



A Message to Parents from DrawBridge

DrawBridge has been offering weekly art programs to homeless children, formerly homeless children, and children in low-income settings since 1989. The most important qualification of a DrawBridge staff person or volunteer is to love children.

DrawBridge art groups provide a special and **safe** place for children, where they can leave stress and worries behind, taking time to just have fun and be a child.

DrawBridge groups are a time to have fun, so we do not expect the children to sit silently or to be perfectly orderly while they make their art. **However, we do ask that children listen to staff and volunteers, and participate in the groups safely and respectfully.**

If a child chooses not to listen to staff and volunteers and/or chooses not to participate in the groups safely and respectfully, he/she will be asked to leave the group but will be encouraged to return for the next group. After that, if the staff and volunteers determine that the child is not ready to be part of the group, he/she may not participate in DrawBridge. **The basic premise of DrawBridge art groups is to provide a safe and supportive environment for all.**

The following are basic guidelines for the children in our groups to have fun and be safe at DrawBridge:

- Keep your hands to yourselves
- Respect each other (kids and adults)
- Art supplies are to be used for art only
- Use inside voices
- Say positive things to others
- Stay in the art room
- Ask for art supplies and respect them
- Have fun, be safe

We are here to listen to the children and to show them that we value their opinions, their feedback, and most of all their presence. DrawBridge is not about teaching art- it is about spending healthy, consistent time with your children.

Thank you for sharing your wonderful children with us!

Please contact our Program Director, Jackie Tabb at: (415) 444.0930 or artheart@sonic.net if you have questions or feedback concerning your child. We would be delighted to hear from you.