

## Ghanaian one-year-old world's youngest artist

27th May 2024



A toddler from Ghana has officially been recognized as the world's youngest artist. Guinness World Records acknowledged Ace-Liam Nana Sam Ankrah when he was just one year and 152 days old. The little boy began painting at the age of six months, when his

precocious talent became evident. His mother Chantelle, also an artist, said it was obvious her son had artistic talent from that young age. She explained how he started painting. Chantelle had been commissioned to create a work for Miss Universe 2023. While she was working, she gave Ace-Liam a canvas and some paint. She said he clearly had an affinity for colour as he crawled over the canvas. Chantelle named his first piece "The Crawl".

Ace-Liam is attracting attention across the art world. His work was exhibited at Ghana's Museum of Science in January. Nine of the 10 pieces on show at that exhibition sold. Art lovers have purchased a further six of his paintings this year. Even Ghana's first lady Rebecca Akufo-Addo commissioned work from the toddler. Chantelle said her son is creating a stir with his artistic flair. She said: "He has created a buzz and heightened the conversation about art appreciation." She said: "His abstract paintings are inspired by the world around him - colours, shapes, textures and his mood." Guinness said: "There is no doubt that Ace-Liam has an exciting career ahead of him, and we can't wait to see what comes next."

Sources: [guinnessworldrecords.com](https://www.guinnessworldrecords.com) / [nypost.com](https://www.nypost.com) / [bbc.com](https://www.bbc.com)

### Writing

Everyone should paint or create art. Discuss.

### Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

toddler / artist / painting / the age of six months / talent / canvas / paint / colour / the art world / museum / exhibition / art lovers / abstract / shapes / textures / mood

### True / False

- 1) Ace-Liam first started painting when he was six months old. T / F
- 2) Ace-Liam's mother is an art teacher. T / F
- 3) Ace-Liam's paintings are all in black and shades of grey. T / F
- 4) The name of Ace-Liam's first painting is "The Crawl". T / F
- 5) Ace-Liam's paintings have been exhibited in a Ghana museum. T / F
- 6) Ace-Liam has already sold 15 paintings. T / F
- 7) The wife of Ghana's leader asked Ace-Liam to paint her a picture. T / F
- 8) Ace-Liam said he wants a career in computer design. T / F

### Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- |                        |                  |
|------------------------|------------------|
| 1. <b>acknowledged</b> | a. bought        |
| 2. <b>precocious</b>   | b. stimulated    |
| 3. <b>commissioned</b> | c. shown         |
| 4. <b>affinity</b>     | d. talent        |
| 5. <b>piece</b>        | e. ordered       |
| 6. <b>exhibited</b>    | f. frame of mind |
| 7. <b>purchased</b>    | g. gifted        |
| 8. <b>flair</b>        | h. work of art   |
| 9. <b>inspired</b>     | i. harmony       |
| 10. <b>mood</b>        | j. recognized    |

### Discussion – Student A

- a) What do you think about what you read?
- b) Do you like going to art exhibitions?
- c) Have you ever considered buying a painting?
- d) Are people born with artistic flair or can you learn it?
- e) What kind of art is the best?
- f) In what way does art inspire you?
- g) What kind of exciting career do you have ahead of you?
- h) What questions would you like to ask a famous painter?

## Phrase Match

- |                                      |                                |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. officially been recognized        | a. over the canvas             |
| 2. his precocious                    | b. her son had artistic talent |
| 3. it was obvious                    | c. his mood                    |
| 4. he clearly had an affinity        | d. talent became evident       |
| 5. as he crawled                     | e. buzz                        |
| 6. creating a stir with his artistic | f. ahead of him                |
| 7. He has created a                  | g. as the world's youngest     |
| 8. abstract                          | h. flair                       |
| 9. colours, shapes, textures and     | i. for colour                  |
| 10. Ace-Liam has an exciting career  | j. paintings                   |

## Discussion – Student B

- How important is art?
- What do you think of a one-year-old artist?
- What talents did you have at the age of one?
- Would you like to see Ace's paintings?
- Why are some children so precociously talented?
- What artistic talent do you have?
- What are the benefits of painting to mental health?
- In what way will A.I. change the art world?

## Spelling

- Guinness World Records adgndecwkleo Ace
- his uscrcoioep talent became evident
- it was ovsibu her son had artistic talent
- nomsesiicodm to create a work
- he clearly had an affnyiti for colour
- he cewadrl over the canvas
- His work was xidhetebi
- hecdarsup a further six of his paintings
- creating a stir with his artistic alrif
- art cppaaorient
- tcbatars paintings
- colours, shapes, urettxes and his mood

### Answers – Synonym Match

1. j	2. g	3. e	4. i	5. h
6. c	7. a	8. d	9. b	10. f

## Role Play

### Role A – Painting

You think painting is the best form of art. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their forms. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): graffiti, anime or photography.

### Role B – Graffiti

You think graffiti is the best form of art. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their forms. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): painting, anime or photography.

### Role C – Anime

You think anime is the best form of art. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their forms. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): graffiti, painting or photography.

### Role D – Photography

You think photography is the best form of art. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their forms. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): graffiti, anime or painting.

## Speaking – Art

Rank these with your partner. Put the best forms of art at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- |                |               |
|----------------|---------------|
| • Painting     | • Opera       |
| • Graffiti     | • Movies      |
| • Sculpture    | • Anime       |
| • Architecture | • Photography |

### Answers – True False

1	T	2	F	3	F	4	T	5	T	6	T	7	T	8	F
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.