



Meet Kathy Orcavec, Visual Arts Faculty

Interview by Susan Beck, Volunteer and FCA Alumni (Thank you Susan!)

Visual Arts Instructor Kathy Sabbath Oravec has taught at Fairmount Center since 2016. She is a graduate of Ursuline College with a Bachelor of Arts in Graphic Design/Art Education and a Teacher-in-Residence at the Holden Arboretum. Her watercolors are in collections across the United States and in the Netherlands. She also wrote and illustrated a children's picture book, "The Frog and the Footbridge." She lives in the vineyard region of Northeast Ohio with her husband Mark and toy American Eskimo dog Hana.

1. How would you describe your teaching style?

My style is student centered, which means that I do whatever it takes to assist my students in translating their ideas creatively into artwork they are proud of.

2. How many hours a week do you spend on your own art?

I try to paint every day for at least two hours.

3. Do you have an artwork that you've created that you're most proud of?

I have many paintings that are important to me for different reasons, but I especially like when my artwork helps other people. I created two paintings for the Easter Seal Society to be used as Easter seals. I also received a copyrighting contract for a painting I did to be used for a Christmas card for Kenny's Cards Courageous, which helps people with disabilities live more independently.

4. What is your favorite art museum?

We have a wonderful Museum of Art in Cleveland! My favorite artist is Winslow Homer and the Cleveland Museum of Art has one of his watercolors titled "The Buccaneers," however one of my most favorite of his painting is titled "a Wall, Nasau."

5. What activities do you enjoy outside of visual arts?

I walk my dog, Hana, everyday, and enjoy observing nature. I also love to have a garden.

6. Do you like to listen to music when you create?

I love all kinds of music, and the kind I listen to depends on what I am painting. I've done a series of paintings from Maui, and I often listen to Hawaiian music.

7. Why should adults consider taking an art class?

I have taught art at every age level from preschool to post graduate students and senior citizens. I truly believe that everyone is an artist with their own style. I will help them find their style and it will be exciting and fun!

Fairmount Center for the Arts fosters a love for the arts in a noncompetitive environment for Northeast Ohioans – from preschoolers to senior citizens – as a gateway to exploration and personal development for all of our citizens and residents.