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Mesa Arts Center Unveils LIT Ink: Empowering Valley Students Through Storytelling and Connection





Additional high-res images here.

Mesa, AZ – Mesa Arts Center is proud to announce the launch of **LIT Ink**, the next evolution of its celebrated Project Lit programs. Designed for students across the Valley, this reimagined initiative aims to amplify creativity, self-expression and connection through literary and digital storytelling experiences.

With a focus on breaking down barriers and uniting diverse perspectives, LIT Ink introduces a range of dynamic programs, including the L'ink Up Festival and the **Picture (THIS) Digital Storytelling Festival.**

"Storytelling is our most defining characteristic as humans," said Tomas Stanton, director of engagement at Mesa Arts Center. "These events create brave spaces for self-expression and meaningful connection, culminating in events that bring our community together."

LIT Ink Events

L'ink Up Festival Saturday, Dec. 7, 2024, 11:30 a.m.–7:30 p.m. Public performances: 5:30–7:30 p.m.

The L'ink Up Festival unites students who have participated in LIT Ink's residencies for a one-day gathering of creativity and connection. The festival promotes camaraderie, dialogue and collaboration through interactive workshops designed to extend the conversations begun during the residency.

The day concludes with public performances, where students showcase their talents and celebrate their shared journey.

Picture (THIS) Digital Storytelling Festival and Anthology Release Party Saturday, April 12, 2025

Students take to the stage to present their multimedia creations. This event highlights their dedication and skill, showcasing professionally produced digital stories that combine poetry with animation and film.

The motto of the Picture (THIS) Festival, "Expression Squared = Resilience," reflects the transformative power of storytelling to help participants face their fears and step into their greatness.

For more information about Mesa Arts Center's LIT Ink engagement programs, visit <u>mesaartscenter.com/LITInk</u>.

About Mesa Arts Center

Mesa Arts Center, owned and operated by the City of Mesa, is a unique, architecturally stunning facility located in the heart of downtown Mesa. Arizona's largest arts center is home to four theaters, five art galleries and 14 art studios. Guests, patrons and students come to Mesa Arts Center to enjoy the finest live entertainment and performances, world-class visual art exhibitions and outstanding arts education classes. Mesa Arts Center's mission is to inspire people through engaging arts experiences that are diverse, accessible and relevant. For more information, visit <u>mesaartscenter.com</u>.

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