

Inside the Studio descriptors

1. Vincent Valdez

Bio: Vincent was born in San Antonio, TX, in 1977, and grew up in San Antonio. He demonstrated talent for drawing at an early age and as a young muralist, he began exploring imagery that pertained to social/political statements. Vincent received a full scholarship to The Rhode Island School of Design where he earned his BFA in 2000. In 2004 at age 26, *Stations*, Valdez's suite of monumental charcoal drawings, was shown at the McNay Museum in Texas as he was the youngest artist to have a solo exhibition at the McNay. He since has shown at many museums and galleries internationally. Valdez lives and works in San Antonio, TX.

Workshop Title: The Figure in Contrast

Descriptor: Known for astonishing realistic detail in his charcoal, Valdez leads a charcoal workshop focused on drawing the figure. Participants feel free to bring a photographic reference for figure studies. Valdez often uses friends, family, or himself as models for his drawings. His brother, for instance, served as the model for his *Stations* series that features a boxer as a Christ figure in various stages of the cross. This hands-on workshop is free and has seats for 80 hands-on participants (first-come-first-seated & ArtVantage members have seating privileges) as well as seating for 200 observers.

All Level

Enrichment

1 hr 45 min

Room 001 (001A hands-on, 001B observe)

Friday – 6:00-7:45 PM

2. Todd White

Bio: Todd was born in 1969 in Texas, coming from humble roots. During his twenties he relocated to Hollywood and worked in the animation field and was part of the lead team for the international hit cartoon series *SpongeBob SquarePants*. During this period Todd started to forge his artistic style by experimenting with style and concept. Subconsciously, he spends his life people-watching scribbling down sketches – whatever the situation – to record an idea for his next work. He has earned many prestigious commissions and awards, including the UK's Diana Princess of Wales Gold Medal, the only American to be honored with the Award.

Workshop Title: Transforming Shapes to Characters

Descriptor: Transform geometric shapes into characters or cartoon characters with Todd White, one of the animators responsible for Nickelodeon's highest rated show, *SpongeBob SquarePants*. This hands-on workshop is free and has seats for 80 hands-on participants (first-come-first-seated & ArtVantage members have seating privileges) as well as seating for 200 observers.

All Level

Enrichment

1 hr 45 min

Room 001 (001A hands-on, 001B observe)

Saturday – 1:00-2:45 PM

3. Sam Gilliam

Bio: As an instructor for the Department of Human Communication and Theatre at Trinity, and a member of Actors' Equity Association, Sam's career in the professional theatre and arts education spans close to 40 years. A passionate advocate for the arts, Sam regularly performs for conferences and spiritual retreats throughout the United States. Of great joy is her partnership and collaboration as a visual artist with her husband, Steve, in their theatrical

design company, SLG Design & Creative Talent. The Gilliams' scenic design for their fourth national tour of FIDDLER ON THE ROOF is currently playing the USA and Canada.

Workshop Title: The Daily Doodle

Descriptor: Brain training for the artist with a mini-ride through the creative process and how artists approach new ideas. This session encourages art teachers to re-examine the rich potential of the spatial and relational context in which creativity unfolds. An assortment of exercises will explore the special language used in the art studio, and various phases of the creative process as ways to ignite the "artistic mindset," inviting students to "see and feel and think like artists" as they explore and develop skills that will empower them to bring their visions to life. This hands-on workshop is free and has seats for 80 hands-on participants (first-come-first-seated & ArtVantage members have seating privileges) as well as seating for 200 observers.

All Level

Enrichment

1 hr 45 min

Room 001 (001A hands-on, 001B observe)

Saturday – 11:00 AM-12:45 PM

4. **Samantha Melvin**

Bio: Samantha Melvin teaches art at RJ Richey Elementary in Burnet, TX. In 2011-12, she participated in the Art21 Educator Institute, focusing on contemporary art, artists and themes. Named National Elementary Art Educator in 2012 by the National Art Education Association, she has served the NAEA as Western Region Elementary Division Director and on various committees. Currently serving the TAEA as Youth Art Month VP and as a member of the Executive Board, Samantha presents regularly on best practices for TAEA, NAEA and CEDFA (the Center for Educator Development in Fine Arts.) Samantha nurtures self-expression through authentic, collaborative and reflective artistic practice.

Workshop Title: Tips for Elementary!

Descriptor: Involve your students in a creative team activity using LCD microscopes and plenty of reflection, observation, and drawing to springboard into abstract work. Follow this with a portrait project with text and you have some successful processes not only to engage students, but to also inspire creative thinking and problem-solving.

Elementary

1 hr 45 min

Room 001 (001A hands-on, 001B observe)

Saturday – 5:00-6:45 PM

5. **Suzanne Greene**

Bio: Suzanne Greene taught art at the middle school level in Spring Branch ISD for 40 years. A graduate of Southern Methodist University with a BFA in Art Education all levels, Suzy has served TAEA as a regional rep, middle school chair, YAM VP, and is currently the Membership VP. Her honors include Middle School Art Educator of the Year, Art Educator of the Year, TAEA Fellow, and the Texas PTA Extended Service Award. She loves to present new and innovative workshops at conference, mini conferences, and teacher in-services.

Workshop Title: Tips for Middle School!

Descriptor: Learn how to help your middle schoolers think deeply about themselves and their expression, become self-expressive and communicate their intent. Join Suzy as she shows step-by-step how to combine paper cutting techniques and photography to create imaginative self-portraits based on the art of Stefan Sagmeister' s book "*Things I Have Learned In My Life So Far*". This hands-on workshop is free and has seats for 80 hands-on participants (first-come-first-seated & ArtVantage members have seating privileges) as well as seating for 200 observers.

**Middle School/Jr High
Effective Teaching Practices**

1 hr 45 min

Room 001 (001A hands-on, 001B observe)

Friday – 4:00-5:45 PM

6. Nicole Brisco

Bio: Nicole is a practicing artist and a full time art educator. She has been the visual arts instructor at Pleasant Grove High School in Texarkana, TX, for 15 years. Over these years she has dedicated herself to creating an academic and creative atmosphere for her students. In 1999 she started the Advanced Placement program in her school and her program is now recognized throughout the country as a model of success. In the past 13 years her students have received 98% 5's on the exam and have garnered over 1.5 million dollars in scholarships. Her students have won numerous awards including over 65 VASE Gold Seals. She has served TAEA in many capacities and is currently the NAEA Secondary Western Division Chair. Along with serving on various boards and working as editor and author of courses, she has won many awards including the TAEA High School Art Educator of Year.

Workshop Title: Tips for High School!

Descriptor: Engage students in creative drawing techniques and prompts that challenges them to think as well as create! In this hands on workshop participants will be given a series on unique drawing and painting prompts that will combine traditional and innovative media. Compositional strategies will be highlighted to reinforce the balance between technical and conceptual aspects of high school art making. This hands-on workshop is free and has seats for 80 hands-on participants (first-come-first-seated & ArtVantage members have seating privileges) as well as seating for 200 observers.

High School

Effective Teaching Practices

1 hr 45 min

Room 001 (001A hands-on, 001B observe)

Friday – 12:00-1:45 PM