

— INSPIRE. CREATE. CONNECT. —

Creative Programming *Catalog*



FALL & WINTER 2026



FLAME TIP
STUDIO

Jenny Santa Maria

TEACHING ARTIST & SPECIAL EDUCATOR



Hi,
I'm Jenny!

Perhaps my greatest gift is bringing out the gifts in others. Since earning my Masters in Art Education and Special Education in 2013, I've worked with adults, mature adults and underprivileged teens; populations often challenged by anxiety, self-doubt and perfectionism. After more than a decade in special education, I shifted my focus to what I believe is the most underserved population in the arts- the general public. Across 9 counties in New Jersey, these workshops are celebrated for their welcoming atmosphere, clear coaching-style instruction, and an emphasis on social-emotional wellbeing.

All programs are fully mobile. I provide all artist-quality supplies, handle setup and cleanup, respect each venue as if it were my own, and ensure the space is left clean with the program concluded on schedule. By arranging the tables in a U-shape, I aim to create space for conversation and connection. Those familiar with my teaching style know that they'll not only learn a skill, but often make a friend in the process.

It's a privilege to witness participants move past their limiting beliefs and discover there is no such thing as a "non-artist"—only artists with something in their way. In a culture that often feels rushed and disconnected, I believe the arts remind us that creativity belongs to everyone. Art making is a healthy practice that helps us slow down, be present, express ourselves in a healthy way, and reconnect with both ourselves and one another.



FLAME TIP
S T U D I O

Creative Programs

for Adults and Mature Adults

PROGRAM	FEE (all materials included)
<p>Charcoal for “Non-Artists” (Fall-inspired)</p> <p>Never taken an art class before? Want to produce realistic work? This class was designed especially for “non-artists”. This hands-on workshop will introduce you to the timeless observational drawing techniques artists have used for centuries. Working from carefully curated still lifes featuring bones, pumpkins, flowers, and other seasonal objects, you'll learn how to create depth, form, and realistic shading using vine charcoal. Presented by Teaching Artist, Jenny Santa Maria, you'll discover why this celebrated workshop has helped hundreds of participants across New Jersey create drawings they never imagined possible in just one session. Discover the joy of drawing from life and the confidence that comes with learning a new way to see.</p>	<p>\$350 for up to 20 registrants</p>
<p>Paint like the Impressionists: Watercolor Pencils 101</p> <p>Experience the best of drawing and painting with watercolor pencils! In this unique workshop, you'll discover how watercolor pencils combine the precision of drawing with the fluid beauty of watercolor painting. Learn how to blend color, create beautiful gradients, and activate your artwork with water to create vibrant watercolor effects. Inspired by the Impressionist masters, each participant will sketch and paint a favorite masterpiece while building observational drawing skills and confidence with brushes. We'll be using artist-quality Derwent and Castle Arts watercolor pencils, and all supplies are included. No experience is necessary. Join Teaching Artist Jenny Santa Maria for a memorable creative experience and discover the magic of painting with pencils!</p>	<p>\$400 for up to 20 registrants</p>
<p>Art for the “Non-Artist”</p> <p>Created especially for those who don't consider themselves artists, you'll learn foundational observational drawing techniques while creating a stunning, realistic feather drawing using Prismacolor colored pencils. In a supportive, encouraging environment, Teaching Artist and Art Coach Jenny Santa Maria will guide you step by step, showing you how artists learn to truly see the world around them. Whether you haven't picked up a pencil since grade school or have always believed you "can't draw," you'll leave with new skills, renewed confidence, and artwork you'll be proud to display.</p>	<p>\$300 for up to 20 registrants</p>
<p>Stamping 101</p> <p>Unleash your creativity in this beginner-friendly workshop! Discover the creative possibilities of rubber stamps and artist-quality inks while learning techniques that go far beyond simply stamping an image. Explore how to layer designs, mask portions of a stamp, create repeating patterns, and experiment with a variety of inks and stamping methods. Along the way, you'll create your own handmade cards and custom envelopes while gaining skills you can use to personalize stationery, gift wrap, journals, and future art projects.</p>	<p>\$400 for up to 20 registrants</p>

More Creative Programs

for Adults and Mature Adults

PROGRAM	FEE (all materials included)
<p>Creative Mending</p> <p>Repair can be joyful! In this hands-on needlework workshop, we'll explore simple, functional mending and embroidery techniques that help extend the life of well-loved clothing. Together, we'll cover all the basics and practice essential stitches for hemming, reverse appliqué, and an introduction to darning. Led by Teaching Artist, Jenny Santa Maria, this class treats needlework as a caring and creative act. You'll gain hands-on skills and experience how acts of repair extend beyond fabric and into how we care for one another.</p>	<p>\$400 for up to 16 registrants</p>
<p>Needlefelting 101</p> <p>With a rainbow of wool fibers and a variety of cookie-cutter forms to inspire your designs, participants will be introduced to the art of needle felting while exploring how we cultivate joy and use our creativity in service of the needs within our community. In partnership with the Monmouth SPCA, participants will create a felted project to keep and a catnip-filled toy to donate to a shelter cat. Led by Teaching Artist Jenny Santa Maria, this workshop is sure to be heart-felt experience.</p>	<p>\$400 for up to 20 registrants</p>
<p>Watercolor Ferns</p> <p>Think watercolor is too difficult, or that you've never been "artistic" enough to try? This workshop is designed especially for beginners and self-proclaimed "non-artists". Using watercolor pencils and vibrant watercolor inks, you'll be guided step by step as we paint elegant ferns. Along the way, you'll learn simple techniques that make watercolor feel approachable and give you greater control over color, blending, and composition. The process is calming, the colors are luminous, and participants are always surprised by what they're able to create in just one session. You'll leave with a finished botanical painting, new creative confidence, and the realization that watercolor is far more approachable than you ever imagined.</p>	<p>\$400 for up to 16 registrants</p>
<p>Lecture & Art Making Programs</p> <p>Libraries frequently invite me to present engaging art history programs that combine a one-hour interactive lecture with a one-hour hands-on art workshop. Using dynamic, visually rich slideshows, participants explore major art movements such as Ancient Greece, Impressionism, and American Art, or take a deeper dive into the lives and work of artists like Vincent van Gogh, Frida Kahlo, Georgia O'Keeffe, Michelangelo, and Pablo Picasso. These presentations are informative, accessible, and consistently draw strong attendance. Each lecture is followed by a guided art-making experience inspired by the featured artist or movement, allowing participants to immediately apply what they've learned.</p>	<p>\$400 for up to 40 registrants</p>

Creative Programs

for Children and Teens

Activity	Fee (all materials included)
<p>Move, Draw, Create! Keith Haring Self-Portraits (ages 5-8)</p> <p>Get ready for an exciting drawing adventure inspired by the joyful artwork of Keith Haring! Young artists will discover how simple shapes, expressive poses, and motion lines can bring their drawings to life while learning about Haring's artistic style. We'll practice thumbnail sketching to brainstorm before creating a colorful self-portrait doing a favorite fall activity—playing sports, jumping into leaves, hiking, dancing, or another autumn adventure. All supplies are included. Join certified Art Educator and Teaching Artist Jenny Santa Maria for this energetic celebration of movement, creativity, and self-expression!</p>	<p>\$300 up to 12 children *must be accompanied by an adult</p>
<p>Embroidery 101 (Perfect for Young Adults and Adult Learners)</p> <p>In this beginner-friendly embroidery workshop, we'll cover the split stitch, French knot, easy needle-threading techniques, and more. A variety of templates and visual references will be available for inspiration, so participants can follow a pattern or design their own. You'll leave with the skills to make embroidery a joyful, portable part of your creative life.</p> <p>(Upgrade this program with 100% cotton totes for all participants -an additional \$50)</p>	<p>\$350 up to 18 registrants</p>
<p>Dive Into Color: An exploration of watercolor pencils: Ages 7–12</p> <p>Young artists will love learning new drawing and painting techniques in one fun workshop! Using watercolor pencils, we will learn step-by-step how to draw seashells, beach treasures, and ocean life before adding their own creative details to create a one of a kind scene at the beach. Along the way, we'll explore how to blend colors, create gradients, and activate our drawings with water to create vibrant watercolor effects. Young artists will practice foundational drawing and painting techniques. All supplies are included, including artist-quality watercolor pencils, brushes, paper, and beautiful shells for inspiration. Join certified Art Educator, Jenny Santa Maria, for a colorful adventure that's shore to spark creativity!</p>	<p>\$400 up to 12 children *must be accompanied by an adult</p>
<p>Draw Along: Day of the Dead Skulls (Ages 7–12)</p> <p>Celebrate the vibrant traditions of Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) while discovering the art and symbolism behind this meaningful cultural celebration. Participants will learn how Día de los Muertos honors ancestors and loved ones in Mexico and many other Spanish-speaking communities. Through step-by-step instruction, young artists will draw a decorative sugar skull (calavera), learn to draw marigolds—the iconic flower of the holiday—and personalize their artwork with colorful patterns and creative details. All artist-quality supplies are included. Join certified Art Educator and Teaching Artist Jenny Santa Maria for a thoughtful celebration of art and culture.</p>	<p>\$300 up to 12 children *must be accompanied by an adult</p>



Virtual PROGRAMS

Over the years, I've offered a variety of virtual programs through libraries and senior communities, consistently drawing strong attendance. These sessions remain among my most accessible and far-reaching offerings.

Each one combines a dynamic slideshow with a live, step-by-step draw-along using an overhead camera. These sessions highlight the strength and perseverance of artists, and inspire personal expression. I love being able to share the arts in a way that meets people where they are—right at home.



FEE FOR 1.5 HOUR PROGRAM: VIRTUAL LECTURE WITH "DRAW ALONG": \$200



ART MOVEMENTS:

- **Ancient Greece and Rome** – Participants draw Greek pottery in the three styles discussed.
- **Ancient Egyptian Art** – Concludes with drawing a scarab.
- **The Renaissance** – Focuses on cross-hatching techniques, drawing like Michelangelo.
- **Impressionism** – A favorite among mature adults, featuring a draw-along to reimagine Monet's bridge.
- **New York's Finest: Warhol, Haring & Basquiat in the 1980s** – Design a pop art-inspired shoe.



ARTISTS:

- **The Life and Legacy of Alma Thomas** – *Reimagining one of her vibrant works.
(It's always a joy to share the work of Alma Thomas—both during Black History Month and throughout the year—while also acknowledging the challenges she faced as a Black woman artist in the segregated American South.)*
- **Salvador Dalí** – *concluding with a whimsical clock drawing inspired by "The Persistence of Memory"*
- **The Life and Legacy of Michelangelo** – *concluding with cross-hatched bird drawing*
- **Keith Haring** – *concluding with a reimagining of "Two Figures with Red Heart"*
- **Pablo Picasso** – *A survey of his many artistic periods, ending with a recreation of "Girl Before a Mirror"*
- **Frida Kahlo** – *concluding with a step-by-step draw along of a sugar skull*

I believe art has the power to build a healthier and more compassionate society, and it would be an privilege to help fulfill that vision at your branch. I work with libraries across the region to offer adaptable, thoughtfully designed creative programming that align with grant goals and community needs. Each program can be tailored to support creative aging, youth engagement, or inclusive programming, and is easily adapted for individuals with special needs. I'd welcome the opportunity to discuss possibilities for collaboration.



Art for the "non-artist", Princeton Public Library



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