

Features (/Features/)

# Out & About: Parents, Kids Create Together at Free Family Arts Day in Sharon

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Sharon — Beat the winter blues on Sunday at Free Family Arts Day at The Sharon Academy.

The annual event — which takes place from noon to 4 p.m. — is a great opportunity to give stir-crazy kids a chance to learn something new while spending quality time with family.

The timing of the event isn't an accident. It was started six years ago "to create an opportunity for the community, and this is a time of year where families are struggling to find things to do," said Amber Wylie, director of communications and enrollment at TSA. "Our goal is to provide a community event that families can come to and not worry about money."

The activities, which include jewelry-making, coloring, a building table, the always popular face-painting and stilt-walking, are geared toward children from 3 to 13 years old.

"We try to provide a mix of art workshops that appeal to many different ages of children," Wylie said. "What we love is watching children and parents engaging in art together."

The artists who lead the workshops volunteer their time. The cost that the school incurs for supplies is offset by refreshment sales.

"They don't have to worry about going out and getting food," during the event, Wylie said.

Now in its sixth year, the arts day has grown steadily and expanded its reach. The first year attracted 100 participants. Last year, more than 700 people from more than 20 towns attended.

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"We look forward to it continuing to grow," Wylie said. "All of us who work on it just love it because we get to walk around on the day and see all these families smiling, playing and having fun."

Editor's note: For more information, visit <http://sharonacademy.org/arts-day/> (<http://sharonacademy.org/arts-day/>) or call 802-763-2500. Liz Sauchelli can be reached at [esauchelli@vnews.com](mailto:esauchelli@vnews.com) or 603-727-3221.

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