Berrien Springs Partnership Syllabus and Instructor Qualifications

# **CLASS TITLE: Paint & Play** **GRADE OR AGE LEVELS:** 6-18 years old **START DATE:** Week of September 19th **END DATE:** Week of December 12th

# **# WEEKS TOTAL: 12 weeks WEEKS OFF: Week of Thanksgiving DAY/TIME REQUIRED: 90 minutes ADD’L DAYS/WK AVAILABLE:** # **WEEKLY HOURS (REQUIRED):** **1.5** # **WEEKLY HOURS (POSSIBLE): 1.5 TOTAL SEMESTER HOURS POSSIBLE: 16** **LOCATION/ADDRESS: DIRECTIONS TO LOCATION (if needed):**

# **My Home Studio 3271 Kerlikowske Road in Coloma** **MAIN INSTRUCTOR:**

Niki McNeil

# **ADDITIONAL PRIMARY INSTRUCTORS (background checked):**

# N/A

# **CONTACT INFORMATION:** **phone: 269 876-6518 email: nikimcneil@comcast.net**

ADDITIONAL REGISTRATION AT SITE REQUIRED?(circle) YES NO  
IF YES, INSTRUCTIONS FOR REGISTRATION: Please email if class has multiple days or times to secure your space in the desired day/time

# MAIN INSTRUCTOR QUALIFICATIONS - RELEVANT EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:

Art and Creativity are what get me through the day. The joy that creating provides is something that should be shared and explored by all!

I have been teaching in one aspect or another all my life, from helping in Sunday School classrooms as a teen to teaching my own classrooms at 18. I was a lead teacher for a Preschool prior to having my own family. Once I had children, I was organizing local families into craft clubs and field trips. It was only natural that we chose to homeschool. When I struggled to find a curriculum that would work well with my very hands on son and my visual daughter, I set out to create my own. This curriculum is still on the market 19 years later and being used in homeschools and classrooms across the world.

I believe all learning styles can be taught in the same space in most cases and you will find that 99% of my classes are project based for the reason. Putting the learning into the hands of the students helps retention and instills a love of learning. I teach for enjoyment and want my students to also enjoying the learning process, you will not find me teaching to a test or requesting memorization of facts. I will find fun and creative ways to get kids learning without them even realizing it most of them time. Some may call it arts and crafts, but I guarantee you your students will love it and they will learn and more importantly retain the information being taught.

I have always felt that art was important. I did not always know how to put it into words necessarily, but I realized early on that it always left me in a better mood than when I started. With our current “social distance” needs, my views on the need for a creative outlet have gone from thinking they are important to knowing they are ESSENTIAL. We need to create our own happiness and when at all possible, share that joy with others.

While we are all struggling to process our thoughts and fears, our kids are also struggling to put into words what they are feeling. ART CAN HELP. It can become a way to slowly work through thoughts and feelings. Sometimes a feeling is easier expressed in color or shape than in words. And art does not always have to be in the form of a painting or drawing, but a visual representation of what they’re learning. Check out my class listings to see how many ways arts and crafts can really be learning.

COURSE DESCRIPTION (see relevant examples shown on website):

Each week we will gather in the studio and explore a new technique or medium. We’ll create a mixture of directed paintings, abstract paintings, themed painting where students get to be creative or free paint. Acrylic and Watercolor will be our main mediums but we’ll be exploring some multimedia type paintings and do stations with a larger variety of mediums at least twice during the semester. PLEASE send your kids with an art smock or in clothes that can get paint on them.

SYLLABUS/OUTLINE: WEEKLY BREAKDOWN OF PROJECT-BASED LEARNING ACTIVITY

*Week 1-All About Me Painting*

*Week 2-Directed Painting-Cat in Flowers*

*Week 3- Abstract Flowers or Fruits*

*Week 4- Art Explore Stations or Finish Up previous projects*

*Week5- Directed Painting- Unicorn or Horse*

*Week 6- Directed Painting- Pumpkins*

*Week 7- Multimedia*

*Week 8- Art Explore Stations or Finish Up previous projects*

*Week 9- Dot Painting*

*Week 10- Directed Painting- Cats Rainbow Face*

*Week 11- Textures in Painting*

*Week 12- Art Explore Stations or Finish Up previous projects*

# COURSE OBJECTIVES AND APPROXIMATE TARGET DATES:

*For students to explore and learn about new mediums and how they interact together.*

Art is an immersion activity. You can spend years learning things like line, shape, texture, form, space, color, value, balance, symmetry. Each lesson we’ll reinforce one or more of these concepts creating more well-rounded artists.

STUDENT ASSESSMENT - what will be used to evaluate student progress and/or end of semester pass/fail status?

Note: All classes must abide by the following:

1. Student agrees to attend at least 80% of class sessions/lessons offered. Attendance is kept online and tracked by Partnership staff. Failure to meet 80% or be on track to meet 80% may result in program discontinuation.
2. The Partnership Student Assessment or Performance Form is filled out by the teacher and turned in to staff. The link to the evaluation form will be provided along with online attendance. Students with failing marks for lack of participation, behavior issues, practice time, etc. may result in program dismissal.

**Class-specific assessment:**

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# ADDITIONAL RESOURCES: (online, books, video, etc.):

Please send students with a covered glass/bottle of water with their name on it as well as an art smock or wearing paint/play clothes.

# CLASS-SPECIFIC POLICIES: ATTENDANCE, BEHAVIOR, WEATHER, ETC.

**Attendance: Please let me know if your learner will not be in class whenever possible. I try to wait for all students to begin teaching and not knowing causes delay for no reason. If I know in advance, I am happy to prepare a virtual make up lesson for the student.**

**Weather: I follow the local school districts weather-based decisions when possible. If either the district I live in (Coloma) or the district the class is held in (South Haven/Lakeshore etc.) cancels for the day we will not have class in person. If we have more than 1 weather related cancelation a semester the rest will be moved to virtual to avoid the need for make-up hours.**

**Other: I expect students to be kind and respectful keeping our class a safe space for all students to explore their creativity.**