

## Tiny Iron Fists

### The Art Zone: Zoned For Mega Fun!



We were invited to The Art Zone in Hermosa Beach for Lulu's friend, Reed's second birthday party. As someone who attends at least two candle blowings a month, I give this venue two thumbs up! Way up! Reed's party was damn awesome for the kids *and* parents.

Upon initially entering the space, it felt a little dark but that dark feeling quickly turned to warmth. Instead of sterile modern furniture, everything was wood, a little old (not ratty) and well loved and comfortable.

Lulu and her pal Ruby had a lot of fun stamping, stabbing, jabbing, cutting, spreading, rolling, and covering plastic dinosaurs with cold green goop. I had fun pretending I had a big ass booger coming out of my nose!



Lulu also loved the little bridge in the play room. She went back and forth, back and forth on it for at least fifteen minutes. Her pal Ruby loved the dress-up-and-play costumes and tried on everything princess-related. The staff was so cool, they even let Ruby do her crafts with her loaned costumes on.



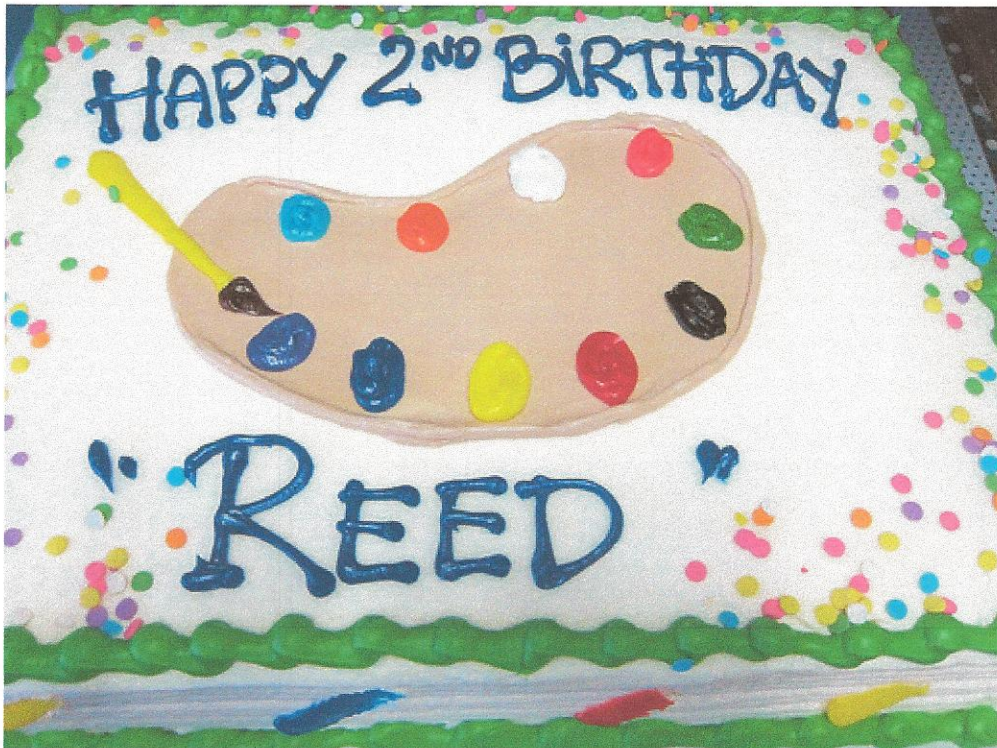
With unlimited easel painting opportunities, Lulu brought home three new masterpieces. All the children loved painting without restrictions. There was no such thing as, "On the paper only!" or "Watch out!" It was very much, "Have fun, do as you wish!"



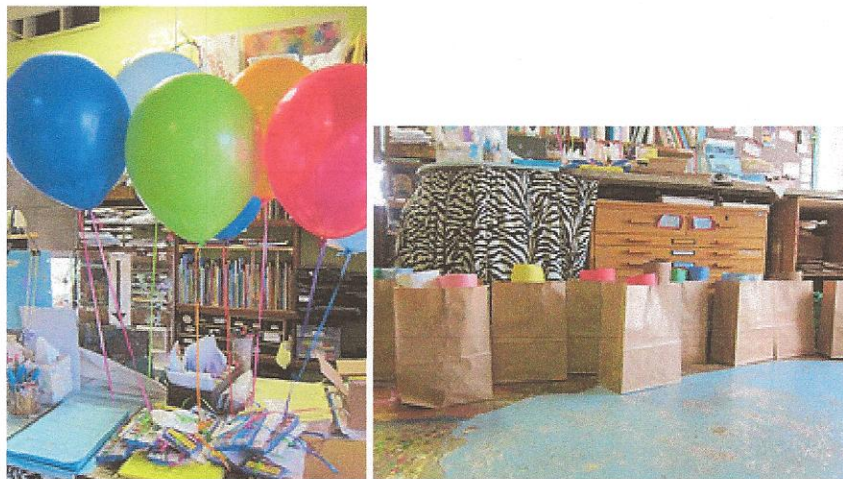
The boys especially loved playing in the Squirt Paint Nook and getting messy with the shaving cream.



The birthday cake was so cheerful and there were plenty of big slices to pass around (it was a little sweet for me, but everybody else chomped it up).



Every kid left with awesome party favors -- they got to take home the art they made, a balloon, and a watercolor painting set which included 16 colors, a brush, and four cards and envelopes with a gift tag. The departure was tantrum-free (so many new goodies to check out), quick and organized.



There was so much to do that I can honestly say, I didn't see a single toddler have a meltdown or feel left out in the two hours that we took over the joint. I had just as much fun being there, as my two year old. The staff understands kids well and were very patient (very) and extremely friendly and helpful.

I highly recommend The Art Zone to any parent who would consider hosting a birthday party there. Thanks to Sherise, David, Evan and especially Reed for such a lovely morning! Happy Birthday, Reed!

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