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Art class for the “Non-artist”: an Intro to Drawing

Description: This class is perfect for any budding artist, individual whose never taken an art class, or those who want to invite the creative process back into their lives and wouldn't know where to begin. We start with an introduction to the pencil and its potential extending beyond its writing capabilities. We review how to hold the pencil and begin with writing our names with varying pressure. We also take a moment to see the eraser as a drawing tool so we can shape what is on the page. Along the way, I remind participants that all beautiful work goes through an ugly stage and I have various handouts that can be reviewed. We can do any number of activities: like drawing your partner from across the table (“Date Night Draw”), drawing your first still life, or drawing from a photograph using the grid method. I have never failed to see results, even from those who arrive to class saying, “I can't even draw a stick figure.” I bring these creative empowerment classes to many spaces including libraries, restaurants, private events.

Experience: Since leaving the classroom in 2024, I use the same tried-and-true methods I've seen success with when I worked with my most challenging students. I got my start teaching in-person adult drawing classes and figure drawing through the Creative Arts Center in Lincroft NJ for over a decade. I show participants and their work respect by using tracing paper to inform their next step. My abilities to coach individuals through the emotional challenges of creative risk taking is why I see repeat participants.

Special instructions/supplies: To carry out the workshop, I will need tables and chairs for each participant. Orientation of furniture in the room is contingent on the the exercise I will be facilitating. In most cases, I supply all the materials. For large classes I wear a microphone headset and may use a PA speaker if the space provides it.

Preferred # of participants per workshop: One-on-one opportunities are of the same quality as group workshops. I can accommodate a large group for restaurant settings, or smaller groups in libraries and classrooms.

Preferred student type: I work with middle and high schoolers, homeschoolers, adults and seniors. All lessons are adapted for the needs, skills, and ages of the participants, providing the ages of participants are in the same range.

Preferred day of week and times: Intro to drawing can be a 4 week semester course or a one-time event where we cover the basics at beginner level. This workshop is 2 hours long.