

# JILLIAN DuBOIS



Jillian DuBois is a redesigned educator who has been in the elementary classroom for over 20 years. She is currently a Professional Learning Specialist with Forward Edge/Edge•U. Jill is passionate about infusing joy in leadership service and using her voice to foster hope by celebrating diversity.

She is a published author and illustrator of several children's books with social-emotional learning messages. She is also the Chief Optimistic Originator of Imparted Joy LLC, in Clearwater, Florida. In this role, Jill guides others to spark their creativity with heart and confidence.

Jill is a lifelong, self-taught artist, using traditional watercolor/acrylic/Micron ink as the main medium to promote inclusivity and help create a more joyful world for all. She uses Strathmore 300 series watercolor textured paper. She began her art journey at age 10, following in the footsteps of her aunt, an artist in Dallas, TX. She took very few lessons but passionately cultivated the gift of creativity as she continued to learn and express herself through drawing and painting. She begins her drawings in pencil, progressing to Micron Ink pens, and eventually watercolor to complete her often whimsical and calming art work.

Jill began to experiment with Procreate and digital graphics. This led to illustrating and publishing her own children's books as a tribute to her sister, who left two small children after she was ill with cancer. She has illustrated several other author's books as well in this manner. Most of her current work is created digitally by using an artist's palette on iPadPRO/Apple Pencil. Having a full art studio in her lap, Jill is able to create her color palettes for different projects as it mimics real watercolor skill to a great

extent and has many visual benefits such as adding layers, undoing strokes, glazing, dry brush, and wash effects - with thousands of mediums, strokes, and brushes.

Prints are created from these original works in her portfolio files and professionally printed on an Epson SureColor P9570 on Epson Hot Press Bright Matte 300gsm paper. This allows for extraordinary accuracy and brings all details to life.

She takes the prints and adheres them to stretched canvas, often then framing them onto solid wood frames, wired with d-rings for display. These types of her art are smaller in scale, between 4x4in up to 10x10in.

While the tools and techniques differ, the underlying artistic principles remain the same. These choices of medium require technical skills and practice. Jillian's use of watercolor painting involves mastery of blending, layering, and controlling the flow of water and pigment/ink. Similarly, digital art in Procreate demands proficiency in using the software, understanding layers, and digital brushwork.

Art history has numerous examples of artists pushing boundaries with new mediums and techniques. From the invention of photography to the use of mixed media, artists have always embraced innovation. Procreate and digital art are just the latest steps in this ongoing adventure!

After seeing an open call to artists, she submitted two pieces of her artwork to *Stirling Art Studios and Gallery*, where they are currently on display until October 29, 2023. She is also a member of the *Creative Artists Guild in Dunedin* and the *Gulf Coast Artists' Alliance in St. Pete*.

For more information, please visit:

<https://linktr.ee/jilliandubois>



