

Student and Teacher Features - Spring

Assignment Project Description:

Email and interview selected students and teachers for featured sections in Fairmount's monthly newsletters and Spring, 2014 Course Catalog

Assignment Goals:

To promote our classes through student testimonials and inform readers about the backgrounds of our teachers.

Reflection:

I emailed questionnaires to the students' parents and teachers inviting them to be featured in the catalog of classes. Once I received the questionnaires back I compiled their answers into a story. I emailed the story and photo to my project director, who placed them into the correct position within the catalog.



Features cut out of the Fairmount Center for the Arts Spring 2014 course catalog

Multigenerational Family Feature: Bredbenner, Mitchell, Paulin, Lessord family

A family that participates in art together stays together. Lolly Bredbenner, Lynn Mitchell, and Alexandra Paulin are a great example of this family dynamic. The Fairmount Center for the Arts has been in their lives for years. All starting when Lynn decided to have Alexandra take a Jazz, Tap & Ballet class when she was around 5 years old. Alexandra participated in this class for several years until she blew out her knee during a figure skating accident and was no longer able to continue dancing for the Fairmount Center. Lynn and Lolly have been supports of the Center as well. They have participated in several Art Auctions and other fundraising events. During Fall 2013 Lynn and Lolly both participated in the Chair Pilates class where fellow classmates have said “they always seemed to be having fun.” Alexandra is currently interning in the office at Fairmount and has had her daughter, Hayley, join the Fairmount family as well (see Hayley Lessord’s featured student section). We are very happy to have all four generations here at the Fairmount Center and are excited to see everyone learn and grow with us.

Featured Student: Hayley Lessord

Hayley is an art, music and dance student here at Fairmount Center. She has previously been in the Kinderdance, Moving Together, and Young at Art programs. She is currently in the Kinderdance and Young at Art programs again, as well as the new Music Makers and Creative Dance classes. When asked what class was her favorite, Hayley said, "Dance, no art, no music, all of them!" It is fair to say she loves everything about Fairmount. When she is not taking classes, Hayley likes to play with her grandma and go to the mall with her mommy. When asked what her favorite thing to do is, Hayley said, "I love coming to class and seeing my friends, dancing and playing. I love it!" Well Hayley, we are happy and excited to watch you grow and learn with us here at Fairmount.

Featured Student: Dylan White

Dylan, who is seven years-old, has been taking piano lessons here at Fairmount for six months. He loves that he gets to learn and have new experiences with his piano teacher, Miss Rachael Fuller. Outside of Fairmount Dylan likes going to school at Notre Dame Elementary School, playing Minecraft on his Xbox, taking pottery classes and going to Cub Scouts. Dylan also plays basketball, soccer and baseball, along with swimming at the YMCA in Chardon. Dylan we are very happy that you are a part of the Fairmount family and hope to watch you grow and learn with us in the years to come.

Featured Student: Eleanor Cleveland

Eleanor, twelve years old, has been at Fairmount for ten years now and has loved every minute of it. She is in our FDT ballet, point, jazz, modern, and tap classes. But she can't pick her favorite because she loves all of her classes and teachers. Fairmount has become her second home, she has developed great friendships and everyone always seems to be happy, nice and encouraging. Outside of Fairmount, Eleanor loves spending time with her friends and family & traveling with her family, but no matter where she is, she is always practicing her dance routines. "I love dancing and credit my Fairmount teachers for helping me have the opportunity to dance in three 'Nutcracker' performances, my favorite was with Joffrey Ballet and The Cleveland Orchestra!"

Featured Teacher: Cindy Wozniak

Cindy Wozniak first became interested in creating jewelry during college at Siena Heights University in 1986 and soon after she began to take lessons here at Fairmount, where she taught pre-school arts and crafts. She continued to take lessons at Fairmount until the mid-1990's when

she began working for a retiring jeweler in Mantua. Once he retired, a few months after she began working for him, she had no one to teach her any longer so she took a few classes through the Valley Arts Center but mainly began to teach herself. Cindy finds her inspiration in the Art Nouveau movement, ancient Celtic styles and even from dancers, plants, and animals. She love to work with bronze and silver. She has even taught herself how to work with gems and within her extensive collection her favorite is Sapphire, since it comes in so many differ forms, such as nearly black, pale blue, green, fire orange, and white. Some of her favorite projects that she has done at Fairmount has been the dancing angels and creating various animals. Cindy said one of the things I enjoy most is watching my students develop and grow and all of the neat ideas that they come up with. Cindy currently teaches a jewelry making class here at Fairmount and would like her potential and current students to know that even if a class doesn't fill she is more than willing to teach privately here at Fairmount.

Featured Teacher: Lindsay Phillips

Growing up Lindsay competed in rhythmic gymnastics and part of her training was a weekly ballet class and when she was 14 years old she started dancing for a studio. Since then she has been dedicated to her dancing. While attending the College of Wooster, she took intensives with artist such as, Guillermo Gomez Piña and the Martha Graham Dance Company. During this time she also interned for the Mark Morris Dance Group. She graduated in 2011 with a B.A. in Theater & Dance. Even though she only started working for Fairmount in March of 2013, she loves working with her students, “They have a lot of natural talent and passion for dance & it was wonderful to see them perform ‘The Nutcracker’ this winter.”

Featured Teacher: Tara Lynn

Tara Lynn began playing violin at 3 years old when her parents asked her if she wanted to play violin, she said yes and ever since she has been playing. For her senior year of high school, she attended the Interlochen Arts Academy, which is a boarding school for the arts located in Interlochen, Michigan. She acquired her Bachelor of Music degree from Northwestern University and earned her Master of Music degree at the Cleveland Institute of Music in May of 2013. She has also spent her summers studying at the Meadowmount School of Music and as a fellow at the Tanglewood Music Center, which is the summer home of the Boston Symphony. Tara Lynn is a member of Ars Futura, a Cleveland-based contemporary music ensemble and has performed as a substitute musician with a number of orchestras, including the New World Symphony in Miami Beach, Florida, and the Cleveland Pops Orchestra. She currently plays solo and chamber music repertoire on recitals and concerts throughout the Cleveland area. She came to Fairmount after completing her masters to offer violin lessons to the community. Tara Lynn said that, “The Center’s mission to nourish individuals and enrich their communities through arts training resonated with me... so here I am.” She enjoys having the opportunity to teach a couple of adult beginners, and the moment when a previously baffling concept or action click into place is always so exciting to observe. We are excited to have Tara Lynn be a part of our supportive, enriching environment here at Fairmount.

Featured Teacher: Carol Yuko

Carol Yuko is the newest teacher here at Fairmount and we are happy to have her specialties with us. After receiving her BFA from Ohio Wesleyan University and attending graduate study at the University of Kansas, she travelled to Boston and began following her passion. She spent four years leading an Autism Spectrum/ Special Needs children's art project within the community and was also assisted by the public school system. When coming back to Ohio, Carol opened her own studio, FindArt, which is located in Chesterland where she offers classes for Autism Spectrum and Special Needs children and adults. She guides her students in art-making sessions several times a week. Last year at FindArt, she help two art shows, one in June that featured 8th grader Joe Rataiczak's work and the second in October which feature four of her students works. All of the art was available for purchase which helped many of the students receive money for their masterpieces. She has been planning the next art show for Spring 2014. She also works for the Geauga Family YMCA in Chardon, where the programs promote a healthy mind, spirit, and body, which align with how she runs her studio. After looking through our list of classes here at Fairmount she noticed that we did not offer any classes for this very important part of our community. Carol said, "I felt combining my passion and Fairmount's consistent striving for excellence and outreach would create more options for our community members." She has her students work with several mediums, such as using Sharpies on cotton cloth to create tie dye effects and creating collages with glue sticks. Carol love having her students' parents express notable positive changes within their child as a result of them participating in her class. Carol stated, "Watching discoveries and connection being made during the art process is one of my favorite parts of working with Autism Spectrum/ Special Needs community."