

ART INSPIRED ACADEMY

January-June 2025

Art Academy is a program of Abilities First. We offer inclusive classes in music and a variety of art mediums. Art Academy provides a safe, accepting environment for artists and performers of all abilities. Our professional staff guides our students to develop confidence and character while exploring creative arts.

We accept a variety of funding sources including private pay, Medicaid Waiver, limited Southwest Autism Project funding (SWAP), limited funding for CC Links individuals, and we offer a limited number of scholarships. You must enroll prior to the start of class and indicate a funding source.



To register, call 417-886-0404, extension 4 or email us at aiacademy@abilitiesfirst.net. All individuals must call or email our office to register for classes. Available classes are viewable on our website, <https://abilitiesfirst.net/art-academy/>

2025 Class Descriptions

Jan/February/March/April 2025

Hybrid Check In Cash Out (Ages 16+) \$241

Students will learn about advocacy, communication, managing conflict and stress, internet safety, money management, and volunteering. Student supplies will be provided to seated students. Those participating online will receive a zoom link and reminder email before classes begin and will require paper and pencil. The class will meet 6 times on Tuesdays from 5:00 pm-7:00 pm from Jan. 28th through March 4th, 2025. Students will have the option of participating online or a seated class option at The Drew Lewis Foundation located at 1126 N Broadway, Springfield, MO. Class is limited to 15 students. Instructors: Bobbi Bellamy, Scott Steelman, Kristi Kliewer

Preschool Early Spring Art (Ages 3-6) \$188

Students will create various early spring themed art projects using construction paper, crayons, and paper plates. Students may have the assistance of a support individual as needed. Student supplies will be provided. The class will meet 5 times on Tuesdays from 4:00 pm-5:00 pm from Feb. 25th through April 1st, 2025 (no class on March 18th). This class will be held at Arthur Mallory Early Childhood Center located at 2525 W. College Road, Springfield, MO. Class is limited to 8 students. Instructor: Debbie Akers

Zoom Color Pencil Drawing (all ages) \$181

Students will learn how to draw various animal shapes both realistic and animated. Student may have the assistance of a support individual as needed. Students will provide their own color pencils and paper. The class will meet 6 times on Zoom. Classes will be held on Wednesdays at 10:00 am-11:00 am, February 26th through April 2nd, 2025. The class is limited to 10 students. Instructor: Debbie Akers

Child Hybrid Animal Painting (Ages 6 and 12) \$271

Students will complete various animal themed acrylic paintings. Students may have the assistance of a support individual as needed. Zoom student supplies will be doorstep delivered. Supplies will be provided upon arrival. Class will meet 6 times on Mondays from 5:00 pm-6:30 pm from Feb. 24th through March 31st, 2025. This class will be held at AcompanARTE Cultural Center, located at 1530 S. Glenstone, Springfield, MO 65804. Class is limited to 10 students. Instructor: Debbie Akers.

Create-A-Puppet (Ages 6-12) \$271

Students will create and assemble their very own puppet pal with provided materials. Students may have the assistance of a support individual as needed. This class will meet 6 times on Fridays from 2:00 pm-3:30 pm on Feb 28th through April 4th. Class is limited to 10 students. Location: Drew Lewis 1126 N Broadway Ave, Springfield, MO 65802 Instructor: Spencer Tilley

Lego Inventions (Ages 6-12) \$271

Students will use Legos to collaborate and build a variety of creative, crazy contraptions! Students may have the assistance of a support individual as needed. This class will meet 6 times on Fridays from 4:30 pm-6:00 pm on Feb 28th through April 4th. Class is limited to 10 students. Location: Drew Lewis 1126 N Broadway Ave, Springfield, MO 65802 Instructor: Spencer Tilley

Making Sound Effects (Ages 6-12) \$271

Students use a variety of household materials to learn the art of foley sound and to make their own sound effects. Students may have the assistance of a support individual as needed. This class will meet 6 times on Wednesdays from 2:00 pm-3:30 pm on Feb 26th through April 2nd. Class is limited to 10 students. Location: CC Links 1549 N Commercial Rd, Nixa MO 65714. Instructor: Spencer Tilley

Adult Hybrid Animal Painting (Ages 13+) \$271

Students will complete various animal themed acrylic paintings. Students may have the assistance of a support individual as needed. Zoom student supplies will be doorstep delivered. Supplies will be provided upon arrival. Class will meet 6 times on Mondays from 3:00 pm-4:30 pm from Feb. 24th through March 31st, 2025. This class will be held at AcompanARTE Cultural Center, located at 1530 S. Glenstone, Springfield, MO 65804. Class is limited to 10 students. Instructor: Debbie Akers

Indoor/Outdoor Photography (Ages 13+) \$339

Students will learn various photography guidelines while taking pictures in various indoor locations with outdoor availability in Springfield. Students may have the assistance of a support individual as needed. Student cameras will be provided. The class will meet 6 times on Thursdays from 12:30 pm-2:00 pm from Feb. 27th through April 3rd, 2025. First class will meet at Bass Pro main entrance located at 1 Bass Pro Dr, Springfield, MO 65807. Classes will be held at a variety of indoor facilities in the Springfield, MO area. Class is limited to 8 students. Instructor: Debbie Akers.

Animal Portrait Drawing (Ages 13+) \$271

Students will complete various animal portrait drawings. Students may have the assistance of a support individual as needed. Supplies will be provided upon arrival. Class will meet 6 times on Tuesdays from 1:00 pm-2:30 pm from Feb. 25th through April 1st, 2025. CC Links 1549 N Commercial Rd, Nixa MO 65714. Class is limited to 10 students. Instructor: Debbie Akers

Hybrid Tropical Island Watercolor Painting (ages 13+) \$181

Students will complete various tropical island themed watercolor paintings in this seated class. Students may have the assistance of a support individual as needed. Zoom student supplies will be doorstep delivered. Supplies will be provided upon arrival. Class will meet 6 times on Tuesdays from 6:00 pm-7:00 pm from Feb. 25th through April 1st, 2025. This class will be held at AcompanARTE Cultural Center located at 1530 S. Glenstone Ave, Springfield, MO 65804. Class is limited to 10 students. Instructor: Debbie Akers

Feb March Sculpture (Ages 13 and up) \$271

Students will create 3-dimensional sculpture pieces using various art materials. Students may have the assistance of a support individual as needed. Supplies will be provided upon arrival. Classes will meet 6 times on Wednesdays from 4:00 pm-5:30 pm, Feb. 26th through April 2nd, 2025. Location to be determined. Class is limited to 10 students. Instructor: Debbie Akers

Comic Book Creation (ages 13 and up) \$271

Students will create comic graphics to illustrate their own comic book and learn basic bookbinding techniques. Students may have the assistance of a support individual as needed. Supplies will be provided upon arrival. Class will meet 6 times. Classes will be held on Thursdays at 3:00 pm -4:30 pm from Feb. 27th through April 3rd, 2025. This class will be held TBD. Class is limited to 10 students. Instructor: Debbie Akers

Auditioning for the Stage (Ages 13+) \$271

Students will learn the best tips, tricks, and practices needed to audition for a stage play. Students may have the assistance of a support individual as needed. This class will meet 6 times on Tuesdays from 4:00 pm-5:30 pm on Feb 25th through April 1st. Class is limited to 10 students. Classes will be held at Hood United Methodist Church, 139 N Walnut Ave, Republic MO 65738. Instructor: Spencer Tilley

Feb March Music Appreciation (Ages 13+) \$271

Students will explore different genres of music and possibly find some new favorites along the way. Students may have the assistance of a support individual as needed. Supplies will be provided upon arrival. This class will meet 6 times on Tuesdays from 1:00 pm-2:30 pm on February 25th through April 1st. Class is limited to 10 students. Location to be determined. Instructor: Spencer Tilley

Prop Design (Ages 13+) \$271

Students use a variety of materials to learn how to make fun stage props. Students may have the assistance of a support individual as needed. This class will meet 6 times on Wednesdays from 11:00 am-12:30 pm on Feb 26th through April 2nd. Class is limited to 10 students. Location to be determined Instructor: Spencer Tilley

Movement On Stage (Ages 13+) \$271

Students will learn proper stage movement, simple dance, and have fun together moving on stage! Students may have the assistance of a support individual as needed. This class will meet 6 times on Mondays from 3:30-5pm on March 3rd through April 7th. Class is limited to 10 students. This class will be held at National Heights Baptist Church 3050 S National, Springfield MO 65803. Instructor: Spencer Tilley

Spring Poetry (Ages 13+) \$271

Students will learn about writing and reciting a variety of poetry themed to the season. Students may have the assistance of a support individual as needed. This class will meet 6 times on Fridays from 11:00 am-12:30 pm on Feb 28th through April 4th. Class is limited to 10 students. Location to be determined Instructor: Spencer Tilley

April/May 2025

Preschool Spring Art (Ages 3-6) \$226

Students will create various spring themed art projects using construction paper, crayons, and paper plates. Students may have the assistance of a support individual as needed. Student supplies will be provided. The class will meet 6 times on Tuesdays from 4:00 pm-5:00 pm from April 15th through May 20th, 2025. This class will be held at Arthur Mallory Early Childhood Center located at 2525 W. College Road, Springfield, MO. Class is limited to 8 students. Instructor: Debbie Akers

Zoom Minecraft Drawing (all ages) \$181

Students will learn how to draw various Minecraft characters. Students may have the assistance of a support individual as needed. Students will provide their own pencil and paper. The class will meet 6 times on Zoom. Classes will be held on Wednesdays from 10:00 am-11:00 am, April 16th through May 21st, 2025. The class is limited to 10 students. Instructor: Debbie Akers

Child Hybrid Cartoon Character Painting (Ages 6 and 12) \$271

Students will complete various cartoon character themed acrylic paintings. Students may have the assistance of a support individual as needed. Zoom student supplies will be doorstep delivered Supplies will be provided upon arrival. Class will meet 6 times on Mondays from 5:00 pm-6:30 pm from April 14th through May 19th, 2025. This class will be held at AcompanARTE Cultural Center, located at 1530 S. Glenstone, Springfield, MO 65804. Class is limited to 10 students. Instructor: Debbie Akers.

Production Class Kids (Ages 6-12) \$452

Students in this class will prepare, rehearse, and perform a full theatre production! Students will collaborate together to perform on stage and backstage to create a successful show. Students may have the assistance of a support individual as needed. Performance location and performance dates to be determined. This class will meet 12 times on Fridays from 4:00 pm-5:30 pm on April 18th through July 18th (no class July 4th). Class is limited to 12 students. Location: Drew Lewis 1126 N Broadway Ave, Springfield, MO 65802. Instructor: Spencer Tilley

Theatre Creations Kids (Ages 6-12) \$271

Students will play a variety of theatre games to learn cooperative skills, performance techniques, and how to have fun on stage! Students may have the assistance of a support individual as needed. This class will meet 6 times on Tuesdays from 4:30 pm-6:00 pm on April 15th through May 20th. Class is limited to 10 students. Classes will be held at Hood United Methodist Church, 139 N Walnut Ave, Republic MO 65738. Instructor: Spencer Tilley

Adult Hybrid Cartoon Character Painting (Ages 13+) \$271

Students will complete various cartoon character themed acrylic paintings. Students may have the assistance of a support individual as needed. Zoom student supplies will be doorstep delivered. Supplies will be provided upon arrival. Class will meet 6 times on Mondays from 3:00 pm-4:30 pm from April 14th through May 19th, 2025. This class will be held at AcompanARTE Cultural Center, located at 1530 S. Glenstone, Springfield, MO 65804. Class is limited to 10 students. Instructor: Debbie Akers

Mixed Media Drawing (Ages 13+) \$271

Students will complete various mixed media drawings. Students may have the assistance of a support individual as needed. Supplies will be provided upon arrival. Class will meet 6 times on Tuesdays from 1:00 pm-2:30 pm from April 15th through May 20th, 2025. This class will be held at National Heights Baptist Church 3050 S National, Springfield MO 65803. Class is limited to 10 students. Instructor: Debbie Akers

Hybrid Spring Watercolor Painting (ages 13+) \$271

Students will complete various spring themed watercolor paintings in this seated class. Students may have the assistance of a support individual as needed. Zoom student supplies will be doorstep delivered. Supplies will be provided upon arrival. Class will meet 6 times on Tuesdays from 6:00 pm-7:00 pm from April 15th through May 20th, 2025. This class will be held at AcompanARTE Cultural Center located at 1530 S. Glenstone Ave, Springfield, MO 65804. Class is limited to 10 students. Instructor: Debbie Akers

Printmaking (Ages 13 and up) \$271

Students will explore various printmaking techniques to create personalized prints. Students may have the assistance of a support individual as needed. Supplies will be provided on arrival. Classes will meet 6 times on Wednesdays from 4:00 pm-5:30 pm, April 16th through May 21st, 2025. Class is limited to 10 students. Instructor: Debbie Akers

Oil and Chalk Pastel Drawing (ages 13 and up) \$271

Students will be introduced to various oil and chalk pastel techniques and create beautiful pastel drawings. Students may have the assistance of a support individual as needed. Supplies will be provided upon arrival. Class will meet 6 times. Classes will be held on Thursdays at 3:00-4:30 pm from April 17th through May 22nd, 2025. This class will be held at National Heights Baptist Church 3050 S National, Springfield MO 65803.. Class is limited to 10 students. Instructor: Debbie Akers

Spring Photography (Ages 13+) \$339

Students will learn various photography guidelines while taking pictures in various indoor locations in Springfield. Students may have the assistance of a support individual as needed. Student cameras will be provided. The class will meet 6 times on Thursdays from 12:30pm-2:00pm from April 17th through May 22nd, 2025. First class will meet at Bass Pro main entrance located at 1 Bass Pro Dr, Springfield, MO 65807. Classes will be held at a variety of indoor facilities in the Springfield, MO area. Class is limited to 8 students. Instructor: Debbie Akers.

A Proper British Dialect (Ages 13+) \$271

Ever wanted to have a right-proper British voice? Students will learn the tricks and sounds of a Standard British Dialect. Students may have the assistance of a support individual as needed. This class will meet 6 times on Mondays from 10:00 am-11:30 am on April 14th through May 19th. Class is limited to 10 students. Location to be determined. Instructor: Spencer Tilley

Designing With Lights (Ages 13+) \$271

Learn a classic technical theatre trade by utilizing and designing with various light sources. Students may have the assistance of a support individual as needed. This class will meet 6 times on Wednesdays from 1:00pm-2:30pm on April 16th through May 21st. Class is limited to 10 students. This class will be held at National Heights Baptist Church 3050 S National, Springfield MO 65803. Instructor: Spencer Tilley

Mask Making (Ages 6-12) \$271

Explore the rich history of theatre by using unique materials to create performance masks! Students may have the assistance of a support individual as needed. This class will meet 6 times on Wednesdays from 4:00 pm-5:30 pm on April 16th through May 21st. Class is limited to 10 students. Location to be determined. Instructor: Spencer Tilley

Improv Games (Ages 13+) \$271

Students will collaborate and play theatre games with each other to build improv performance skills. Students may have the assistance of a support individual as needed. This class will meet 6 times on Mondays from 3:30 pm-5:00 pm on April 14th through May 19th. Class is limited to 10 students. This class will be held at National Heights Baptist Church 3050 S National, Springfield MO 65803. Instructor: Spencer Tilley

Production Class Adult (Ages 13+) \$602

Students in this class will prepare, rehearse, and perform a full theatre production! Students will collaborate together to perform on stage and backstage to create a successful show. Students may have the assistance of a support individual as needed. Performance, location and performance dates to be determined. This class will meet 12 times on Fridays from 11:00 pm-1:00 pm on April 18th through July 18th (no class July 4th). Class limited to 12 students. Location: Drew Lewis 1126 N Broadway Ave, Springfield, MO 65802 Instructor: Spencer Tilley

Theatre Creations Adult (Ages 13+) \$271

Students will play a variety of theatre games to learn cooperative skills, performance techniques, and how to have fun on stage! Students may have the assistance of a support individual as needed. This class will meet 6 times on Tuesdays from 1:30 pm-3:00 pm on April 15th through May 20th. Class is limited to 10 students. Classes will be held at Hood United Methodist Church, 139 N Walnut Ave, Republic MO 65738. Instructor: Spencer Tilley

June/July 2025

Preschool Summer Art (Ages 3-6) \$226

Students will create various spring themed art projects using construction paper, crayons, and paper plates. Students may have the assistance of a support individual as needed. Student supplies will be provided. The class will meet 6 times on Tuesdays from 4:00 pm-5:00 pm from June 3rd through July 8th, 2025. This class will be held TBD. Class is limited to 8 students. Instructor: Debbie Akers

Zoom Wildlife Drawing (All ages) \$181

Students will learn how to draw various wildlife animals both animated and realistic. Students may have the assistance of a support individual as needed. Students will provide their own pencil and paper. The class will meet 6 times on Zoom. Classes will be held on Wednesdays from 10:00 am-11:00 am, June 4th through July 9th, 2025. The class is limited to 10 students. Instructor: Debbie Akers

Theatre Around the World (Ages 6-12) \$271

Embark on a tour of theatre from all over the world through a variety of games, crafts, and activities. Students may have the assistance of a support individual as needed. This class will meet 6 times on Mondays from 2:00 pm-3:30 pm on June 2nd through July 7th. Class is limited to 10 students. Location to be determined. Instructor: Spencer Tilley

Child Hybrid Beach Painting (Ages 6 and 12) \$271

Students will complete various beach themed acrylic paintings. Students may have the assistance of a support individual as needed. Zoom student supplies will be doorstep delivered. Supplies will be provided upon arrival. Class will meet 6 times on Mondays from 5:00 pm-6:30 pm from June 2nd through July 7th, 2025. This class will be held at AcompanARTE Cultural Center, located at 1530 S. Glenstone, Springfield, MO 65804. Class is limited to 10 students. Instructor: Debbie Akers.

Lego Scene Design (Ages 6-12) \$271

Students will use Legos to create their favorite scenes and moments from movies and TV. Students may have the assistance of a support individual as needed. This class will meet 6 times on Wednesdays from 4:30 pm-6:00 pm on June 4th through July 9th. Class is limited to 10 students. Location to be determined. Instructor: Spencer Tilley

Movement to Music (Ages 6-12) \$271

Join us for a great session of activity and movement as we exercise and dance to music! Students may have the assistance of a support individual as needed. This class will meet 6 times on Mondays from 10:00 am-11:30 am on June 2nd through July 7th. Class is limited to 10 students. Location to be determined. Instructor: Spencer Tilley

Adult Hybrid Beach Painting (Ages 13+) \$271

Students will complete various beach themed acrylic paintings. Students may have the assistance of a support individual as needed. Zoom student supplies will be doorstep delivered. Supplies will be provided upon arrival. Class will meet 6 times on Mondays from 3:00 pm-4:30 pm from June 2nd through July 7th, 2025. This class will be held at AcompanARTE Cultural Center, located at 1530 S. Glenstone, Springfield, MO 65804. Class is limited to 10 students. Instructor: Debbie Akers

Summer Pastel and Colored Pencil Drawing (Ages 13+) \$271

Students will complete various pastel and colored pencil drawings. Students may have the assistance of a support individual as needed. Supplies will be provided upon arrival. Class will meet 6 times on Tuesdays from 1:00 pm-2:30 pm from June 3rd through July 8th, 2025. This class will be held at TBD. Class is limited to 10 students. Instructor: Debbie Akers

Hybrid Summertime Watercolor Painting (ages 13+) \$271

Students will complete various summertime themed watercolor paintings in this seated class. Students may have the assistance of a support individual as needed. Zoom student supplies will be doorstep delivered. Supplies will be provided upon arrival. Class will meet 6 times on Tuesdays from 6:00 pm-7:00 pm from June 2nd through July 8th, 2025. This class will be held at AcompanARTE Cultural Center located at 1530 S. Glenstone Ave, Springfield, MO 65804. Class is limited to 10 students. Instructor: Debbie Akers

June July Sculpture (Ages 13 and up) \$271

Students will create 3-dimensional sculpture pieces using various art materials. Students may have the assistance of a support individual as needed. Supplies will be provided up arrival. Classes will meet 6 times on Wednesdays from 4:00 pm-5:30 pm, June 4th through July 9th, 2025. Class is limited to 10 students. Instructor: Debbie Akers

Indoor/Outdoor Walking (Ages 13+) \$271

Students will walk and move around in various indoor and outdoor locations in Springfield. Students may have the assistance of a support individual as needed. The class will meet 6 times on Thursdays from 12:30 pm-2:00 pm from June 5th through July 10th, 2025. First class will meet at Bass Pro main entrance located at 1 Bass Pro Dr, Springfield, MO 65807. Classes will be held at a variety of indoor facilities in the Springfield, MO area. The class is limited to 8 students. Instructor: Debbie Akers.

Drawing From Observation (ages 13 and up) \$271

Students will be introduced to drawing various subjects from observing them closely and capturing the subject with the use of line and shading techniques. Students may have the assistance of a support individual as needed. Supplies will be provided upon arrival. Class will meet 6 times. Classes will be held on Thursdays at 3:00 pm -4:30 pm from June 5th through July 10th, 2025. This class will be held TBD. The class is limited to 10 students. Instructor: Debbie Akers

Auditioning for the Stage (Ages 13+) \$271

Students will learn the best tips, tricks, and practices needed to audition for a stage play. Students may have the assistance of a support individual as needed. This class will meet 6 times on Tuesdays from 1:30 pm-3:00 pm on June 3rd through July 8th. Class is limited to 10 students. Classes will be held at Hood United Methodist Church, 139 N Walnut Ave, Republic MO 65738. Instructor: Spencer Tilley

June July Music Appreciation (Ages 13+) \$271

Students will explore different genres of music and possibly find some new favorites along the way. Students may have the assistance of a support individual as needed. Supplies will be provided upon arrival. This class will meet 6 times on Tuesdays from 1:30 pm -3:00 pm on June 4th through July 9th. Class is limited to 10 students. Location to be determined. Instructor: Spencer Tilley

Scavenger Sleuths (Ages 13+) \$271

Students will crack the case and cooperate by solving escape-room style mysteries and puzzles! Students may have the assistance of a support individual as needed. This class will meet 6 times on Tuesdays from 4:00pm-5:30pm on June 3rd through July 8th. Class is limited to 10 students. Location to be determined. Instructor: Spencer Tilley