area libraries this summer. Sneed has evolved through several life-history stages on his way to becoming one of today's leading children's authors. His first book, *Sea Snakes*, was published in 1993.

His thirtieth book *The Prairie Builders* was released this spring and has already been named a Junior Library Guild Selection. Other 2005 books include *One Night in the Coral Sea*; *A Platypus, Probably*; and *Sneed's first novel, Dog Sense*.

When he is not writing, he can often be found speaking to students, conducting teacher workshops, and walking his Frisbee-catching border collie, Mattie. Monday, July 31 - Hayden Library  
Tuesday, August 1 - Sandpoint & Post Falls Library  
Wednesday, August 2 - CdA Public Library

The Hayden Library will be hosting the Smithsonian Institution traveling exhibit, "Key Ingredients: America by Food" beginning May 26. Programming will be geared to children, families and interested patrons. We also have summer reading programs, including author visits, puppet shows, free books and lots of fun!



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