

The Lutsk Art School is a private education institution in Lutsk, Ukraine that provides students with a traditional education in fine arts.

The 6-year program begins in grade 4 and follows an advancing curriculum throughout high school age. This educational program is separate from a student's academic studies, and is conducted in afternoons and evenings as an elective, extracurricular education.

The program is designed to prepare young artists for admission into higher education institutions to further their studies and prepare them for a career in the arts. Over the course of their studies, students acquire basic knowledge of drawing, painting, composition, sculpture, art history, and specialization in certain subjects.

The Art School partners with higher education institutions like the Ukrainian Academy of Design, Lviv National Academy of Arts, and Kosiv Institute of Applied and Decorative Arts, with student artwork often on exhibit throughout Ukraine and other European nations.

In February 2022, after the Russian invasion into Ukraine, the Art School converted part of its facilities, including the underground basement, into a shelter for internally displaced people fleeing the violence. Desks have been set up in the school's underground basement where students and faculty shelter during bombing raids.

The Faculty and Staff host free art therapy projects, art workshops, and community-based art installations as a way to help process the trauma of war for internally displaced individuals, children of servicemen and women, and adults in their community of Lutsk.

In February 2023, Lauren & Matt Filbeck, co-founders of The International Bridge Collective, a Georgia-based humanitarian aid organization, were joined in Ukraine by Patrick Ballington, Pastor of The Bridge Church in Cleveland, GA. Together they partnered with the Art School and hosted an auction of original student artwork.

Proceeds from the auction went back to the students who used those funds to purchase a transport van for their local Ukrainian Army Unit. Director Vera Konska and students presented the transport van to Army Captain Oleksandr Kravchenko in late May 2023 at the art school.

The IBC is delighted to partner with Sautee Nacoochee Center for this exhibit and are grateful to Bullseye Auction & Appraisal for hosting the upcoming auction for this collection. Proceeds of the auction will go directly to the school to be used in support of their local Army Unit. *Proceeds may only be used for the procurement of basic needs and humanitarian aid.*