



Juneau Arts and Humanities Council – Juneau School District
PARTNERS IN EDUCATION

2011-2012 TEACHING ARTIST PROFILE and APPLICATION

Name MK MacNaughton
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Preferred Method for contact? (what is the best way to reach you?): Email and phone both work well for me.

I am available to work/teach (check all that apply)

1 - 2 week residency period I am flexible, could work different times
 can work 1 day/week for a month or more could work part days, different times

1. Please describe your arts education and/or arts background.

I graduated from college in 1987 with a B.A. in Psychology and an emphasis on art and dance. I interned with a graphic artist and danced briefly with the Joe Orlando Dance Group in Portland, Oregon before moving to Juneau in 1989 and working as an advocate in the field of domestic violence and sexual assault prevention. I incorporated art process into my work with victims of violence in the 15 years that I dedicated to this field. I also shared an art studio with several friends, and exhibited my own work with Arts-R-Us, the Orpheum Cafe, the Juneau City Museum, and in my studio. I discovered the theatre when I moved to Juneau, and have had wonderful experiences learning about performance art through Perseverance Theatre. I started working in the schools as an art teacher when my children were young, and later helped found the Canvas Art Studio. I am currently working as an exhibiting and teaching artist in Juneau. Recent exhibits are listed on my attached resume.

My arts education really began when I was a child. Some of my earliest memories are hours spent drawing and constructing inventions. I loved to sit outside and study light, shadow, perspective, and depth through drawing exercises. I built elaborate marble machines that filled our entire basement. As a child I was lucky to have adults in my life who supported my interest in art. I have enjoyed taking art classes from childhood through the present time. In high school and college I focused on photography and non-traditional darkroom printing techniques. I currently work primarily in charcoal, oil paint, and found object construction.

Honestly though, some of my best art education came from my children's preschool and kindergarten teachers here in Juneau. One of the gifts of being a parent is getting to learn along with our children, and I learned a lot about how to be a teacher from Nancy Lehnhart & Rhonda Gardnier at the Juneau Co-op Preschool and Debbie Fagnant and Fred Hiltner at Harborview Elementary School. I consider the 5 years I got to spend with these teachers the equivalent of a Masters in Teaching for myself. Through the children, teachers, and artists experiencing disabilities with whom I have had the opportunity to create art over the past 20 years, I have grown as an individual artist. I am inspired to continue teaching and learning from children through artist in residency opportunities.

2. ART FORM(s) which you are interested in teaching (list all, with preferences starred) and age of students you are interested in working with.

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I enjoy working with all ages and abilities, from toddlers through high school. I don't have a preference for a particular age group, and welcome the opportunity to work with any age.

I incorporate drawing, painting and sculpture using found objects in art lessons that celebrate tactile and physical abilities. I am passionate about teaching children that art includes an infinite variety of mediums and possibilities, so that all children know that they are artists. I work to offer lessons that inspire creative growth and confidence.

3. What themes, concepts, and experiences do you want to share with students?

Making art changes the way I see the world. Drawing, painting and creating interactive sculpture are ways for me to share my thoughts with others, but more than that, creating art is a process that helps me discover what it is I want to say. I hope to inspire the students I work with to speak their minds and start conversations through art. I also strive to provide art experiences that are fun, so that all children recognize they are artists.

For the past 6 years I have worked to provide art experiences that celebrate all abilities, integrating people who experience developmental and physical disabilities and people without disabilities in classes and community events. I am interested in mentoring students of all ages to act as peers and support one another.

I propose offering a two week artist in residence program entitled "Making Sense of Art". Different classrooms will focus on art projects that highlight a particular sense. For instance, 5th graders might work with a blindfolded monoprint or linoleum carving project, while 4th graders are creating mobiles that make sounds, and 3rd graders are exploring texture and tactile arts. At the end of the two week residency I will help the students organize a school wide arts event for all students and their families, so students can share their artwork and offer one another a chance to try all of the projects. The students will become the teachers at the culminating arts celebration, sharing what they learned during the residency.

4. Please list or describe any prior teaching experiences you may have had (apart from residencies)

I am currently working as a teaching and exhibiting artist out of my studio "Sketch" in downtown Juneau. In 2006 I helped create the Canvas Community Art Studio & Gallery at REACH. I organized classes, events and integrated arts programming in my role as the Artistic Coordinator at the Canvas until deciding to take time to work on my own art in 2012. Prior to my work at the Canvas, I served for 2 years as the Art-on-the-Cart teacher in 15 classrooms at Harborview Elementary School. I have been a regular volunteer in the schools as an art teacher in my children's classrooms for the past 9 years. Additionally I worked as a Juneau Fine Arts Camp teacher, taught UAF correspondence classes on "Creativity and Young Children," and facilitated art process groups for adults and children in domestic violence, sexual assault, and grieving situations.

Over the past 20 years I have enjoyed teaching small classes and coordinating large art events serving hundreds of participants through community programs in the public schools, the Alaska State Museum, the Juneau City Museum, the Juneau Arts & Humanities Council, and in coordination with other non-profit social service agencies.

5. Why do you want to teach the arts in Juneau schools?

I love working with children. In my experience, all children enjoy art unless they get a message from an adult that they aren't doing it 'right' or 'well.' My goal as a teaching artist is to be a mentor for children and provide them an opportunity to enjoy creating art. I believe that if children get a strong message in early elementary school that they are talented artists, they will carry this message with them throughout their lifetime. My hope is to instill a love of creating art and an appreciation for diversity of mediums, styles, and message in art. I want to work with children because I want everyone to know from an early age that there is no right or wrong way to make art, but that the beauty of art is having the courage to express ourselves.



6. Past Experience with Artist in the Schools residencies: (list all)

Harborview Clay Mural Project (K-5): January 2010

7. Have you been part of the **Juneau Teaching Artist workshop series**?

Yes, whole series Yes, some of the workshops No, not yet

8. Please list 3 references who could be contacted about your work and teaching experience.
(include name, phone number and email address)

Debbie Fagnant: 789-9836, dfagnant@gci.net
Nancy Lehnhart: 789-5421, nancy_lehnhart@jsd.k12.ak.us
Christy Eriksen: 723-9262, christynamee@gmail.com

9. Other comments or additions that help illuminate your work or life as an artist???

I am a visual and performing artist and a social justice activist. I appreciate art that starts conversation, and I enjoy working with groups to create projects that are meaningful for them. I have briefly outlined a residency idea in this application: "Making Sense of Art," which is meant to incorporate a message of inclusion and appreciation for all abilities along with having fun with art.

I am also happy to talk to teachers and administrators about designing a curriculum for your school. I can propose projects that incorporate recycling, focus on building community, or I can work with a topic of your choice and together we can brainstorm a residency. Please feel free to contact me to discuss proposals. I am available for residencies starting in October 2012.

Attach a **current RESUME** (*and photo or digital footage if preferred*) and email completed form to kari@jahc.org:

If necessary, hard copies can be delivered to:

Kari Groven
Juneau Arts & Humanities Council
350 Whittier Street, Suite 101
Juneau, AK 99801

Questions?

Call Kari Groven,
(907) 586-ARTS (2787)
(907) 586-2148 (fax)

Call Annie Calkins at:
(907) 789-3486
(907) 625-8233 (cell)

* **Your Artist Profile/Application will be posted on the JAHC and JSD websites for viewing and consideration by schools. By submitting Profile/Application you give your permission for this posting.**

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