From the Director
Ramona Toussaint

Welcome to Camp Art Academy! What an amazing start we’ve had to our first week! *Artucopia; A Bounty of Basics*! is the artistic theme and fitting too. A cornucopia is a symbol of abundance and nourishment and Camp Art Academy lives up to this promise.

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Art Spotlight

Camp Art Academy welcomed Mark Clark as our guest artist for camp theme week, *Artucopia: A Bounty of Basics*! We explored all the far out ways we can make art. We absolutely loved Mark’s visit, because Mark taught us about his favorite material for creating art: LEGO’s®!

Many of you will recognize Mark’s work pictured below, a beautifully detailed replica of Music Hall as it stood in 1896, complete with surrounding park and canal. Campers learned how to turn a new eye to the architecture of our everyday world, and to observe the basic patterns and shapes that may be pieced together to form objects of immense beauty and intricacy.

A Cincinnati native, Mark has made a career out of using his creative mind in the realm of technology and computer science. Although he has always loved LEGO’s®, his artwork really began to take off in 2012, when he began building again and joined a local LEGO® User’s Group. What a unique perspective he brought to our camp! We had a great time expanding our creativity using all kinds of special artistic materials this week at *Artucopia*!
From the Director...continued

At the Art Academy of Cincinnati, we go beyond arts and crafts to make the connection between artistic foundational skill building and creativity, idea generation for strong problem solving skills, as well as personal development and satisfaction intrinsic to successful, happy, healthy children. Camp Art Academy didn’t get voted “Best of the City” by Cincinnati Magazine for being the Best Art Camp for Kids in 2012 for nothing! We believe Italian designer Marco Sodano when he said, “every child with Lego can become a great artist like Da Vinci and Vermeer.” That is why you have chosen Camp Art Academy to provide a unique experience for your child and we are glad you are here!

With amazing guest artists, field trips and rockin’ themes, this summer will be one of the best yet! I look forward to seeing you and your child this summer at Camp Art Academy. Contact me directly if there is anything I can do to make you and your child’s experience better.

In Inspiration,
Ramona Toussaint
Camp Art Academy Director
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Meet Our Team Spotlight
November Hardy - Life Long Camper

November, who is an Instructor Assistant this summer, is 16 years old and knows camp better than anybody. She has been a camper for 8 years and served as a Camp Assistant last summer! She aspires to be a Graphic Artist. CAA spoke to her to find out what inspires her and how being a CAA camper has supported her artistic growth.

What inspired you to be an artist?
NH: I would see these commercials on TV, like the ones where car pieces come apart and float around; I know someone had to design that. I thought, “How do I learn how to do that?”

How did going to Camp Art Academy influence your decision?
NH: I really had fun. When I could draw and match pictures exactly, that was really cool. I went to camp every single year. I re-learned some things but that was the good part. I had a different teacher and learned a lot from the different way they taught the same thing. My drawings got better every summer.

What kind of things are you referring to?
NH: Like foreground, shadows for that 3-D look and how to draw a face... I have memorized that! I only had art in school in the 7th grade... for one semester. We never learned things like that.

You attended camp for so many years, why did you want to help with camp?
NH: I really liked going to camp; I LOVED my Instructor Assistants. I wanted to help other kids enjoy camp like I did and be a role model.

Keep Up with Your Camper!

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