



Information and Registration:

203.438.4519

Education Department Mission Statement

It is the mission of the education department of The Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum to harness the power inherent in direct interaction with contemporary art and artists—and to use it to inspire and nurture the big ideas that lead to transformative learning experiences. The studio practices of the Museum's exhibiting artists will inspire our laboratory approach to learning, which engages diverse communities of children, teens, adults, seniors, families, and educators in the creative process. By cultivating critical and creative thinking, and encouraging curiosity and reflection, we will demonstrate how the power and value of art benefits our diverse communities.

The Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum Educational Philosophy:

- The Museum is a laboratory for museum education: we will develop, implement, and evaluate programs that are as inventive, challenging, and timely as the artwork we exhibit.
- We will provide connections between the artists and viewers through active engagement with the actual art objects and artists in our exhibitions.
- Our programs and materials will focus on the process of looking, making connections, and responding creatively to contemporary art in order to unlock ideas about the greater world.
- Each program will be built on respect for the diversity of backgrounds, experiences, and ideas that artists and viewers bring to the Museum.

Art Daze is made possible, in part, by grants from The Cowles Charitable Trust and the Estate of Ruth I. Kraus.



Summer at The Aldrich

Workshops for Children Ages 3 to 12

July 7 – August 14, 2009

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look. look again.

The Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum

258 Main Street, Ridgefield, CT 06877

Tel 203.438.4519, Fax 203.438.0198, www.aldrichart.org



Art Daze

July 7 to 30, 2009

Ages 4 to 6 in the morning Tuesdays and Thursdays 9 to 11 am

Per two-day workshop: \$65 Family member; \$80 non-member family*
\$30 discount per child attending three or more workshops

Ages 7 to 12 in the afternoon Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays 1 to 4 pm

Per three-day workshop: \$150 Family member; \$185 non-member family*
\$75 discount per child attending three or more workshops

4 to 6 year olds

Week 1: July 7 and 9: Jeff Johnson—Take a Seat Please!

Join furniture designer Jeff Johnson as he invites participants to explore the wonders of creating one of the most overlooked objects in our everyday life: the chair! Johnson will work with young artists to help them design their own chairs starting from a simple cube. Participants will work with a variety of materials and techniques to complete and embellish their very own pieces of furniture.

Week 2: July 14 and 16: Wendy Gardner —Creature Creations

Wendy Ann Gardner, creator of the Naughty Naughty Pets and founder of SCARY STORIES INC., will teach participants to design their own zany characters that will eventually end up as plush toys! Students will learn how to create characters—developing their personalities and even giving them names—by first drawing and painting, and then transforming them into toys that will beg to be played with.

Week 3: July 21 and 23: Adam Brent—Home Sweet Home

Join installation artist Adam Brent as he helps participants to explore creative ways to become young architects, as well as landscape designers. In this workshop, students will learn about building techniques and the ways plants can create a landscape. Participants will assemble a small A-frame-type dwelling and plant a small garden around it.

Week 4: July 28 and 30—Rebecca White Mushtare —Green Quilts

Join Rebecca White Mushtare as she inspires participants to consider many possibilities for used packaging and shopping bags. By using these materials as the main components of quilts, students will discover new ways to make the most of all the materials that they usually throw away at home. Students will work on one collaborative project and an individual project, and learn about the symbolism in story quilts, crazy quilts, and traditional quilts with traditional patterns.

7 to 12 year-olds

Week 1: July 7 to 9: Jeff Johnson—Tick! Tock! Tick! Tock!

We read them, they have two hands and a face, we race against them, and they help us organize and plan our days. Participants will join artist Jeff Johnson to create their own freestanding clocks using chair parts and other found objects. Students will use paint, rubbings, and other materials to treat the surfaces of their timepieces, as well as designing every detail.

Week 2: July 14 to 16: Wendy Ann Gardner—Designing Toys Builds Characters

Join toy designer and children's book writer and illustrator Wendy Ann Gardner to explore and learn about contemporary character art and see how it is used in advertising, art, and entertainment. Participants will learn how animals, objects, and even people they know, can be the inspiration for their own characters. These will begin as sketches on paper, and magically develop into plush toys over the course of the week!

Week 3: July 21 to 23: Adam Brent—The House that Artists Built

Artist Adam Brent will work with students to creatively explore the many things found in and around the home. Students will spend three days on three separate iconic elements they can associate with a typical home: comfort, nature or plants, and structure. They will discover how to assemble a small A-frame-type dwelling, braid rugs from found fabric, and plant a small garden to surround their structures. Participants will become young landscape architects and map out paths, trees, foliage, and hills.

Week 4: July 28 to 30: Rebecca White Mushtare—Recyclable Quilts

Inspired by her own project titled *Quilted Consumption*, Rebecca White Mushtare will inspire students to see recyclable materials in a different light. They will work on one collaborative project and on at least one individual project, and learn about the symbolism in story quilts, crazy quilts, and traditional quilts with traditional patterns. Participants will also explore how they can use their own creative projects to talk about environmental issues and concerns that are meaningful to them.

The Aldrich Museum offers another exciting summer of workshops with contemporary artists and educators for children aged three to twelve. Participants learn how artists come up with ideas for their artwork, experiment with a wide variety of materials, and enjoy time with friends while creating works only they could imagine. The best part is that they discover that art can be found everywhere and everyday!

Registration is required. All materials and snacks are provided.

Aldrich Buddies Ages 3 to 5 with adult guest

July 8 to August 12, 2009

Wednesdays for six weeks, starting July 8, 2009 10 to 11:30 am

Aldrich Buddies is a program for our youngest visitors and their adult guests. Led by a Museum educator, children and their parents, grandparents, or caretakers are introduced to artwork in our galleries through gallery games and questions, followed by the reading of a storybook that relates to the artwork—its materials, its concepts, its methods, or its subject matter. Children and adults then participate in making an art project that is inspired by the artwork, the storybook, or both. Snacks are provided for the children and their guests. So, come enjoy the Museum with your child and learn how your visits to The Aldrich can be shared long after the summer has ended.

Six-week series: \$100 Family member; \$120 non-member family*
Single workshops: \$20 Family member; \$25 non-member family*

Please continue to check our Web site for details about the workshops that our guest artists will be teaching.

*Please visit our Web site to read about our cancellation policy.

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