

Sandy Shackelford

Every child has a gift and here at the Summer Arts Studio we have the opportunity to help them celebrate that and pull out their gifts, and to validate themselves in whatever artistic and creative ways they can

Summer art camp is a program that is offered by the university. There are two weeks during the summer. The first week is the middle school art camp and the second week is for high school students. We offer a variety of things. We have a marvelous professional staff. We have a variety of drawing classes, ceramics, print making, painting.

Area youth should come to this program because it provides an opportunity for them to creatively express themselves.

Carrie Fonder

The camp provides an opportunity for students to explore some creative pursuits in a really supportive creative community. It allows them to make friends and learn from their friends as well as their instructors.

It is intense, but I think it's intense from the energy that the kids bring to it themselves. It's not that it's demanding, but that frequently the students who come in are so excited about the learning that they bring the intensity to the program, as well as our instructors who have wonderful backgrounds in the arts. I think that's where the intensity comes from.

The other really nice thing about the camp is although it's a short period of time—one week—kids can come in and even if they don't have a background in metals or a background in fashion they can, in one week, have an intense experience in it and really expand their repertoire of artistic skills.

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The students are at all levels. They are from sixth grade through eighth grade and ninth through high school (in the high school camp) and they bring samples of their work so they show what level they're at. The individual instructors take the individuals from where they are, and what their interests are, and they shape them, and they encourage them to move in whatever individual direction they seem to be going in.

Carrie Fonder

Our instructors are outstanding. They are outstanding artists and human beings. I think one of the joys of the camp is having the opportunity to work for them and with them. Even as a director, I feel thrilled to be part of this due to the staff that we have here.

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Our program is not just about learning art. Its' about learning from each other. The students, both by their interaction and being from many different cultures. WE do not just focus on the arts. They focus on who each of them are and they bond in that manner and so there is a lot of personal growth that goes on through this program.