

OSEC's October Spotlight: Ann Storck!

Ann has been an active member of ONEgeneration's Senior Enrichment Center for 15 years and teaches an acrylic painting class called *Painting Without Fear* every Tuesday. Her favorite classes to take are the dance classes, especially Zumba, which she has been attending for 12 years! Ann is a native Angeleno, born and raised in the city. She moved frequently throughout her childhood due to her father's acting career, but her favorite place to live was Huntington Park, a wonderful community where she lived and taught for several decades.

Art has always been a part of her life, but teaching is her true passion. Ann has taught a wide range of ages and classes throughout her career. She taught preschoolers in the LAUSD preschool program, students at Cal State LA, and held various positions at St. Matthias, an all-girls Catholic school in Huntington Park, where she taught for 45 years! There, she developed a four-year art program, taught drama (putting on two plays each year), and taught English classes when needed.

When asked about her volunteering experience at OSEC, Ann said, "This has been the most fantastic experience, totally different from anything else I've ever done." Ann enjoys teaching *Painting Without Fear*, encouraging creativity and freedom of expression. Instead of giving prompts or guidelines, Ann encourages members to paint intuitively, letting colors, emotions, and personal inspiration guide their process. Fun Fact: Ann's twin sister, Rachel, attends the painting class too! Ann also volunteers at Descanso Gardens' Sturt Haaga Gallery, where she enjoys being surrounded by both artwork and nature.

Ann's most meaningful accomplishments have come from inspiring people and seeing her students' growth and achievements through the years. Two of her former students are now judges, and one is a city council member in South Gate! She is most proud of her students' accomplishments.

If Ann had one piece of advice to share with the world, it would be: "Please be kind to each other." During her college years at LACC, Ann's Sociology professor shared a piece of wisdom that has stayed with her ever since. "We are like everybody. We are like some people. We are like nobody."

Join Ann's art class, *Painting Without Fear*, in the OSEC Art Room every Tuesday from 10:00-11:00am.