



Participating Artist Positive Outcomes

Communication and Social Outcomes

As a result of the high interest level in art for many of our artists, learning new vocabulary (i.e., brush, colors, paint, charcoal, etc.) using verbal behavior strategies has come quite naturally. Artists in group situations have increased their social communication skills to include phrases (i.e., - excuse me, pass me the...; are you finished, etc. Language is naturally occurring and expanding.

Social

Many participating artists have developed friendships! Their common interest (art) serves as a key factor in establishing communication leading to attending exhibitions together, and even extended social relationships. Two families have even started vacationing together. Within group sessions, student artists often help each other to proceed to a next step.

Leisure

Individuals spend more time engaged drawing or painting. For some, this increased interest in creating art results in reduced “down-time” to engage in otherwise inappropriate aberrant behavior. Some have progressed to enjoying visiting art exhibitions and museums.

Employment

A few participating artists have progressed to paid employment in bakeries (decorating cakes). One artist now teaches cartooning classes at several sites. Another artist has been approached to illustrate for a comic strip. Another artist received corporate sponsorship and has his own art gallery abroad. Yet another, won a major art competition and now receives commissioned requests for art. Our Mentoring program also teaches individuals interested in becoming instructors, “How To Teach” their art skills to others. Through this program we have hired two of our students as instructors in our Train The Talent program.

Self-Esteem

It’s particularly heartwarming to see the pride displayed by some of the non-vocal participating artists when their art work is on display and being viewed by others.