

Abigail Merickel



Mission Statement:

My goal is to promote access to the visual arts for both teachers and students as a powerful tool for learning. By learning the visual arts language and the art techniques specific to each residency, students will inquire, explore, discover, problem-solve and create integrating content areas with the visual arts.

Grades Served:

K-12, Adult

Lives In:

Sisters, OR

Homestay:

Homestay (non-smoking preferred) required for residencies more than 70 miles from Bend, OR

Japanese Bookbinding, Nature Printing & Haiku*

Students learn a simple bookbinding technique to create their own book, embellishing it with twigs, beads, markers and colored pencils. Through the medium of Printmaking, they experience the visual arts language and hands-on printing techniques. They learn the history and uses of Nature Printing. Creating nature prints from leaves, feathers, etc. introduces them to the Principles of Design through their compositions. Japanese literature is explored when the students write their own haiku poetry complimenting their images.

*This residency can be adapted to social science and science curriculums.

Metaphor, Paintings & Me – Weather*

Students will write a weather metaphor using figurative language for themselves and create a watercolor and wax resist painting depicting their chosen weather. Students will study a variety of weather phenomena and be inspired by artists' interpretations of weather throughout history. With weather as a theme*, they will integrate both language and visual arts through a study of metaphor and painting techniques.

*Other themes are possible (i.e. animals, plants, bugs, etc.)

Other available residencies:

All About Drawing, Playful Printmaking Possibilities, Artistamps: Postage Stamp Prints, Block Print Accordion Book, Ex –Libris: Art of the Bookplate, Watercolor Painting

Facility & Supplies

Tables in a self-contained room are preferable but a classroom setting is workable. Materials vary depending upon the project but include easily obtainable school, arts & crafts store, and/or household supplies. Special printmaking supplies—brayers, cutting tools, plexiglass—are artist supplied for a small fee. All residencies require some set up and cleanup. Volunteers are required. Access to a sink, drying and storage space are all necessary. Minimum of three visits. Cost is approximately \$2.00 per child/per residency.

About the Artist...

Abigail earned an MFA from the Academy of Fine Arts in Venice, Italy and has been actively involved in the art world as an award-winning painter, printmaker and arts educator for over 20 years. She has acquired extensive multi-cultural training in the arts, languages and education from various European sojourns. She has taught foreign languages and fine arts internationally to students of all ages and backgrounds. Having acquired an MAT/teaching credential with endorsements in Art & Spanish, she works as a substitute teacher, bilingual interpreter, and artist-in-residence. Her work is exhibited and collected in the U.S. and Europe. View her work and contact her at www.abigailmerickel.com.