

Mill Studio Arts brings art lessons to the Community

Wednesday's are a hum of activity and creative energy at Mill Studio Arts in North Dam Mill with the student's lively chatter filling the room as they learn, explore and create.

We recently visited with local artist and teacher, Amy Goodness to learn more about her newest venture offering art lessons in her bright and welcoming studio.

Amy has been an Art educator for the past 15 years, and is also the artist behind the "mini Maine" necklace and other handmade Maine-themed fine jewelry sold online and at small retailers throughout the state. <https://amyrose.me/>

Fueling creative passion in children has always been a passion for Goodness, and bringing art lessons into the community through Mill Studio Arts means she can reach more families and more children than she could in a traditional classroom.

Her dynamic art lessons are designed to engage innate curiosity and wonder about the world.

During a recent class, kids learned about the different types of brushes they were working with, and then practiced mixing the paint and water to explore the different strokes and lines they could create, before moving on to create their own unique works of art.

In compliance with current COVID-19 safety standards, all lessons are capped at 8 students, and family groups are encouraged to book together and allowed to sit together. Students are seated at least 6 feet apart from one another, and face coverings are required.

In each class, students practice a variety of art making processes using different materials each week.

"We get messy!" Goodness said. "Emphasis is placed on individuality and creative problem solving. Students are challenged to develop their unique talents they bring to the larger group."

Goodness explained that at the start of each lesson we look at examples of professional artwork and critique what it could be about, how and why the artist created their work and what it means to us. Then they jump in and create.

"I fiercely believe that boosting self esteem and a sense of wonder in children will make this world a better, more beautiful place. These are my goals as a teacher, an artist and a mom."

To learn more about Mill Studio Arts, visit www.millstudioarts.com/ for a schedule of classes.