



ST. MARY'S ART CENTER



Photo by Pura Vida Sierras Art, LLC.

CHILDREN'S SATURDAY ART PROGRAM

Built in 1876, St. Mary's Art Center is the Grand Dame of Virginia City and a cornerstone of one of Nevada's largest National Historic Landmark Districts. High up in the Virginia Range mountains, perched near old Comstock era gold and silver mine shafts, is St Mary's Art Center. Originally a Hospital run by the Daughters of Charity for the community and miners, the property was left empty and abandoned for many years after the Gold Rush declined. Father Meinecke and Louise Curran had great foresight and a plan, saving the property in 1964. St Mary's Hospital became St. Mary's Art Center, dedicated to the Arts and Culture, with the abandoned building became a living, vibrant Art Center. Hundreds of artists, spanning professional to those simply wishing to try something new, have come from all over the world to our art center to instruct, learn, create, commune or enjoy a quiet retreat.

Description

We are looking for independent contractor art teachers who are enthusiastic and interested in teaching art to either of the two age groups listed on the application. Teachers will be responsible for designing and teaching a two-hour studio art class on a given Saturday morning from 9:30 am – 12 pm.

The ideal teacher will be passionate for the job with an ability to reach out to students and create a relationship of mutual trust. They will know how to organize a class and make learning an easy and meaningful process.

Why Teach at St. Mary's Art Center?

- Our facility is an historically important place within the arts and history communities and the Comstock as a whole. This amazing property is inspiring, welcoming and infused with an energy of creativity.
- The potential exists to return to teach additional children's or adult classes exists – we are always excited to offer more classes to the community and artists
- We have a beautiful art studio on our third floor with east, south and western facing windows and light
- On our first floor we have a print room with printing press as well as a dark room for photographers
- Our visitors include the local community and regional visitors, tourists and artists in residence. We collaborate with our community and fellow non-profit organizations, schools and other businesses to provide unique experiences in an equally unique building filled with history.
- The programs we offer are organic and designed to grow and evolve to offer the most to instructors, students and guests. We pride ourselves on our vision and passion to support our mission.
- We offer not only a place to teach a class and meet new people and engage student's minds and hearts, but a retreat-like setting for the instructor to enjoy. Instructors are encouraged to create or simply relax and enjoy Virginia City and our beautiful views.



Photo by Dane Hamon

Instructor Responsibilities

- Complete the Instruction Application and if invited to participate in our program, confirm acceptance of the assignment in a timely manner
- Identify required class supplies and materials and cost to procure at least 2 weeks in advance of the scheduled class. SMAC has some supplies, but clear communication of required items will ensure the class is set up for success in advance.
- Set the maximum number of students allowed for the class to provide the optimum experience
- Set up the classroom in plenty of time before class begins
- Supervise the class and students to fulfill the artistic creation and educational components of the class as well as ensuring the safety of the children during the class and within the building.
- Clean up the classroom after it is done and leave it as you found it

Requirements

- Proven teaching experience
- Certification preferred, but not required
- Approved background check (from your current teaching position is welcome)
- Thorough knowledge of teaching best practices partnered with a willingness to follow the center's policies and procedures
- Provide the Class Plan 2 weeks in advance for review and approval by St. Mary's Art Center Children's Art Program Lead or Executive Director

Instructor Package

- An overnight stay in one of St. Mary's Art Center's guest rooms, including a guest, on Friday or Saturday of the art class weekend. Arrangements for children, additional rooms or nights can be arranged for a fee.
- Use of one of our studio areas to work in for up to 6 hours on Friday or Saturday of the weekend of the instructed class
- The stipend for teaching the 2 1/2 hour class is \$100.00
- Certain materials may be provided by St. Mary's Art Center
- All instructors will work as independent contractors and not as employees of St. Mary's Art Center. 1099 Forms will be provided to instructors at the end of each calendar year for personal tax filings and use.

St. Mary's Art Center offers 16 guest rooms, 5 1/2 bathrooms, an art studio, print room, dark room, 2 kitchens, beautiful front porch and lawn. Our property is off of the main corridor and offers guests an opportunity to enjoy the quiet and beauty of the Comstock. Our property, part of an historical landmark district encompassing a vibrant community and welcoming the wild horses, offers a truly one of a kind experience. For 53 years, artists from all over the world have been creating in St. Mary's Art Center. We look forward to educating and inspiring the next generation to continue the legacy.