

## Young Artists' Workshop at Travis Heights Elementary - 2014

Dear Students -

We are so excited about the first annual Young Artists' Workshop on Friday, May 16th! Below is a list of available workshops for 3rd, 4th & 5th graders. Fifteen artists will be leading exciting workshops for you to experience and learn about the many different ways that art can open your world to amazing possibilities!

### WORKSHOP # 1 - CERAMICS RAKU FIRING PROCESS

Caution: HOT! In this hands-on workshop, students will work with artist and THES parent, Ben Appl, to paint and glaze small pendants that will be made and fired in Ms. Webb's classroom using the raku firing process! Ben teaches sculpture and ceramics at Austin Community College. Ben loves art for its ability to captivate and communicate. In 2011, he created a public art piece for the City of Austin (on the corner of 7th & Comal) made up of almost a hundred colorful hands that were cast from volunteers living in East Austin.

### WORKSHOP # 2 - LEARNING TO TAKE BEAUTIFUL PHOTOGRAPHS

Smile! Neighborhood artist, Charlotte Bell, will give students a presentation about tips and techniques for taking captivating photographs. Charlotte has been a professional photographer for 16 years, specializing in portrait, wedding, product and fine art photography. She enjoys working with digitally altered images and loves the variety, creativity and freedom that art provides.

### WORKSHOP # 3 - WOODWORKING & DESIGN

Dream it, Design it, Build it! In this workshop led by woodworker and THES parent, Jeff Bennett, students will learn about the interesting relationships between woodworking and drawing. Jeff has always been passionate about drawing and building things. After studying graphics at the American Academy of Art, he moved to Austin and began working as a carpenter. Jeff combined his artistic interests through woodworking and now enjoys building structures that people can actually use: "liveable art".

### WORKSHOP # 4 - VISUALIZE YOUR HOBBY

"These are a few of my favorite things". This creative workshop will inspire students to create a work of art that portrays their favorite hobby. Led by artist Jordan Boessling, the students will use oil pastels to tell their own personal story. Jordan grew up in the city of Houston playing baseball, and portraying on paper the game he loves by depicting star players, designing ballparks, and dreaming up logos. Jordan specializes in using pencil, pastels, and paints to tell a story. He will enlist the group to collaborate on a drawing project, engage each student to draw something about his or her hobby, and will both encourage and inspire each student to share their story through the visual arts.

### WORKSHOP # 5 - IMAGINARY CITIES

Design your own city! Led by designer and THES parent, Kate Catterall, students will learn about perspective drawing and use these techniques to draw their very own imaginary city. In this hands-on workshop, Kate will teach students about 1, 2, and 3-point perspective drawing (a system that originated in Renaissance Italy) to create the illusion of 3-dimensional space on paper. Kate Catterall

is a designer and educator trained at the Glasgow School of Art, Scotland, as a silversmith, then furniture designer. She currently teaches design at the University of Texas Austin, writes about design, exhibits her experimental work, and consults with client on the design of furniture, interiors and works for public space. Kate's favorite thing about art is the potential for ideas and emotions to be communicated effectively using non-verbal means – signs, symbols, colors, objects, type, environments ... and for those messages to affect how we perceive and respond to our world.

### WORKSHOP # 6 - GROUP DRAWING

Strike a pose! This interactive workshop will engage students in a group collaborative drawing based on the geometry of the body in space, as marked on a large piece of paper. Led by artist Jennifer Chenoweth, students will learn about and be inspired by the process of making art - each student brings something new and interesting to the final work of art. Jennifer Chenoweth has been producing and exhibiting artwork since 1989. Her artwork has always been dynamic and diverse, working in drawing, painting, sculpture, and installation; many works have been collaborative and interactive in order to engage audiences. Her artistic inquiry parallels the philosophic inquiry of becoming and being. She works backwards from an idea and forwards from studio process — the art manifests somewhere in the middle.

### WORKSHOP # 7 - MAKE YOUR OWN MUSICAL INSTRUMENT

In this fun and possibly noisy workshop, led by artist Brent Dixon, students will make and play homemade musical instruments. Brent is an Austin artist that specializes in music, craft, digital and interactive art. When Brent was a kid, he wanted to be a tractor. That didn't work out, and now he's a design, musician, and educator based in Austin, TX. He has organized art, technology, and design workshops with kids all over the United States and Europe. He is constantly doodling, and believes empathy, curiosity, and play can change the world. Brent's favorite things about art is the way it helps us see, explore, and share ourselves and the world around us in ways that language alone cannot.

### **WORKSHOP # 8 - I AM**

Be who you want to be! In this empowering workshop led by artist, author and THES parent, Elizabeth Decker, students will explore the power of art to express oneself. Ms. Decker will lead a hands-on experience to help students write and illustrate a brief story focusing on I Am...using several techniques and art mediums, including collage. At the end, the students will share their stories, art and experience with the class. Ms. Decker is an artist and author of the illustrated poetic journal, *The Melancholy Girls*. She has also been a guest workshop leader at the GEN: We Are Girls Conference for the past five years. From a young age, Elizabeth has always counted on writing and art to explore her emotions and record her authentic life. She encourages children to do the same, to move into the creative process without boundaries and being able to find their unique style and voice. Art=Freedom.

### **WORKSHOP # 9 - DRIP PAINTING**

This creative workshop will be dripping with fun! Artist Valentina Dorsa will show her recent art work, demonstrate her techniques and then let students make their very own drip paintings using acrylic paint and stencils. Valentina began her art interest when growing up in Hong Kong and has been continually inspired from all the places she has visited and her background of being half English and half Italian. She loves the freedom art lets one have, and how one can evoke certain emotions or places through art. Her recent group of abstract paintings are from her time living in Shanghai and combine a sense of control and chaos by letting the paint move freely.

### **WORKSHOP # 10 - ENCAUSTIC PAINTING**

Paint like the ancients! Led by artist, Rothko Hauschildt, students will learn about the ancient technique of encaustic painting using beeswax, tree resin and pigment. This fascinating medium was used by ancient Egyptians in their paintings and mummification paintings, and 2000 years later this art work survives with very little fading or cracking. Rothko will talk about encaustic and its use throughout history. She will then give a demonstration of how it is used to paint abstract works full of depth and mystery. Rothko loves art because it is a chance to express oneself without using words and the opportunity to make something beautiful that pleases others in many different ways.

### **WORKSHOP # 11 - LIGHTS OVER BROADWAY**

In this engaging workshop, students will learn songs from a Broadway Musical and add movement and props. Led by director and former Thunderbird, Malcom Nelson, and learn about several areas of the theatre arts including singing, movement and staging. Malcolm Nelson taught choir at McCallum High School Fine Arts Academy and has directed numerous musicals and reviews in and around Austin including *Oklahoma*, *Legally Blonde* and *Hairspray*. Malcom thinks art is so much fun because individually you can “do your own thing” or as a group present something that everyone worked on.

### **WORKSHOP # 12 - DANCE! DANCE! DANCE!**

Get ready to move! This exciting body-moving workshop will be led by Allison Orr, award-winning choreographer, and founder and artistic director of Forklift Danceworks (and THES parent). Ms. Orr will work with students on creating their own choreographed dance/performance. Students will work in small groups, studying movement and ultimately designing their own “dance” or “performance”. Allison’s work challenges audiences to expand notions of dance and performer while posing the question: Who and what can be presented on stage? Orr finds the raw material for her work among the stories and everyday experiences of ordinary people, spending months researching and immersing herself in the community she is engaging. After this workshop, be careful children. You might start seeing dance emerge throughout objects, people and animals that you interact with each day. Art is everywhere!

### **WORKSHOP # 13 - LIGHTS! CAMERA! ACTION!**

Theatre is FUN! In this fun-filled improv workshop, students will learn a crazy fun theatre warm-up game (Zip, Zap, Zop), and then work as a team to make awesome shapes and different characters within the space. Maggie Parsons is an actress who majored in theatre and French at Drew University. She loves the fact that if your day isn’t going great theatre can transport you to a different world. In the world of a stage actor, despite having to act from a script and instructions from your director, each performance is a chance for an actor to find new and exciting ways to say the words, present an action and discover something completely new about their character and maybe even his or her self. Put simply... theatre is awesome and you can be whoever you want to be!

### **WORKSHOP # 14 - PAPERBOTS**

Folded paper robots! In this one-of-a-kind workshop, students will work with artist, Isabel Paiva, to make amazing folded paper art and combine it with the kinetic properties of Lego mindstorms to create art that comes alive! Isabel is a designer and researcher specializing in crafts, digital and interactive art. She is passionate about design and science and loves art because it is an expression of self and beauty that helps connect people to essential feelings that inform life. Check out the video: <http://vimeo.com/isabelpaiva/paperbots>

### **WORKSHOP # 15 - MOVING ART**

Bring your art to life! In this creative workshop led by neighborhood woodworker, Wolf Sittler, students will learn about the art of woodworking and make their very own hanging mobile. Wolf has been a woodworker for more than 30 years. He first learned about making things with his hands from his mother, who often made things for her 8 children. For the past 30 years he has been designing and making all kinds of wood products....from magnetic knife holders, to bottle openers, clocks, chairs, tables, croquet sets....even a house. He has a shop underneath his house and really likes thinking up new things to make. He especially likes being his own boss!

**2014 Young Artists' Workshop at Travis Heights Elementary**  
**Workshop Selection Form**

***Teachers - Please have students fill out this workshop selection form in your class & return to the office by Tuesday, May 13th. (Please do not send home, to avoid lost forms).***

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**GRADE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **TEACHER:** \_\_\_\_\_

*Please select the top four workshops you would like to attend. BE SURE to include workshop number AND title.*

**1st CHOICE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**2nd CHOICE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**3rd CHOICE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**4th CHOICE:** \_\_\_\_\_

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