

Welcome to Art Class at Art Zone Children's Studio

Welcome: We are excited to spend time with your child in our creative classroom at Art Zone! Our job as a classroom facilitator is to bring out the unique way your child sees the world and to help develop their expression of who they are, what they love and care about, what materials they enjoy, and to facilitate their creative investigations.

What Happens in Art Class: We start each class with free choice in the studio. Some kids will paint, play with clay, or tumble and bounce in the playroom. A relaxed transition and check-in is our goal for the first 15 or 20 minutes. Next we gather in the playroom for a collaborative planning meeting. At our meeting we welcome each person, introduce the teachers, and share ideas and experiences. For each class we have prepared a class project which we present and demonstrate in the planning meeting. We listen for feedback from the group, modify our plan based on feedback and then begin our art making. As we become attuned to the kids in the group over time, we plan projects based on their interests. We encourage kids to collaborate in the planning of projects by bringing their ideas, experiences and curiosity.

Sometimes this means we explore traditional approaches to art making (contour drawing, color mixing, shading techniques, etc.) and other times it means exploring unconventional experimentation (creating a dramatic vision in the playroom or water kitchen, making a mess out of plaster, inventing a sculpture etc.). Sometimes one or two kids will skip the planned project and we will help them make an alternative plan for their work. After the project work, kids have free choice to enjoy the rest of the studio. Our intuitive and resourceful teachers are skilled at listening carefully to our young people.

Taking Creative Risks: Our projects are designed to offer children a meaningful hands on experience that builds their skill and self esteem (through self discovery) in the process of creative art making. Some of these projects will turn out with beautiful results. While the results are often cherished treasures, it is not our goal to focus on the result of the work, but rather we lend our focus and value to the process of the work. Often when we take creative risks, we go off the planned course and the results will be uncertain. It is ok for kids (and parents) not to like every piece of art made. The process of risk and discovery is paramount to the creative process. At the Art Zone we promise you, your child will have a valuable learning experience each and every week.

Mixed Ages: Our goal is to offer mixed age experience for all participants. The ages in class often range from 3 to 10 years old. It is our experience that this creates a more naturally diverse and enriching environment for all. Older kids have the opportunity to practice compassion and care for the younger ones. They get to really see how much they have grown up from their younger age, and also have permission to play as if they were two years old again. The younger ones are often fascinated by the "magical older kids". Our skilled teachers create a scaffold for each person's developmental skills, to match the "zone" of their development. Rich experiences in art making do not happen if the work is too difficult, or on the other hand, too easy. It is our goal to recognize and keep attuned with the dynamics of this "zone" for each child as they are present each day and from week to week. In this "zone" is where meaningful, engaged learning takes place.

More About Art Class . . .

Taking Art Home: There is often a lot to take home at pick up time. If your child usually does a lot of art work, feel free to come a few minutes early to carry things to the car first. We will make a bag for your child and put their work in it each day. If you can remember, please bring the bag back to us each week. Clay, beading, wood sculptures, and other 3-D sculptures need to go home the day they are made. We just don't have room to safely store them. Flat paintings can stay with us until they dry to go home next week. Try to unpack your bag every day before the items in it dry completely. Sometimes things fall apart during the trip home. You can put them back together at home while the glue or clay is still wet. Once home, set them in a safe place to finish drying and let the clay harden.

Honoring Art: You will probably accumulate more art work than you can handle in your home. It is important to celebrate the work with your child and display what you can. Other ways of honoring their work include mailing it to relatives, using paintings as wrapping paper, cutting out parts of paintings and making cards with them, taking photographs of their work before "recycling" the original art. Many parents have told us they make a display area that they keep changing each week or month. A simple display can be made by hanging a length of wire or string with clothes pins attached to hold the art work. Or nail a binder clip to the wall. Even if the display is in a garage, bathroom or closet, try to find a special place that they can keep some of their work accessible. If you are one of those people who saves everything (like Laura), go to Aaron Brothers and buy a large paper "portfolio" to store their work in. They cost about \$12. You can store them under a bed, behind a couch etc. And always, if you come up with a good plan, please tell us!

Extra Clothes: If your child is dressed in our extras at pick up, please feel free to take them home and return them to us next week. These clothes have probably been donated to us from a parent just like you. We are grateful for clothing donations of T-shirts, shorts, leggings and sweat pants.

Lost and Found: Please notify us as soon as possible if you are missing a shirt, shoes etc. A lot of items get left here. We take unclaimed items to the Children's Hospital thrift store up the street when our lost and found cubby gets full (about once a month)

Please, Never use CPA or Back Care Parking Spaces. They **will** call our landlord. We have very limited (5) spaces available in our parking lot. We encourage you to avoid our parking lot altogether since it is often congested during peak periods. Use free street parking directly behind our building on 11th Street, steps away from our lot. Also it is easy to find additional parking across the street near Big Lots.

For quick drop off/pick up, if all our spaces are occupied, use the striped "no parking" area next to the planter or at rear of the building - it's ok, really. Also, in a pinch, it's better to block the driveway, parking next to our window for a little while, than to create a complaint by taking Back Care spaces.

Parking violations in Back Care/CPA spaces, even for very short class drop off/pick up, trigger calls to our landlord. Please help us to maintain our lease provisions so that we are able to **renew our lease in the future.**

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Enrollment Policies

Non Refundable: Tuition is non-refundable. Tuition is charged on the first of the month for the current month according to the tuition schedule on your registration form.

Space is Limited: To keep the quality of our classes high, we limit the number of children we enroll. We schedule our staff carefully and prepare materials in anticipation of your reservation. Since our space is limited, we may have turned down other reservations to accommodate your reservation.

Cancellation: To cancel enrollment, please notify Art Zone by the **20th of the month** preceding the month you wish to cancel or change your child's enrollment. Please keep in mind that we plan our staff schedules, prepare materials, and contact families on our waiting lists around this time to prepare for the following month. On the 1st of the month, full tuition is charged for the current month. If you miss the deadlines, and are unable to attend class, please call us to schedule substitute classes as available.

Prorated Tuition: The Art Zone prorates tuition automatically for the first month of class, and for each month based on 4 classes per month. For months with more or less than 4 classes, tuition is prorated accordingly. Please see tuition schedule.

School Holidays: There are no classes on School Holidays – please see registration form for holiday dates. You are not charged for classes that fall on holidays. We offer Holiday Art Camps on most school holidays. If you wish to join us for Holiday Art Camps, please let us know and we will be happy to register you.

Pro-ration for Vacations: If you know in advance that your child will miss a class, please keep us informed. Please notify Art Zone staff before the **20th of the previous month** that your child will miss a class, and we can pro-rate your tuition for the missed class. We can pro-rate one class per month. We can offer up to two prorated months per school year (Sept to June) for missed classes. If you missed the deadline to pro-rate your class, please schedule a substitute class as offered below.

Absences: We realize that most families face complex and sometimes unpredictable schedules. Whenever possible, we will make accommodations for your requested changes and unforeseen emergencies. If your child is sick, please call the night before class or before **8:00 am** on the day of class. Please schedule a substitute class or request an open studio pass within 30 days.

Substitute Classes: Please keep in mind that our space is limited. It helps us considerably if we know about schedule changes ahead of time. If you know in advance that your child will be missing a class, please notify us as soon as possible and schedule a substitute class at that time. Please limit substitutions to one per month, and two or three total per year. Class substitutions are scheduled based on space available. If we are unable to schedule a drop off class as a substitution, please request an Open Studio pass and join us for art making with your child. Open studio classes (see schedule – adult participation required) do not require reservations and can be used up to 30 days after the absence. Open studio passes are transferable so if you can't use it, **please give it to a friend!**

Parent /Guardian Agreement to Art Zone Class Policies

Signature

Date

Last Name

Art Zone 2009/2010 Holiday Schedule

NO CLASSES ON HOLIDAYS

We do not offer Art Zone for Preschool, Co-op, or Art Class on the following school holidays because we offer holiday camps. If your child is age 3 or older you can sign up for camp. Camp is a separate program, with different kids, different prices, different routine, and we serve pizza, snacks and a healthy sweet treat. If you wish to enroll for camp please let us know as soon as possible. Space is limited and they almost always fill up. Your regular class tuition is prorated to reduce your tuition on months with camp days

YOU ARE NOT CHARGED FOR HOLIDAYS

November 11, 2009 – Wed, Veteran’s Day

November 23 through 27, 2009 – Thanksgiving Week

December 21 through Jan 1 – Two weeks for Winter Break

January 18, 2010 – Monday, Martin Luther King

February 15 through February 19, 2010 : School Recess (Pres. Day)

March 29 to April 2, 2010 – Spring Break

May 31, 2010 Memorial Day – We have a FREE OPEN HOUSE on Monday from 10 am to 1 pm. We will be celebrating our 7th anniversary. Hope you can come.

Last Day of Classes: Friday classes end June 18, 2010
Monday classes end June 21, 2010
Tuesday classes end June 22, 2010
Wednesday classes end . . June 23, 2010
Thursday classes end June 24, 2010

Summer Camp starts FRIDAY June 25, 2010



Children's Studio

LAST NAME _____

1102 Aviation Blvd
Hermosa Beach CA 90254
Phone (310) 318-6011

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Release of Liability and Photo Release

Participant Name _____ Age _____ Birthdate _____

Address _____ City/Zip _____

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY ILLNESS, INJURY NOTIFY THE FOLLOWING CONTACTS

Moms Name _____ Phone (Cell/Work/Home) _____

Dad's Name: _____ Phone (Cell/Work/Home) _____

Caregiver Name _____ Phone (Cell/Work/Home) _____

Other Emergency Contact: _____ Relationship _____ Phone _____

Doctor Name: _____ City: _____ Phone: _____

I hereby certify that the minor listed above is in my legal custody and has my permission to participate in the courses conducted by the ART ZONE. I further certify that the participant is in good health and has no physical or other impairment which would endanger the participant when engaging in such program.

I absolve and hold harmless the ART ZONE, its employees, officers or agents from any liability which may result from participation in courses conducted by the ART ZONE. I understand that The ART ZONE has no obligation to supervise my child at the close of the above activity, and I release the ART ZONE, its officers, employees, and agent from any liability resulting from any lack of supervision of my child at the close of the activity.

PHOTO RELEASE: Participants involved in the ART ZONE programs may be photographed and such photograph may be used to publicize ART ZONE programs/activities.

Parent or Guardian Signature _____ **Date** _____

Allergies (if none, so state) _____

Food Restrictions _____

Circle: Diabetes, Convulsions, Bleeder, Heart Condition, Other _____

List any other condition which should be known by physician administering treatment:

Class: _____ Start Date: _____