

2023 Visual Art Staff and Guest Artists Bios

Kat Hampton: Visual Art Coordinator



Kat Hampton completed her 18th year as a Visual Arts educator. She received her BFA from Winthrop University and advanced degrees from Columbia College and Walden University. In addition to teaching, Kat is a co-sponsor of the National Art Honor Society Chapter at Westwood, an active member of the SC Art Education Association, and a workshop instructor with the Education & Engagement Department at the Columbia Museum of Art since 2013.

John Johnson: Guest Artist

John E. Johnson, Jr. has been a Professional Artist and Visual Arts teacher in Richland County for 24 years. He received his BA in Visual Art Education in 1998 from Coker University, Hartsville, SC.

John currently teaches Drawing 1, 3-D Design 1; Art 2; and Art 1 and is one of the sponsors of the National Art Honor Society Chapter at Westwood High School. In addition, He has also taught Drawing 2; Commercial Design; Crafts 1; Ceramics 1&2; Art 3; Art 3 AP Preparatory; & AP Studio Art Drawing & 2-D Portfolio throughout his career.

Jessica Atkins: Guest Artist

Jessica Atkins has been a visual arts teacher with Richland 2 for the past 16 years. She received her BA in Painting and Art History, as well as her MAT in Art Education from the University of South Carolina. For many years, she also led summer workshops at Southern Pottery teaching youth traditional handbuilding and wheel throwing. Jessica currently teaches Art 1, Art 2 and 3D art at Spring Valley High School

Jessica Hawthorne: Guest Artist

Jessica Hawthorne is an artist and teacher residing in Columbia, South Carolina. With 20 years of teaching experience, Jessica has taught middle school and high school art for 20 years. In her personal work, Jessica pulls from the inspirations and textures of childhood memories. Using stones, metal, and found objects, Jessica crafts one-of-a-kind pieces into wearable art in her home studio. Jessica earned both her B.A. and M.A.T. from Lander University.

Nick Hendrix: Guest Artist

Nick Hendrix currently teaches Art 1, Ceramics 1&2, and Printmaking at Blythewood High School. Mr. Hendrix has been teaching high school visual art for 23 years and taught at Tri-DAC for 10 years. He earned BFA in Printmaking and Masters in Teaching from the University of South Carolina. He has also been National Board Certified for the last 19 years.

Christi Floyd: Guest Artist



Christi Floyd is an artist, author, and teacher. She has experience teaching visual and digital art for the past eight years. She BA in Visual Arts from Francis Marion University, MA in Education Technology, and an MA in Human Resource Management from Webster University.

Christi currently teaches courses that allow students to explore coding, animations, and Adobe software at Newberry County Career Center (NCCC). She actively participates in supporting FBLA as a

volunteer Judge in the Digital Arts and Business competitions at Westwood.

Kellie Davis: Guest Artist

Kellie Bates Davis has been an elementary visual arts teacher for 24 years. She received a Bachelor's in Graphic Design and Art Education from Anderson University. She also took coursework at Winthrop University in Arts Administration. She works as an instructor at Painting with a Twist and has led numerous camps & classes in the midlands over the years. Her passion is photography, painting and drawing.

Bob Doster: Guest Artist

Internationally acclaimed sculptor Bob Doster is the owner and operator of Bob Doster's Backstreet Studio located in downtown Lancaster, South Carolina, the Backstreet Studio, Gallery, and Garden are known for all things ART!

For more than fifty years, Doster has created art that ranges from whimsical collectibles to monumental public works of art. As a teaching artist, he has worked with more than 150,000 students of all ages. See his amazing work at bobdoster.com.