

Side By Side Inc

Arts Programming Overview + Teaching Artist(s) Bio

Programming

Side By Side provides arts programs and academic enrichment year-round for 2100 people (pre Covid) and young adults ages 2-25 years old. The programs offered are as follows:

Invitation To Create Program (after school program) This program combines education with art making. The objective of this program is a catalyst of inspiration for advocating positive self-coping and self identification through the process of art making. We serve youth and young adults ages 14-25 years old.

Modern Makers Summer Camp (June or July)- this summer camp is a weeklong day camp that provides artmaking experiences to youth during the summer. This program is a collaboration with local non profit Ace Project who provides the space for this camp that serves up to 30 youth ages 8-12 years old.

Our "Whole Child" Preschool Programs- (daily preschool program) provides academic enrichment to preschool aged students. This program is rooted in child led learning and coordinates lessons and activities that observe and assess the social emotional learning of vulnerable youth. We serve up to 60 preschool aged youth in this program.

Mobile Art Making (case by case program)- “mobile artmaking” opportunities to the community via our Art Bus. This mobile artmaking bus operates as an open studio on wheels, equipped with tools and arts activities. This program is provided to community centers, public school institutions, juvenile justice programs, residential groups and other agencies that advocate for artistic self-coping and education via the arts. We serve up to 15 youth per session ages 5-25 years old.

Family Artmaking (bi-weekly out of school program) we provide opportunities to the community via our Open Studio days at our Frankfort Ave location. This is a community resource that encourages positive family bonding opportunities through artmaking. This program advocates for discriminatory free artmaking with its "drop in" policy welcoming families from all walks of life. Each family consists of 2-5 members based upon the space available.

Our programs and activities follow a school calendar year/ The schedule of programs and activities are as follows:

January-June- Marketing for summer camps and programs, after school programming, early childhood learning programs, training & development w/public school institutions, mobile art making program.

June- August- Summer camp and programming, mobile art making program

September- December- Outreach, programming, academic enrichment, early childhood programs, after school programming, training & development w/public school, family artmaking programming institutions.

Teaching Artist(s) Bios(s)

Kim Frazier-Pirog: Founder and Director

Kim, the mother of two and founder of Side by Side, has been working with children and youth for 20 years. She holds multiple degrees including a Bachelor's degree in Psychology and Studio Arts from the University of Louisville, as well as a degree in Health and Human Services. Kim has studied with and has received training from Harvard Project Zero, Attachment and Trauma Network, The Institute for Social and Emotional Learning, Conscious Discipline, Boulder Journey School in Colorado, Early Learning Institute at the University of Tennessee, and the North American Reggio Emilia Alliance.

Jacke Fossaluzza: Whole Child Teacher

Jacke has been with us since 2016. She was raised mostly in Oregon and California but has resided in Louisville since 2005. She holds a bachelor's degree in Pan African Studies and a Masters of Arts in Early Elementary Education both from the University of Louisville. Jacke is a proud mom to her daughters, Eleanor & Ivy, and enjoys spending time with family. She is passionate about helping the environment and making learning as fun as possible!

Susie Roethgen: Studio Manager & Whole Child Teacher

Susie is a Northern California native but has lived in Louisville since 2004 with her husband and their children Sam and Sadie. She received her BFA from Hunter College New York followed by participation in the NYC Teaching Fellows Program where she gained immeasurable experience working with underserved children with ASD. Susie has been a preschool teacher for the past 14 years and believes in the value of learning through exploration and play.

Artistic Content of Programming

Collaborative art making- this means that our agency collaborates with other local nonprofit agencies that serve youth. We believe that collaboration allows us to make a greater impact in the community by reaching youth from all demographics, backgrounds and social status.

Secondly our artmaking workshops use a number of different art materials that depend upon the learning objective, artist profile and obtainment. These materials could be similar to the material that the artist we are discussing used or we use a generic version of materials. The main objective is to use

tools and materials that are safe and accessible. These materials include but are not limited to; fiber, clay, mixed media, paint, brushes, blank canvas, glue, markers and recycled materials.

We measure the outcome of our programs based upon how many of the following goals we have met;

Youth develop positive self-coping skills

Promotes creativity and self-expression

Resources for transitioning young adult

Mentorship Mental Health Support

We also measure the outcome of our program based on the following; program registration, participant turn around, real time participant engagement and number of individual art projects produced.

Educational Content of Programming

The educational content of our programming is found primarily in our "whole child" preschool program. The mission of The Whole Child is to provide children with stimulating nature-centered opportunities to encourage artistic self-expression, independent problem solving, and a never-ending curiosity towards life. Children will freely explore their natural world, therefore inviting new experiences every day and allowing the child to become a leader on their own learning path. Through these experiences, children will learn compassion not only towards their friends, but also towards the Earth and themselves.

We measure the outcome of our educational content based on the number of goals we have met at the conclusion of every activity:

Youth have developed social emotional learning skills

Promotes child led learning

Utilizes trauma informed learning

Encourages hobbies

Promotes self sufficiency

Mentorship

We also measure the outcome of our program based on the following; program registration, participant turn around, real time participant engagement and number of individual art projects produced.

Process for hiring, training, and evaluating performance/effectiveness.

Our current process in hiring teaching artists begins with the submission of an artistic/educational resume. We do this to elicit interest from a variety of individuals from diverse backgrounds and expertise but also to screen individuals who show more than just an ability to teach art. From there we then host in person or virtual interviews in which we discuss with potential staff the following; knowledge of whole child learning philosophies, mental health awareness, community involvement and recognition of diverse learners.

Our evaluation of teaching artists is broken down in two categories: performance and execution of tasks. Per each category we observe the teaching effectiveness based upon youth's willingness to participate in activity, the teaching artist's ability to adapt to the interest of the youth and the number of occurrences that teaching artist provides a positive and engaging learning environment. Additionally, our staff participate in yearly training sessions that keep our staff informed of research-based strategies and alternative learning techniques.

How are participants of all backgrounds and abilities included in programming?

We ensure inclusion of participants of all backgrounds and abilities via our nondiscriminatory policy included in our handbook. Our current policy states that; Side by Side Studio shall follow the spirit and intent of all federal, state and local employment law and is committed to equal employment opportunity. To that end, the Board of Directors and Executive Director of Side by Side Studio will not discriminate against any employee or applicant in a manner that violates the law. Side by Side Studio does not and shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion (creed), gender, gender identity, age, national origin (ancestry), disability, marital status, sexual orientation, or military status, in any of its activities or operations. These activities include, but are not limited to, hiring and firing of staff, selection of volunteers and vendors, and provision of services. We are committed to providing an inclusive and welcoming environment for all members of our staff, clients, volunteers, subcontractors, vendors, and clients. Each person is evaluated on the basis of personal skill and merit.

Side by Side Studio, Inc., is an equal opportunity employer. We will not discriminate and will take affirmative action measures to ensure against discrimination in employment, recruitment, advertisements for employment, compensation, termination, upgrading, promotions, and other conditions of employment against any employee or job applicant on the bases of race, color, gender, national origin, age, religion, creed, disability, veteran's status, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression.

The Executive Director shall act as the responsible agent in the full implementation of the Equal Employment Opportunity policy. Side by Side Studio will not tolerate any form of unlawful discrimination. All employees are expected to cooperate fully in implementing this policy. In particular, any employee who believes that any other employee of Side by Side Studio may have violated the Equal Employment Opportunity Policy should report the possible violation to the Executive Director. If Side by Side Studio determines that a violation of this policy has occurred, it will take appropriate disciplinary action against the offending party, which can include counseling, warnings, suspensions, and termination.

How do we engage teachers and community center staff before, during, and after programming?

We engage teachers and community center staff by first setting clear expectations with our teachers and community centers about what activity we are planning as well as tips on how to encourage participants to get involved. Additionally, we like to keep teachers and community centers engaged by posting program flyers on our social media page, webpage, newsletters and word of mouth. During our programming we like to introduce our teachers, community center staff as well as allow them to give brief introductions to the participants about their artistic expertise and what they are most excited about working with each group. We engage our teachers and community center staff after programming with an invitation to participate in upcoming programs and activities.

How do we engage participants in the creative and learning process?

We engage participants in the creative and learning process using a step-by-step strategy that allows the child to lead themselves in the artmaking process, practice art interpretation, develop knowledge in artistic techniques and encourage creative expression. The current step by step strategy that use to engage participants during in person artmaking;

- 1. Open Discussion-** program leaders introduce an artist and their technique to the group. These artists come from multidisciplinary backgrounds and are nationally and locally known.
- 2. Art materials are set out on display-** These materials include but are not limited to; fiber, clay, mixed media, paint, brushes, blank canvas, glue, markers and recycled materials.
- 3. Artmaking Engagement-** participants are encouraged to create art through interpretation of the artist discussed. Participants are encouraged to create on their own free will. We find participant-led art making creates less anxiety and stress on the youth and creates an environment that invites personal innovation and creativity on the part of the participant.