



Children's Art Studio Norwich
SPRING 2025

Welcome Children and Parents

Each quarter I have penned thoughts to the parents and caregivers of our Children's Studio art-making enrollees. This winter-spring term, I am sharing my thoughts about the Power of the Arts.

Art is a vehicle that allows children the expression of a depth and complexity of emotion beyond what their words can convey.

Art is like a portal to emotional literacy, a skill we all need, in my opinion, to form strong relationships through our lives. Working with parents – some who have struggled, some who have incredible balance, interpersonally, and some who seek to recalibrate... I have found always that paint, permission to ease up a little, and friendship can connect and heal.

Children's insight cited in their art making is a reflection of how they speak to themselves as they paint what they feel, not always what they see... rather what they feel!

I watch very carefully – as do you – and we learn from the children, do we not?

As a teacher – and as I like to say, a trained learner – my teachers have been often the most unlikely people. I believe children have taught me and have a great deal to continue to teach us. They often lead the way and I invite you to “walk with them” and with their self-expressions in their art work these next weeks. They will offer us so much.

Children's perspectives are important to me. This is some of what I know about children and art...

- Children prefer a simple, direct path, without the chaos. By this I mean the world delivers, or tends to deliver, much that they find unimportant and irrelevant to their developmental tasks.
- They have taught me that they champion what is JUST.
- They deeply CONNECT with all living things.
- They sense that they are NEEDED when caring for creatures, large and small. They. Value feelings that a sense of worth, tied to their actions of ALTRUISM, empathy, and love.
- They reject chaos.
- They are passionately attached to things limited and direct in their scope.
- They like ORDER. The multitudes of sensations offered them by the world requires that we pare down, cultivate simplicity, “take it easy.”
- Hurrying BIG for little reason shuts them down, stifles them, motivationally speaking.

Most of all from my learning and from my observations, I firmly believe there is a stimulus within each child for expression that seeks on its own ways in each and every one of them.

Two significant ways that immediately register with me

1. Children seek their way in their writing skills, and
2. They seek their way in representative ART.

Here's to our learning experiences this winter, spring, and summer. Be elastic, be open, be present with your children while with us. We pledge to you that we certainly shall do the same.

A young child told me this year in one of our art-making, year-round classes, that she had learned how BIG LOVE is!! Are you thinking I am thinking? It does not get better than this!

Grateful to see you, and thank you,

Miss Lani

Accepting Enrollment Registration for SPRING 2025 Classes

Norwich 326 Main Street Norwich, VT 05055

Text Miss Lani's cell: 774-563-3069

www.childrensartstudionorwich.com • Email: shastinaart@gmail.com

Art After School with Miss Lani

\$50.00 per class / \$400.00 for full series

Tuesdays; 3:00–5:15pm

Wednesdays: 2:00–5:00pm

Thursdays: 3:15–5:30pm

Friday: 3:15–5:30pm

Saturday Art Adventures

\$55.00 per class

Saturdays: 1:30-3:45pm

Walk with Miss Lani

Miss Lani is happy to meet your child after school on Tuesdays and Wednesdays at the Marion Cross School post 104 and walk joyfully back to the studio. Please text Miss Lani with your request with advance notice. The advanced classes walk on the path on their own. Text or call Miss Lani: 774-563-3069 or email the Children's Art Studio shastinaart@gmail.com

CHILDREN'S ART STUDIO AT THE 1820 HOUSE

Art After School Classes with Miss Lani

Accepting Enrollment ~ Registration for SPRING 2025 Classes

\$50.00 per class

Norwich 326 Main Street Norwich, VT 05055

Text Miss Lani's cell: 774-563-3069

www.childrensartstudionorwich.com • Email: shastinaart@gmail.com

Tuesdays: Ages 5, 6, 7 year olds • 3:00-5:15pm

Open to Discovery – Look, Draw and Make it POP!

Mary Cassatt, Claude Monet, and Pierre Augustus Renoir lead and inspire us as we view artists whose zest for art makes it fun and active. How do these artists create boldness? Let's find out! Possibilities of work for the future ... seeing anew, what has been done in the past for 150 years!

April 29

May 6, 13, 20, 27

June 3, 10, 17

Wednesdays: Ages 6, 7, 8, 9 • 2:00-5:00pm

Our Eighth Vibrant Series ~ Wonder of Animals

The youth artists chant "S'more love for animals." From Mount Denali in Alaska to the Galapagos Islands in the Pacific, we shall continue to paint the resilient animals, their habitats and capture "their roars" for our help to protect the abundance of all animal species, all over the world! Jane Goodall's advocacy guides us. Her life's work with animals continues to inspire us to protect our natural world! We must!

Miss Lani believes in our youth artist's "artistic communion" concerning animals. This ongoing connection in this our "Wonder of Animals" course is a coming together and the art work concerning animals helps to create something of an extraordinary awareness!

April 30

May 7, 14, 21, 28

June 4, 11, 18

Thursdays: Ages 9, 10, 11, 12 • 3:00 – 5:20

“Art Aliveness” – a contemporary mix – Ed Ruscha, Frank Stella, Ellsworth Kelly. Here’s to Modernism.

The advanced art students have a taste for modernism – it seems natural to them, for they like what is new and innovative that sits well with their zest for life! While moved by themes of Impressionism last fall, we tend now to focus on contemporary artists in this course. In some cases, the young artists have been painting with me in our studio for eight years. We are growing! We will study painting, print making, and photography as we look, with zestful insight, into American contemporary artists and their colleagues from international countries!

Ed Rascha is deeply influenced by literature, photography, and film. He loves books... studies languages! He uses unusual word parings and rhymes. *Time* magazine has honored him as one of 100 most influential people in our decade. He is married, father of two sons and makes his home in Los Angeles. His “pop art” is exciting. Unconventional curious thinking – he intrigues youth!

Frank Stella guides our love for advanced art making. Additionally, Jack Bush, the Canadian color field painter will be viewed and studied for his works, are on the rise after his retrospective at the National Gallery of Canada in Ottawa, several years ago. His work *Red Side Right* is one of Miss Lani’s favorite “sash” canvases as it is referred to. Bold color – personal with heart.

Ellsworth Kelly whose work includes our *Dartmouth Panels*, painted aluminum, “at the Hop” will be visited and studied, as well. Miss Lani met with him on the day the installation was achieved for us – our community.

May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29
June 5, 12, 19

Friday Mornings: Ages 3, 4, 5 years • 9:30 - 11:30 am

Exploring Watercolor Painting for Young Children

Watercolor painting is fun and gentle, offering expressive brush stroke gestures to young painters. All aboard, we say, as serendipitous painting is an exciting way to become familiar with the characteristics of watercolor – ’tis magic! Limited enrollment.

May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
June 6, 13, 20

Friday Afternoons: Ages 8, 9, 10, 11 years • 3:00 – 5:20 pm Advanced Class

You and Your World

Who are you in the world at large? Let us affirm the positive: “I make room / in life / for joy!” We will explore “us” and sketch persons – size, scale, and proportions, as we create portraits and self-portraits, as well.

Globes, puppets, paper objects, poetry, wire, copper, wood, shells, mosaics, will be experimented with as mediums as we look and see how we “match” with the things of our world. We shall boost energies!

It is fun to spend class time – drawing from one another, modeling. We’ll pose – wearing clothing with interesting decals, patterns – and youth will take turns being “in the spot light.” Musical instruments, sports gear, books, skate boards, bamboo objects, flowers, plates, spoons, umbrellas, robots – all will generate ideas for poses.

In some cases, we will curl up on our oak floor. We shall set self-consciousness aside – giggles and embarrassed moments will quickly fade away. We are beautiful and fit – young artists.

Picasso, Matisse, and other artists where their art figures were interestingly designed will be compared and discussed.

We shall learn about the “art of looking” as a process... life-long intentions... and value our time together!

May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

June 6, 13, 20

Saturday Art Adventures with Miss Lani

SPRING 2025

All Saturday Art Adventures are for children ages 4-11. (Multi-age class)

From 1:30-3:45. The cost is \$55.00 per child for each workshop.

April 26: Everything Is Interesting

How do we become an explorer of the world?

Children who engage in art making know 1) always be looking, 2) consider everything alive and animate, 3) everything is interesting – look closer, 4) alter your course, 5) observe. Today let us put our knowledge to work!

We shall study patterns and make connections today. It occurs to us that artists and scientists analyze the world around them in surprisingly similar ways! They also have one thing in common – they are collectors! We will learn about ethnographers – people who collect and document. Everything is interesting. We are going to learn about and focus on what we are drawn to... what works for us. Individual bamboo boxes will be painted and mosaics will be embellished by you to treasure and hold all the notes, collections and things we document that are important to you! You are an explorer and this is a BIG DAY for explorers – a new artful mission begins, TOP Secret!!!

May 3: Drawn to Horses

From the caves of Lascaux to the deserts of Arabia, from Mount Olympus to the hills of our farms and pastures, horses have captured the imaginations of children and families throughout the world! Inspired by mythology, poetry, musicians and movement, we will paint and sculpt from a variety of materials. We shall consider the anatomy of the horse and like French artist Franz Marc, we will appreciate the spirit and energy of all horses. We cherish his work. “The Blue Horse” is Miss Lani’s favorite painting of these majestic animals!

May 17: Learning from Gandhi

A true peace advocate. A man of non-violence, manners and collaborative spirit... this leader from India has had a spiritual and artful life history to share. He achieved world honor... And today we will read stories, learn from his ideals, practice his teaching and paint his portrait. It will be nourishing for us in our art making to remember him... and goodness, peace, kindness lead our path.

May 24: The Creature Connection

Animals and people. We have always been bound together. Humans are animals, after all. In art, we shall look at the many bonds with animals and also to the distance between us and them. No other animal makes operas or nuclear weapons. How did we become so different and what made us human?

Animals abound in our earliest art, suggesting that a basic fascination with the bestial community may well have been innate. The cave paintings at Lascaux are an ochred zooanalogue of horses, stags, felines, a woolly rhinoceros, a bird, and a leaping cow – and only one very frail man!

We shall enjoy looking at researchers' traces to our roots of animal love. It is our human capacity to infer the mental states of others, a talent that emerged 50,000 to 100,000 years ago

May 31: Charles Darwin, A Child's World Hero

An international celebration of science and humanity combines today to honor Darwin's birthday in late spring. Science literacy... humanization of search and adventurous spirit will be the broad scale discussed with the children today!

Galapagos Islands – the wildlife refuge pictures taken by Miss Lani and her grandson while visiting there for one week, some years ago, will be shared in class today – FASCINATING!

We, our family, spent time with the Darwin Research faculty and scientists during that week. The connection and understanding of that coming together remains forever in our hearts!

June 7: The Wonder of Elephants

Majestic, extraordinary creatures teach us this Saturday about the differences of the two species – “forest” and “savanna.” We will identify the reasons that the populations of both species are in a “free fall” and shy. As young Americans, we can join and support in solid ways the Treaty sponsored by IUCN and CITES that regulate global trade in endangered wildlife. We hope to study, Paint and HELP the highest risk elephant populations. Studies have found that forest elephants declined 65% over the past 15 years. Less than one-tenth of them remain, gone from 75% of their original habitat. We want to act now...

Beautiful inspiration comes from the late Jean Campbell's superb photographs of elephants taken personally on her global travels. She joins us in our proactive interests to preserve all animal life! Her photographs are showcased on our wall, adjacent to our HAPPY TENT.

June 14: HUGE! VIBRANT! We love David Hockney's canvases, art-making and color chords!

We will paint large-scale abstract art today. Hockney's inventive paintings teach us to delve into our art making with deep brilliance of color chords! His line and texture dynamics are so rich that we shall want to continue to paint into the evening. We love this artist, like no other. Our advanced students are thrilled to realize that we shall, today, highlight his work and plan to enjoy the artist and our class.

June 21: Here's To Incredible Kids

Let's celebrate the Young Child! In order to promote awareness of the importance of children and their needs, we shall look at the **International Year of the Child, Bill of Rights**, composed in 1979. In Salzburg, Austria, the World Health Organization hosted the conference known for drafting this document. Miss Lani was a conference delegate, as was her daughter, who sat on a youth panel with 10 children from all over the world!! Yes to action! Yes to support! Yes to children!

Advocacy for children is in our hearts and spirits here in the Children's Art Studio! We plan to complement all families and children who make up our “art family” with nurturement and positiveness. “Atta boys!” “Atta girls!” – our kindness and manners transcend all relationships in emotionally literate ways. Yes to children and their authenticity and genuineness.