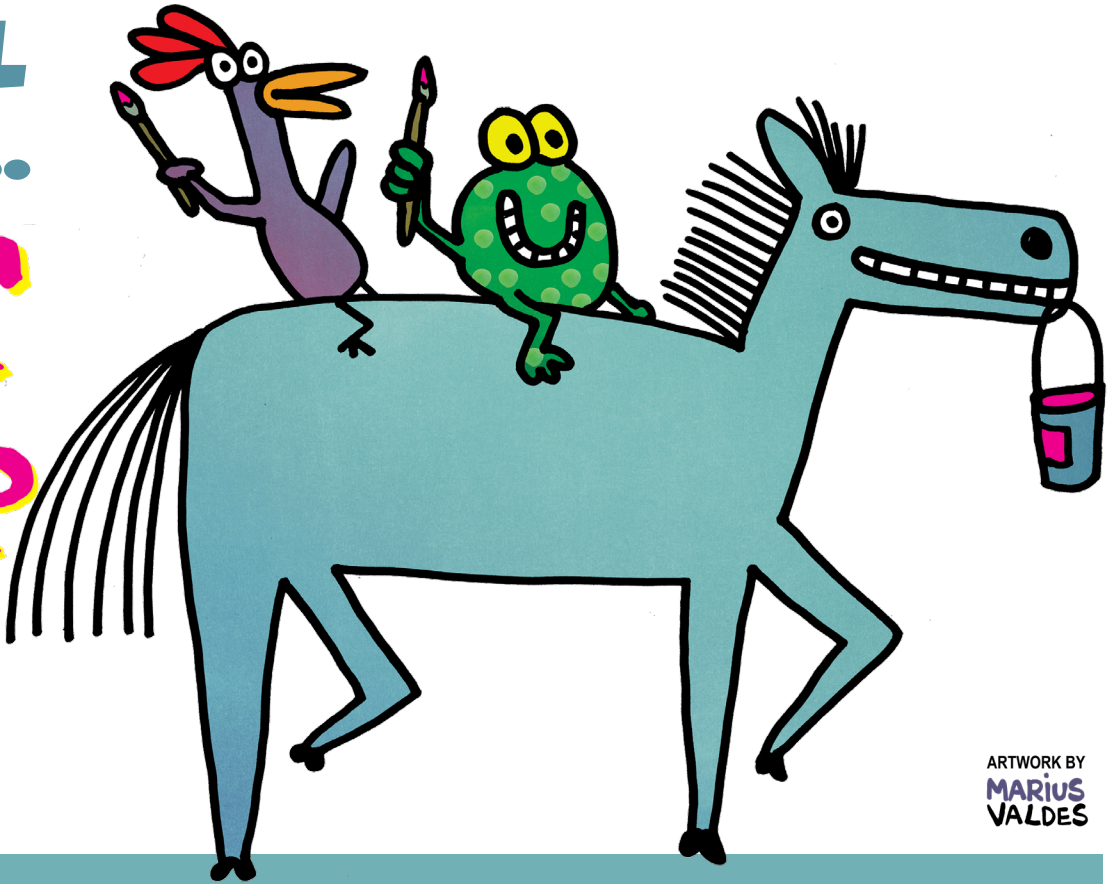


SCHOOL IS OUT...

ART

CAMP

IS IN!



ARTWORK BY
MARIUS
VALDES



803.641.9094

122 Laurens Street SW
Aiken, SC 29801

fund yourself

ARTS
for the
AIKEN CENTER

SOUTH CAROLINA ARTS COMMISSION
NATIONAL ENDOWMENT for the ARTS
This project is funded in part by the South Carolina Arts Commission which receives support from the National Endowment for the Arts



Non-Profit Organization
US Postage PAID
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Permit No. 23

A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

As I reflect on my time serving as Executive Director of the Aiken Center for the Arts, I am filled with immense gratitude for this extraordinary community and for the countless people who have shaped this journey alongside me.

It has been one of the greatest honors of my life to work with such accomplished, collaborative, and visionary board leaders, dedicated staff members, passionate volunteers, talented artists, generous donors, supportive educators, community partners, city leaders, students, and friends. Every achievement of the Arts Center has been made possible through your shared belief in the power of the arts and your unwavering commitment to this community.

Together, we have witnessed remarkable growth in our programming, outreach initiatives, exhibitions, school partnerships, gallery shop, and community engagement efforts. More importantly, we have created spaces where people of all ages can connect through creativity, storytelling, learning, and shared experiences.

At the Aiken Center for the Arts, we believe creativity is at the heart of the human spirit — that art transforms lives and strengthens communities in profound and lasting ways. For more than 54 years, this organization has honored the stories, history, and heartbeat of Aiken through the arts. It has been deeply meaningful to help carry that mission forward through intentional efforts centered on access, education, and inclusion.

I am especially proud that together we have continued to invest in the next generation, ensuring that young people throughout our community have opportunities to experience the power of creativity and artistic expression. Every class, exhibition, performance, partnership, and conversation has contributed to building a stronger, more connected community.

While retirement marks the close of this chapter for me personally, my belief in the future of the Aiken Center for the Arts has never been stronger. The foundation of this organization has always been its people — and this community's generosity, passion, and belief in the arts will continue to guide it forward for years to come.

Thank you for your trust, your encouragement, your friendships, and your support throughout this incredible journey. Serving this community through the arts has been a privilege I will forever cherish.

With heartfelt gratitude,



Caroline Gwinn, Executive Director



HAPPENINGS

June



Joyce Erb

Exhibition Opening - June 18, 6:00-8:00pm

Exhibition runs June 18 - July 23

Main Gallery | **National Association of Women Artists, SC Chapter**

The National Association of Women Artists, headquartered in New York City, was founded in 1889 when women lacked opportunities to exhibit at prestigious museums and galleries. Since then, NAWA continues to foster awareness of the monumental contribution women have made to American culture and art. The NAWA SC Chapter follows this mission to encourage contemporary and emerging artists.

AAG Gallery | **Joya Jimenez Distefano & Amy Ness**

18

July



Exhibition Opening - July 30, 6:00-8:00pm,

Exhibition runs July 30-Sept 3

Main Gallery | **Summer Art: Works by Summer Art Camp Students, Adult Students, Members, and Faculty**

This exhibition will feature work by Summer Art Camp students, Art and Music Camp for Special Needs students, adult students, members and faculty of Aiken Center for the Arts. We hope to honor their work as an effective path to learning and knowledge for all in addition to showcasing the broad range of talent found among us. Open to 2025-26 students, members and faculty of Aiken Center for the Arts. Art drop off: July 6-10 from 10am-4pm. Application & rules are on our website aikencenterforthearts.org under the exhibition dropdown..

Aiken Artist Guild Gallery | **Rich Klein**

30

August



“Musical Symposium” with Spencer McKee

Thursday, August 6, 5:30pm

Join us for an evening of classical music as Pianist Spencer McKee prepares for his final year at Blair School of Music at Vanderbilt University. With the backdrop of summer arts learning and exhibited works by students and faculty at Aiken Center for the Arts, Spencer McKee will share his journey of music education with audiences in Aiken.

6



Strings Program

Are you interested in being a part of our strings program?

For those with **no experience**, we will begin a new group starting Sept 14 at 4:00pm. Scan QR code to register. Instrument scholarships are available.

For those with **some experience**, we will hold auditions on August 17, please contact Tracy Seconi to schedule an audition time progmgr@aikencenterforthearts.org

Our strings programming is offered at no cost / pay what you are able (\$110 value per semester)



17



ARTWORK BY MARIUS VALDES

Arts Alive Open House

August 22 from 11:00am-2:00pm

Arts Alive is Aiken Center for the Arts' annual open house that celebrates youth through the arts and through local community organizations.

**LIVE MUSIC • PERFORMANCES • FACE PAINTING • CRAFTS
BALLOON ANIMALS • ARTIST DEMOS AND MORE!**

No cost! Everyone Welcome

22

SUMMER 2025

AIKEN CENTER for the ARTS

Aiken Center for the Arts
offers
workshops and classes
June through August
on the posted dates.

Register at
Aiken Center for the Arts
or online at
aikencenterforthearts.org

PHOTOGRAPHY

Photography Private Lessons

Patrick Krohn

Personalized instruction based on the student's needs. No membership discount on private lessons.

Call to schedule \$ 7 0
2 hours 26S43

COLOR THEORY

Color Theory

Nanette Langner

Color theory is an exciting concept that can be easy to understand when starting with the basics. Students will create 3 paintings, along with some theory exercises, both in watercolors and acrylics. Students will also learn about the color wheel, color harmony, and how colors are used. Supplies included.

Tuesdays, Aug 25, Sept 1,8. \$ 7 5
10:30am-12:30pm 26S60

PAINTED FLOOR MATS

Painted Floor Mats

Nanette Langner

Paint a scene/design of your choice on a 2ft x 3ft floor mat. Floor mats are painted in acrylic on heavy canvas and intended for indoor use. Instructor will contact students prior to class to decide on subject matter. Subject matter must be decided on by Aug 4. After finishing your floor mat, the instructor will seal it with polyurethane.

Friday and Saturday, July 31, Aug 1. . \$ 130
10:30am-3:30pm 26S56

OIL



Horses in Action

Robert Campbell

This course is an introductory study of horse anatomy in motion. Areas of focus include horse skeletal structure, large muscle groups, and divisions of horse anatomy. Students will gain understanding of 3D perspective, to bring photographic references to life, and organizing value structure for stronger 3D appearance. Working in oils, students learn to draw with brushes and properly apply transparent and opaque pigments. Supply list available at the front desk or online.

Thursdays, 2:00-4:00pm \$ 8 0
Begins July 30, runs 5 wks 26S65

Studio with Robert Campbell

Robert Campbell

Led by local artist Robert (Buzz) Campbell, students work to advance their artistic aspirations in a supportive atmosphere. Any and all elements of enjoying art endeavors are encouraged. Demonstrations and main areas of focus will include dynamic composition with strong value structure, comprehensive color use and appropriate edge work. Students provide their own supplies and are invited to bring reference material for subject matter. Oils and watercolors are recommended.

Tuesdays, 2:00-4:00pm
June (meets 5 x) 26S66 \$ 175
July (meets 4 x) 26S67 \$ 140
Aug (meets 5 x) 26S68 \$ 140

Oils with Jim Marquis

Jim Marquis

This ongoing class is for anyone interested in oils. Learn the techniques that will help you develop your own style. We will explore color, composition, depth and harmony, among other topics. Beginner to Advanced. Student provides supplies for their projects. Supply list for beginners available at the front desk or online. *No class on July 2

Thursdays, 10:00am -12:30pm
June (meets 4 x) 26S44 \$ 200
July (meets 4 x)* 26S45 \$ 200
Aug (meets 4 x) 26S46 \$ 200

*No class on July 2

POTTERY

Pottery Wheel

John Gordon

For the beginning student or those wanting to continue to improve their skills. Learn basics: preparing clay, centering, throwing forms, trimming, handles, etc. All materials & tools included. Level: All.

Thursdays, 1:00pm-3:00pm \$ 140
Begins Aug 6, runs 5 wks 26S47
Thursdays, 4:00-6:00pm \$ 140
Begins Aug 6, runs 5 wks 26S48

Guided Studio

Madeline Fox

Pottery Guided Studio is an intermediate class for students who have worked with pottery before. At a minimum, wheel students should have the skills to center and be able to throw a basic cylinder/bowl. Handbuilding students should know basic skills to create their own projects. Work independently with guidance from the instructor in handbuilding or pottery wheel techniques. Students purchase clay from the ACA front desk. Tools and other supplies included. Level: Intermediate to advanced.

Tuesdays, 10:30am-12:30pm \$ 8 0
Begins July 28, runs 5 wks 26S71

PASTEL

Pastel Painting

Nanette Langner

Introduction to working in soft pastels. Create a beautiful pastel picture while learning how to use soft pastels. Skill level: All. Bring a lunch. (30 min break)



Theme: Cute Mouse
Saturday, June 27 \$ 7 0
10:30am-3:30pm 26S57

Theme: Puffin
Saturday, July 25 \$ 7 0
10:30am-3:30pm 26S58

Theme: Lion Face
Saturday, Aug 29 \$ 7 0
10:30am-3:30pm 26S59

WATERCOLOR

Beginning Watercolors

Nanette Langner

Beginning and intermediate level students explore the techniques and skills used to paint with watercolors. Supplies included. *If you attended this class before and would like to come, there will be different pictures to paint. Bring a lunch. (30 min break)

Saturday, June 6 \$ 7 0
10:30am-4:30pm 26S52

Watercolor Special Topics

Nanette Langner

These classes are designed to continue watercolor education. Each course is different and independent from each other. This summer, we will explore themes focused on different colors. Paint one 5 x 7 painting each week in class. Supplies included.

Theme: Pinks

Wednesdays, July 22,29, Aug 5 \$ 7 0
10:30am-12:30pm 26S53

Theme: Last Days of Summer

Wednesdays, Aug 26, Sept 2,9 \$ 7 0
10:30am-12:30pm 26S54

Pen & Ink w/ Watercolor Wash

Nanette Langner

Complete several small pieces while learning a variety of techniques for adding shade and color to drawings. Previous students can work on alternative drawings. Supplies included. Bring a lunch. (30 min break)

Saturday, July 18 \$ 7 0
10:30am-4:30pm 26S55



STUDIO

Open Studio Amy Ness

Dedicated studio time & space for students to work on oil, acrylic, pastel, watercolor, and colored pencil projects of their own choice. An instructor is on hand for assistance, but there is no prepared lesson. Student provides supplies for their projects. All skill levels welcome.

Mondays, 10:30am -12:30pm
June (meets 5 x)* 26S40 \$ 5 0
July (meets 4 x)* 26S41 \$ 4 0
Aug (meets 5 x) 26S42 \$ 5 0

*No instructor on June 1, 22, or July 6,

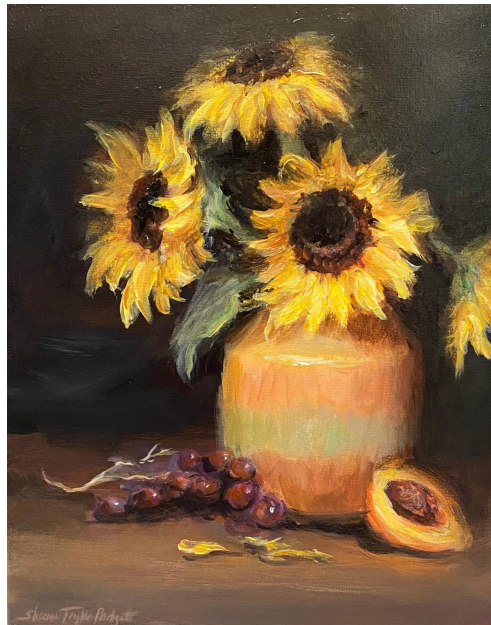
ACRYLIC

Private Lessons

Sharon Taylor Padgett

Students can choose from a series of planned lessons (including a landscape, seascape, still life and photo-to-painting) or students can choose their own subject matter. All materials provided. Skill level: All. Call to schedule.

Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays
Adults 2 hour session \$60 26S69
Youth 1 hour session \$35 26S70



Summer Sunflowers

Sharon Taylor Padgett

Trace these bright yellow sunflowers, grapes and peach slice onto an 11x14" canvas, then follow Sharon step-by-step with color mixing and brushwork to create this lovely, dramatic still life painting. No experience necessary. Supplies included.

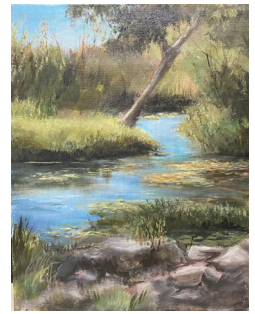
Saturday, June 13 \$ 7 0
10:30am-1:30pm 26S49

Along Langley Pond

Sharon Taylor Padgett

This peaceful creek runs beside Langley Pond and the style of this painting is impressionistic with soft edges in calm greens and blues. Color mixing and brushwork are emphasized in this tranquil scene. No experience necessary. Supplies included.

Saturday, July 11 \$ 7 0
10:30am-1:30pm 26S50



Aiken's Carolina Bay

Sharon Taylor Padgett

Hidden along Whiskey Road beside Odell Weeks Park is a unique Carolina Bay with trails to walk and explore the wetland habitats, including rare plants and wildlife. These oval depressions often fill in winter/spring and are dry in summer. Learn to paint trees, grasses and water reflections in this class. No experience necessary. Supplies included.

Saturday, August 15 \$ 7 0
10:30am-1:30pm 26S51



ADULT ART CAMP

Summer Art Camp for Adults!

Marissa Evans & Don Mosser

Join us for Summer Art Camp FOR ADULTS to get your creative juices flowing. It will be a multi-media experience that will include acrylic, textiles, watercolor, printmaking and more! No experience necessary. Bring a lunch. (30 min break)

Monday - Friday, Aug 10-14 \$ 2 0 0
10:30am - 3:30pm 26WS56



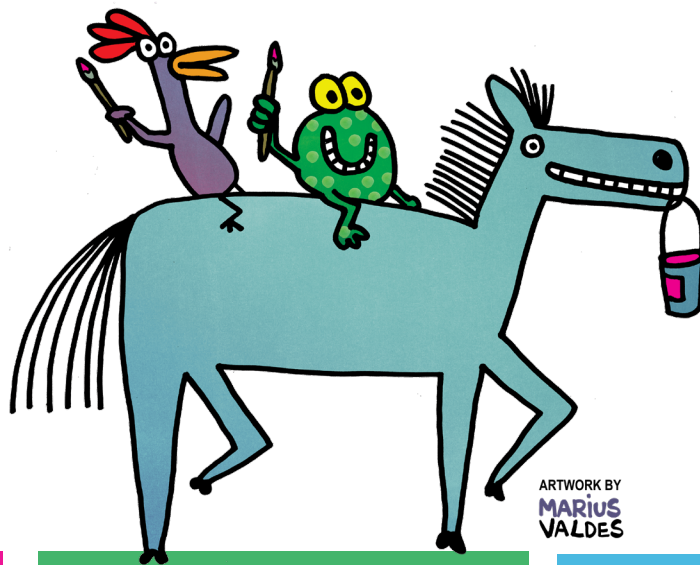
MUSIC

Guitar John Phillips

Learn how to play the guitar with weekly 30 minute lessons. All skill levels welcome. The instructor recommends that elementary aged students have a parent attend class with their student; parents are welcome to learn alongside their child. Bring your own guitar. No member discount on this class. Call to schedule lesson time.

Mondays 30 min
26S62 Jun 5wks \$160/mo
26S63 Jul 3wks * \$96/mo
26S64 Aug 5wks \$128/mo
***No class on July 6**

SCHOOL IS OUT... ART CAMP IS IN!



ARTWORK BY
MARIUS VALDES

**SOUTH*
CAROLINA
ARTSCOMMISSION**

**NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT** for the **ARTS**
arts.gov

This project is funded in part by the South Carolina Arts Commission which receives support from the National Endowment for the Arts

DISCOVERY ART CAMP AGES 5-7

Every day is an artistic adventure! Campers will create artwork inspired by people, far away places, animals and all the fun stuff in life. Children will experience drawing, watercolor, acrylic, pastels and 3-D art in a variety of individual and collaborative projects. Morning and Afternoon sessions have the same projects, but each week offers new & different projects.

ART CAMP AGES 8-10

Unleash that inner creativity! Campers will learn about masterpieces, famous artists, styles of art and how to find inspiration in everything! A variety of 2-D and 3-D projects offered with both individual and collaborative activities in many different mediums. Morning and Afternoon sessions have the same projects, but each week offers new & different projects.

ART STUDIOS AGES 11-14

Students will discover art through exploration of their favorite art mediums in a studio setting. This year we will offer Storybook Studio (create an illustrated story from your imagination with imagery to support it), Printmaking (lino cuts, monoprints, styrofoam and more!), Mixed Media Studio and Painting Studio.

NIGHT SCHOOL AGES 13+

Hey high school students! Don't let Night School fun happen without you. Join us this summer for some great evening fun! Night School 2026 gives you the opportunity to learn how to use the Pottery Wheel!

GUITAR CAMP AGES 8-12

This camp introduces students to the guitar through playing along with demonstrations, games and practice time. Learn in a small group with others. Camp is one hour a day, M-F. Bring your own guitar if you have one, others will be available if you don't have your own.

SUMMER STRINGS ALL AGES

Open to string musicians with at least one year experience on their instruments. Meets on Mondays from 5-6pm from June 8 - Aug 10th (no rehearsal July 13). No cost, but you must register online, by phone or in person. Instrument scholarships available.

SPECIAL NEEDS ART & MUSIC CAMP AGES 5 - ADULT

Offered at no cost to participating families, these camps are designed for those with traumatic brain injuries, cerebral palsy, and/or other physical and developmental disabilities. Camps are designed to allow these individuals to have a successful, joyful art experience by providing an opportunity to participate in both visual arts and musical activities at their own level. Our curriculum is designed with multi-disciplinary content that optimizes each student's language, attention, memory, executive function and motor control functions. See back page for more details.



ARTWORK BY
MARIUS VALDES

SUMMER 2026

JUNE 1-5	DISCOVERY ART CAMP Ages 5-7 9am-12pm, \$175 #26SAC01	ART CAMP Ages 8-10 9am-12pm, \$175 #26SAC02	ART STUDIO: STORY BOOK Ages 11-14 9am-12pm, \$175 #26SAC03
	DISCOVERY ART CAMP Ages 5-7 1pm-4pm, \$175 #26SAC04	ART CAMP Ages 8-10 1pm-4pm, \$175 #26SAC05	NIGHT SCHOOL Ages 13-18 Tues/Wed 5-8pm, \$90 #26SAC06
JUNE 8TH-AUG 10	SUMMER STRINGS ENSEMBLE ALL AGES Mondays, 5:00-6:00pm #26SAC65		
	DISCOVERY ART CAMP Ages 5-7 9am-12pm, \$175 #26SAC07	ART CAMP Ages 8-10 9am-12pm, \$175 #26SAC08	ART STUDIO: PRINTMAKING Ages 11-14 9am-12pm, \$175 #26SAC09
JUNE 8-12	DISCOVERY ART CAMP Ages 5-7 1pm-4pm, \$175 #26SAC10	ART CAMP Ages 8-10 1pm-4pm, \$175 #26SAC11	
	SPECIAL NEEDS ART & MUSIC CAMP Ages 5-adult 10am-12pm, no cost, must apply, details back pg		SPECIAL NEEDS ART & MUSIC CAMP Ages 5-adult 1pm-3pm, no cost, must apply, details back pg
JUNE 22-26	DISCOVERY ART CAMP Ages 5-7 9am-12pm, \$175 #26SAC13	ART CAMP Ages 8-10 9am-12pm, \$175 #26SAC14	ART STUDIO: MIXED MEDIA Ages 11-14 9am-12pm, \$175 #26SAC15
	DISCOVERY ART CAMP Ages 5-7 1pm-4pm, \$175 #26SAC16	ART CAMP Ages 8-10 1pm-4pm, \$175 #26SAC17	GUITAR CAMP Ages 8-12 1-2pm, \$135 #26SAC12
JULY 6-10	DISCOVERY ART CAMP Ages 5-7 9am-12pm, \$175 #26SAC19	ART CAMP Ages 8-10 9am-12pm, \$175 #26SAC20	ART STUDIO: PAINTING Ages 11-14 9am-12pm, \$175 #26SAC21
	SPECIAL NEEDS ART & MUSIC CAMP Ages 5-adult 10am-12pm, no cost, must apply, details back pg		SPECIAL NEEDS ART & MUSIC CAMP Ages 5-adult 1pm-3pm, no cost, must apply, details back pg

BECOME A MEMBER AND RECEIVE 10% OFF ART CAMP

DROP OFF & PICK UP: Doors open 15 min prior to camp start. Parents/Guardians sign campers in and check campers out daily. When camp ends, campers will be brought down to the first floor. If you will be late, please let us know. **CLOTHING:** Please make sure your child wears clothing appropriate for art camp - we will get messy! **SNACKS:** Students should plan to pack a snack and a drink for our mid-morning break. Please make sure your child's name is clearly labeled. No soft drinks or peanut products please.

SCHOLARSHIPS

The ACA Scholarship program is funded by generous donors from the CSRA community. Scholarships are awarded based on availability and to students who demonstrate financial need. Financial aid applicants must be on file two weeks before classes begin. To apply for a scholarship, please call 803-641-9094 to request an application, or visit our website at: aikencenterforthearts.org

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Early registration is recommended to secure a place in a class. We will gladly accept your registration up until class time IF we are able to accommodate you (space, materials, etc.). There is a 5% processing fee for each online registration.

CANCELLATION

If you cancel your registration after it has been processed, but at least a week before the class begins, we will refund your class fee less \$10. If you cancel with less than one week notice, no refund will be given. ACA reserves the right to cancel classes with low enrollment. If we must cancel a class, we will issue a full refund.

WE OFFER SCHOLARSHIPS IF YOU NEED HELP OVERCOMING FINANCIAL BARRIERS

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2025-2026

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JOY IN THE JOURNEY: A PROGRAM FOR THOSE WITH MEMORY LOSS

ABOUT: The Joy in the Journey program at Aiken Center for the Arts (ACA) connects Aiken residents living with Alzheimer's disease and dementia with a mneme therapist who works with them to create an original painting. Joy in the Journey serves participants through a method called mneme (pronounced NEMMA) therapy, with a goal to provide a rewarding experience.

Alzheimers and dementia affect not only the people suffering from these life-changing illnesses, but their families and caregivers. A key component of Joy in the Journey is the comfort it brings to those who witness their loved ones benefiting from these therapeutic sessions.

Each session begins with the mneme therapist using everyday pleasures such as singing, painting, storytelling and praise in a unique combination to stimulate change in the brain and provide a rewarding experience for the artist. Through this therapy, memories can be stirred, giving each individual an opportunity to express oneself and a sense of accomplishment through the painting process. The participant then puts on an apron, turns to the canvas, and, after the therapist places the color, he or she is guided on brushing left to right. With the therapist right at their side, the patient works background to foreground until a beautiful masterpiece has appeared. Each Joy



in the Journey painter is rewarded with the wonder and sense of accomplishment of beholding their own creative expression

TWO WAYS TO PARTICIPATE

1. At Aiken Center for the Arts: Families of participants may schedule a Joy in the Journey session at Aiken Center for the Arts. No cost.
2. At area senior care facilities: We offer Joy in the Journey sessions on a monthly basis at multiple senior care facilities in our area. No cost.

To sign up or learn more about our Joy in the Journey program, call or email Christine Lawrence at 803-641-9094 / christine@aikencenterforthearts.org

ART AND MUSIC CAMPS FOR SPECIAL NEEDS

Art and Music Camp

Keith Tolen

Offered at no cost to participating families, these camps are designed for those with cognitive and/or physical disabilities. Camps are designed to allow these individuals to have a successful, joyful art experience by providing an opportunity to participate in both visual arts and musical activities at their own level. Camps are led by SC Arts Access master teacher, Keith Tolen who has extensive experience teaching art to those with disabilities. Our curriculum is designed with multi-disciplinary content that optimizes each student's language, attention, memory, executive function and motor control functions.

June 15-19

Ages 5 - Adult

10:00am-12:00pm or 1:00-3:00pm

July 13-17

Ages 5 - Adult

10:00am-12:00pm or 1:00-3:00pm



Lasting Impact

For the individuals involved in the program, the benefits include the opportunity for a success-oriented creative outlet, social interaction with peers, and the positive self-esteem that comes from having their work displayed at the Art Center. These opportunities lead to the development of soft skills like communication, being part of a team or group, learning to make a decision, adaptability, leadership, kindness, independence, taking directions, empathy, and others.

Camps are free. Registration is required.

Go to Programs tab at aikencenterforthearts.org to register. Call Tracy Seconi at 803-641-9094 with any questions.