

## INSTRUCTOR BIOS • DAC SUMMER COURSES

**JASON ABIDE** is a Chapel-Hill-based artist who has taught videography, video editing, and pottery at The Peoples Channel and The Carrboro ArtsCenter since 2009. He is also a practicing artist and documentarian, with projects ranging from a feature documentary focused on The Playmakers Repertory Company "Cacophony," (2012) to an ongoing short film series called "Conversations with Artists," (2011-present). He maintains the website [reallyprettycardinals.com](http://reallyprettycardinals.com), which showcases his works in ceramics. He holds a degree in biology and psychology from the University of Mississippi.

**JAMIE ANDERSON** toured nationally as a singer-songwriter for 13 years. When she got tired of long drives and lousy food, she switched to teaching full time. She enjoys playing five instruments and loves writing songs, sometimes at the same time. Jamie teaches and performs in Durham as well as her new hometown of Ottawa, Canada.

**ANDRE AVILA**, dance instructor and owner/founder of Rhythm Journey Dance Company, was born in Bogotá, Colombia where his ballet, jazz, and tap training began at the age of eight. Later, he expanded his repertoire to include South American folkdance and traditional Latin social dances. Training in rhythm and smooth ballroom dance began when Andre moved to the US in 2003. Since that time, he has taught and competed professionally with studios in Las Vegas, New York, Massachusetts, and North Carolina, specializing in rhythm and smooth ballroom with additional proficiencies in West Coast Swing, Hustle, Kizomba, and Flamenco.

**MARLIE BOLIN** has been a chainmaille enthusiast for just over three years, and discovered her passion for linking rings into beautiful patterns right here at the Durham Arts Council! In addition to outfitting friends and coworkers with all kinds of vibrant earrings and intricate bracelets, she loves to share the craft of chainmaille as an exercise in mindful relaxation. When she is not

discovering new chainmaille patterns, animal sculptures, and color combinations, she can be found running tabletop RPGs, playing the cello, and fawning over her two kitties, Scout and YoYo.

**LISA BROWN** developed an interest in pottery when she was given a small and lovely porcelain vase at the age of five. In 2005, sparked by a chance encounter while on the Durham Art Walk, Lisa began studying at community art studios. She continued her education by taking private lessons with Julie Olson and workshops at Claymakers, the John C. Campbell School, Haystack Mountain School of Crafts, the Long Beach Island Foundation and Shakerag. Her primary interests are in form, function, and the natural beauty produced by skilled clay-handling processes. At the same time, Lisa enjoys trying out a wide variety of surface decoration techniques, including majolica, and particularly likes texture (carving, stamping, appliqué) for bringing the clay surface to life.

**BRITTANY CARLSON** holds a BFA in Photography from the School of Visual Arts in New York City. She and her husband recently relocated to Durham, NC from Brooklyn, NY. For the past seven years Brittany has been working as an art educator for various organizations and non-profits some of those including; The International Center of Photography, The Joan Mitchell Foundation, and the Dedalus Foundation. She has worked with children K-12 in her practice as an art educator and in the past three years has assisted in piloting and maintaining successful portfolio development programs for High School students interested in pursuing a college degree in the arts.

As an artist Brittany works in various mediums including: drawing, printmaking, photography, mixed media, and fiber arts. As an art educator she enjoys teaching her students through both technical and creative lessons, while also preparing them with the skills to both write and speak about the art they are creating.



Fiber dying by **Diana Cathcart**

**DIANA CATHCART** is a Durham-based textile artist who is the owner and maker at The Textile Creative, LLC, a web-based retail business that focuses on strengthening the relationship between people and the textiles they wear and use every day of their lives. She holds a B.A. in psychology and costume production from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and studied fashion design at the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York City. Diana grows and processes many of her own dyestuffs at her home in Durham. She is focused on utilizing ethically sourced, natural fibers in her work, and employing natural and organic dye processes to provide color and depth to her products.

**STEPHEN COFFMAN:** Whether noticed in a Jazz, Hip-Hop, Rock, or Latin setting, Stephen Coffman has been one of the most in-demand drummers in North Carolina for the past decade. After graduating from Durham School of the Arts in 2002, he earned a scholarship to join the music program at UNC-Chapel Hill, where he studied jazz performance.

Stephen maintains a full schedule in North Carolina, operating his own drum teaching school in addition to performing in many musical projects with shows around the world. He performs regularly with The Beast and Peter Lamb & The Wolves. In a professional setting, Stephen has also had the opportunity to record or perform with Rene Marie, John Pizzarelli, Joe Chambers, Nnenna Freelon, Maceo Parker, Jason Marsalis, The North Carolina Symphony and Mike Cross among others. He lives in Durham, NC with his wife and 2 sons. [www.stephencoffman.com](http://www.stephencoffman.com)

## INSTRUCTOR BIOS • DAC SUMMER COURSES



Beadweaving by Sarah Clover

**SARAH CLOVER** is a mixed media artist whose work incorporates glass, metal and found objects. Sarah has been a teaching artist for the past 20 years. She holds an MFA in Sculpture from the Rhode Island School of Design and a BFA from unc Greensboro.

**CAROLYN COLE** performs long form improv in local theaters and wherever else she can. She also teaches improv at the Durham Arts Council. Trained at Second City, iO and UCB/ NYC, Carolyn believes that improv wisdom can make a positive difference in your everyday life. Her motto, "Try improv. You will become ageless."

**LISA CREED**, principal of Credo Design, is both a graphic designer and an artist. Lisa has taught at various colleges and universities in the area and currently is a full time faculty member in the Graphic Design department at the Art Institute of Raleigh-Durham located at the America Tobacco Campus in Durham. In 1999 Lisa had a Wurlitzer Fellowship for painting in Taos, NM. She was also an artist in residence at the Vermont Studio Center in 1995. Lisa's paintings are exhibited in galleries around the country and her work is in numerous private and corporate collections. Her local gallery is the Eno Gallery located in Hillsborough, NC. She enjoys teaching both graphic design and painting and often blends the two disciplines. You can visit her website: [www.lisacreedartist.com](http://www.lisacreedartist.com).

**LARRY DOWNING** received his BFA in sculpture from UNC Chapel Hill. He has taught at DAC and Durham School of the Arts for many years. Larry has enjoyed classes at Penland School of Craft, School of the Art Institute of Chicago and Rhode Island School of Design. His work can be seen at the Mahler Gallery and the Collector's Gallery in Raleigh. He has had tea pots in the National Tea Pot show at Cedar Creek Gallery. Larry uses clay as his primary sculpture media and experiments with joining other materials with the clay, allowing him ultimate freedom for his poetic constructions. He has taught nearly every age and experience level.



Sculpture by Larry Downing

**ROYLEE DUVALL** has spent most of his life working in photography. He began by reading and experimenting then perfected the craft attending art and design workshops and courses from universities and community colleges. Roylee has been a freelance photographer for over 30 years, has operated a photo studio, owned and managed a camera store, worked as a photo-industry sales rep, has taught computer skills and photography, and currently operates the photo gallery "Through This Lens" in downtown Durham.

**LARISA 'RISA' GEARHART-SERNA** has been dancing since the age of three, including ballet, jazz, country western, latin forms, and swing, but she fell in love with flamenco dance. Dancing with the National Institute of Flamenco in Albuquerque, NM, as well as with numerous artists in Oakland, San Francisco, New Haven, and Durham, she now brings her love of the dance form to this community. She is currently a PhD student at Duke University in pathology and environmental toxicology.

**HEATHER GERNI** creates each of her works through the process of Intuitive Painting. The subject matter nor composition is planned. Instead, a natural evolution is allowed with each layer informing the next. Her paintings are vibrant and richly textured with these many layers. During the Intuitive Painting process, stories unfold on the canvas lending way for Heather's dreamscapes and creatures to emerge and evolve. These stylized paintings often have a mix of both fantasy and representational elements. She switches between working on her dreamscapes to painting abstractly depending on what unfolds on a blank canvas.

**RYAN E. GRADY** is a Visual Artist and animator based in Raleigh, NC. Ryan has created concept art, animation, and art assets for a variety of projects including the ASPECT project funded by the National Science Foundation at NC State University. She received her Bachelor of Fine Arts in Studio Art at Appalachian State University and her Master of Art + Design from NC State University. She is currently a full time instructor at Wake Technical Community College for the Simulation and Game department. She continues to practice both digital and traditional art.



Kinetictype by Ryan Grady

**BECCA HULETT**, longtime Durhamite, was first introduced to clay as a 4 year old. As she grew up, her interested varied and clay was left on the back burner. It wasn't until college, when she realized, that though majoring in education, her schedule revolved around UNC Wilmington's clay studio classes! She knew then, that it would be more than an occasional hobby for her and began her development as a clay artist in earnest. Since completing her Master's Degree in Elementary Education, Becca has been a teacher for many years. Simultaneously, she has worked on a parallel path as an accomplished potter. Becca is thrilled to have the opportunity to combine her passion for teaching and her love of pottery as an instructor for Durham Arts Council's Clay Studio.

## INSTRUCTOR BIOS • DAC SUMMER COURSES

**LAWRENCE (LARRY) JONES** is a freelance web designer, photographer and marketing/graphics professional with more than 25 years of experience. From 2005 to 2007 he lived in England and traveled Europe photographing Spain, Italy, France, Scotland, and Amsterdam and areas around the Baltic Sea. In 2006, he taught darkroom and digital photography to high school students at The American School, England near London. He has been teaching children, teens, and adults short courses in photography for 7 years. He has a BA in Advertising/Journalism from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. For more about Larry Jones go to <http://ljonesdesign.com>

**ROBYN KELLY** is Creative Director at Loop Creative in Raleigh, a donut hunter, a music lover, amateur photographer, traveler, a wife and a mother: 1 by birth, 2 by gift, 2 furry. She worked in education for many years before going back to school to become a graphic and web designer. She has a BFA from The Art Institute of RDU and a BS from The University of Georgia.

**BILL KOEB'S** interest in art began when he discovered comic books and book illustration. He attended the Academy of Art in San Francisco where he studied under Barron Storey, who introduced him to etching, and Bill Shields. A long time keeper of sketchbooks, at school, Bill discovered a love for drawing from life and visual journalism, a practice that he has kept up with for over twenty years, documenting his observations, thoughts, experiences, and the lives of those around him. After art school Bill began getting work drawing and painting comics and later illustrating for magazines, books, and advertising campaigns. In 1995 he was asked to create paintings for the sets of the film, *The Crow*, *City of Angels*. This experience was a jumping off point for Bill who began to paint more for himself and less and less for clients. Though he continued to work as an illustrator for several more years, he spent his free time painting and making prints. Bill currently lives in Chapel Hill, NC with his wife and son where he paints and teaches.

**KATE LAGALY** believes art is woven into every part of her life and everything she does, it has been a constant companion and a driving force. Kate became serious about art as the student of the most extraordinary high school art teacher and went on to earn a BA in art from Xavier University. She works in many mediums, paints and draws every day, and teaches art regularly, including traveling to teach workshops. She regularly enters art exhibitions and competitions; most recently her work has been seen at a solo exhibit at the Cary Senior Center and the Kirby Gallery in Roxboro, and a colored pencil piece has won awards in the GCVAA National Competition in Tennessee and a colored pencil piece has been included in the CPSA Explore This! National Online Exhibit. Kate also enjoys spending time with other artists. She has earned signature memberships in various art organizations including the CPSA, CPX, WSNC, and the SW. Life is good!

**MORIAH LEFEBVRE** is a graduate of the Visual Arts department at the UNC School of the Arts in Winston-Salem and received her BA in Studio Art from UNC Chapel Hill. She has spent the past few years working as a freelance artist, photographer, and teacher. She believes that a photography class should not only teach the student the technical aspects of the craft, but allow them a meaningful outlet for communicating with the viewer.

**ALBERTO LUNG** ("Lung" being the Spanish-spelling for "Dragon" in Chinese) completed a Master of Science and worked in Food Safety/Brand Protection for a few years before returning to his artistic roots. As a self-taught artist combining a scientific academic background, a passion for archaeology and mythology, and some Manga inspiration, Alberto currently designs and teaches cartoon-sketching workshops for children to promote their visual literacy and creativity. Alberto uses speedsketching demonstrations of ninjas and fantasy creatures to engage young audiences and introduce them to suitable art supplies to develop their drawing skills.

**SARA MCCREARY** earned a MS in Mass Comm. at the VCU Brandcenter, which led her to Durham where she teaches children's arts and crafts and ceramics. She has been working with ceramics for over 15 years. She enjoys sharing her skills with students of all ages. She encourages exploration and experimentation for maximum creativity and fun.

**CHRIS MORGAN** is a husband, dad, teacher and photographer, specializing in the Wet Plate Collodion process. He has extensive experience in both film and digital, both in using each commercially as well as teaching each in high school settings.

**SADARRYLE RHONE** has been creating her own paper beads for more than two years. Much like artists who knit, she finds paper bead rolling to be cathartic and relaxing. She also enjoys the experimental nature of paper bead making – the "hunt" for unique pieces of paper scraps, and not always knowing what finished beads might look like after the paper is cut and rolled. When she isn't selling her line of paper bead jewelry at the Durham Craft Market and other craft shows, Sadarryle uses her free time to continue exploring new and different ways to manipulate bead shapes and experiment with various glazing techniques. As one customer indicated recently, she "knows how to make paper beads look elegant and sophisticated."



Paper beads by **Sadarryle Rhone**