

# 2012-2013 After School Classes & Staff Biographies



**Multicultural After School  
and Summer Program**

**JAMAICA PLAIN, MA**

# *About KidsArts!*

KidsArts! is a non-profit after school and summer program for children in **grades K2 through 5th**. Since the early 1990's, KidsArts! has offered a wide range of classes each weekday after school, from more traditional arts and crafts to multimedia and experimental art forms...inspired by cultures across the globe.

In addition to the following arts classes, KidsArts! provides snack, homework help, supervised play, cooperative games, and elective art activities.

## **TUITION**

Tuition varies by number of days per week a child is enrolled. Minimum 2 days per week enrollment. See [jpkidsarts.org](http://jpkidsarts.org) for tuition schedule.

*Vouchers from Childcare Choices of Boston are accepted.* Limited scholarships are available. A 5% sibling discount applies.

## **HOURS**

KidsArts! is open from **2:30pm to 6pm** every day.  
School bus travel from BPS schools can be arranged.

## **LOCATION**

6 Eliot St. (within the First Unitarian Church), Jamaica Plain, MA 02130.  
KidsArts! is near the Centre St. monument.

## **VACATION DAYS AND SUMMERS**

KidsArts! also offers a Summer Program as well as Vacation Programs during BPS vacation days and weeks.

## **CONTACT US**

(617) 524-0818 / [jpkidsarts@gmail.com](mailto:jpkidsarts@gmail.com) / [jpkidsarts.org](http://jpkidsarts.org)

## **Photo Credits:**

Diana Mai (Front and Back Cover, Title Page, Biography Photos of Sarah Barrios and Diana Mai)

Jean Connelly (Staff Biography Photo of Angela Martinez)

Jennifer Connelly (Staff Biography Photo of Jean Connelly)



# 2012-2013 *After School Classes and Staff Biographies*

# CLASS SESSION I

*September 17th—November 2nd*

## MONDAYS:

***Hip Hop to the Top*** (Dance) with Risa

Create and learn a cool hip hop dance routine. We'll learn individual moves and, as a class, we will build them into a final performance.

***Remaking Art History*** (Painting, Multimedia) with Jessica  
Look at famous works of fine art by celebrated artists from various cultures and reinterpret them using different materials and techniques.

***Wooden Arts and Crafts*** (Woodwork, Painting) with Angela  
Awaken to wooden wonders in new ways - such as a birdhouse, pencils holders, and many more.

## TUESDAYS:

***Intro to Photography*** (Photography) with Diana  
Make solar photograms, learn how to take portraits, and experiment with digital photo editing.

***Get Ready for Halloween!*** (Multimedia) with Sarah  
Create sculptures, installations, and decorations for the infamous KidsArts! Halloween Haunted House, and also work on costumes and masks for the holiday.

***Swimming*** (Recreation) with Angela  
Fun, relaxing free-swim at Curtis Hall. Floaties and life vests available.

## WEDNESDAYS:

***D.I.Y. Duct Tape Art*** (Multimedia, Sculpture) with Maia  
Make sculptures, decorations, accessories, and anything we can think of!

***Puppets and Puppeteering*** (Textile) with Angela  
Not only will you create your own finger and socks puppets, but you'll also bring them alive during our final presentation.

***Gardening*** (Life Skill) with Diana  
Plant fall micro greens and bulbs, harvest the fall crop, learn about season-extenders, and prepare the bed for the winter.

## THURSDAYS:

***Art Outdoors*** (Multimedia, Sculpture) with Jessica  
Make multimedia art (sculptures, installations) using outdoor materials (leaves, sticks, grass, etc.) in unexpected ways.

***Mexican "Tona" Masks*** (Multimedia, Painting) with Diana  
This class will involve personal identification and Mexican Folk Art. Students will identify with an animal and create a unique mask.

***Krumping*** (Dance) with Brian  
Krumping is a highly energetic dance born in California. Learn and perform a choreographed routine.

## FRIDAYS:

***Learn How to Sew*** (Textile) with Jessica  
Learn the bare bones basics of sewing, like threading the needle and basic stitches to prepare for bigger projects later in the year.

***Reused, Recycled Art*** (Multimedia) with Sarah  
Creatively re-use things from home to build new fun objects. Work with aluminum, cardboard, paints, re-found materials and more.



# CLASS SESSION II

*November 5th - December 21st*

*(Subject to change; certain classes limited to a specific age range TBA before beginning of session)*

## MONDAYS:

***Yoga that Rocks*** (Dance, Sports)  
with Risa

Start with hip hop, continue with salsa and bachata, and continue on a music sampling adventure around the world as we release our muscles and gain flexibility...

***Board Game Creation*** (Multimedia) with Jessica

Revamp classic board games or start from scratch to make a new board game classic.

***Winter Arts and Crafts***

(Multimedia) with Angela

Create candle holders, hats and scarves, pillows, ornaments...give them as gifts this winter.

## TUESDAYS:

***Soccer*** (Sports)  
with Sarah

We'll use a nearby field and gym to learn and practice this classic sport.

***Paper and Book-Making*** (Paper Art, Multimedia) with Diana  
Make pop-up books, mini-books, accordion books, book marks and marbled paper.

***Swimming*** (Recreation)  
with Angela

Fun, relaxing free-swim at Curtis Hall. Floaties and life vests available.

## WEDNESDAYS:

***Guerrilla Performance Art***  
(Performance) with Maia  
Use disguises, improvisation, and the strength of being in a group to perform in public. We'll do mind-bending things no one's expecting to see.

***Inspirations from Nature***  
(Multimedia) with Diana  
Make leaf rubbings, fruit and vegetable prints, and even cordage and weavings out of fibrous plants.

***Nagakura Kenichi: Art of Pacific Asia*** (Textile)  
with Angela  
Inspired by this famous Japanese artist, create woven textile art using bamboo and other fibers.

## THURSDAYS:

***Draw Your Poem*** (Creative Writing, Illustration) with Jessica  
Odes, songs, limericks, haikus... we'll make visual interpretations of our poetry.

***Capoeira*** (Dance, Sports)  
with Brian  
Learn this Afro-Brazilian style of martial arts and dance.

***Festive Holiday Decorating***  
(Multimedia) with Diana  
Make ornaments, cards, and even your own snow globe.

## FRIDAYS:

***Make Your Own Creatures and Dolls*** (Textile) with Jessica  
Make new creatures and people come to life out of yarn, fabric, beans, rice and recycled stuffed animals.

***Clay Art*** (Sculpture)  
with Sarah  
Make miniature people, creatures, scenes and 'villages' using clay.

# CLASS SESSION III

## January 2nd - February 15th

(Subject to change; certain classes limited to a specific age range TBA before beginning of session)

### MONDAYS:

**Altered Books** (Multimedia)  
with Jessica

Dig up some old, tattered books and alter them into page-turning works of art through collage, painting, drawing and cutting.

**Let's Learn Bhangra!** (Dance)  
with Risa

The class will learn together a super cool and fun style of modern Indian dance in preparation for our final performance.

**Mask-making** (Multimedia)  
with Angela

Learn about masks from across the world, used for ritual, theater, and festivities. Make your own distinctive masks out of several different materials.

### TUESDAYS:

**Swing Dance** (Dance)  
with Sarah

Lindy-Hop, Jitterbug, and Boogie-Woogie your way to big smiles. Learn the steps and show them off in our final performance.

**Swimming** (Recreation)  
with Angela

Fun, relaxing free-swim at Curtis Hall. Floaties and life vests available.

**Origami** (Paper Arts)  
with Diana

Make paper boxes, all kinds of animals, and even wallets using this Japanese art form.

### WEDNESDAYS:

**Classic Kids' Crafts for Younger Kids** (Multimedia) with Diana  
Make cardboard telescopes, animal rocks, "God's Eye" weavings, and other classics.

**Inflatables** (Sculpture)  
with Maia

Design and create inflatable sculptures using fans and balloons.

**Afro-Tropical Dance** (Dance)  
with Angela

Rooted in African and Latin dance traditions, Afro-Caribbean dance brings energy and life to the chilly winter. Make dance costumes, too, for our final performance.

### THURSDAYS:

**Slam Poetry!** (Creative Writing)  
with Jessica

Poetry doesn't just have to be read through words, it can also be felt through physical and vocal expression. Express yourself!

**Never Enough Hip Hop!** (Dance)  
with Brian  
Learn breaking, popping, locking, lyrical, and other hip hop styles in choreographed routines culminating in performances.

**Making Music** (Music)  
with Diana

Make kazoos, drums, maracas, castanets and other instruments.

### FRIDAYS:

**Sewing with Colors** (Textile)  
with Sarah

Make your own pillows, pet toys, and other projects while learning dyeing and stitching techniques.

**Project Runway: KidsArts! Edition** (Textile, Multimedia) with Jessica  
Each class will bring a different fashion challenge. Rock the runway on the last day of class, KidsArts! Fashion Day.

# CLASS SESSION IV

*February 25th - April 12th*

*(Subject to change; certain classes limited to a specific age range TBA before beginning of session)*

## MONDAYS:

**Jazz Funk** (Dance)  
with Risa

Learn how to let loose and have fun with a whole lot of style and attitude. This class will teach great routines to awesome music for the likes of pop stars.

**Thrifty and Nifty: Creations from Thrift Store Finds** (Multimedia)  
with Jessica

Find cheap, buried treasure to transform into cool new works of art. Visits to Boomerangs and Goodwill!

**Weaving, Crochet, and Macrame** (Textile) with Angela

Learn Arabic, Central/South American and European processes for creating fabric for clothing and your house.

## TUESDAYS:

**Swimming** (Recreation)  
with Angela

Fun, relaxing free-swim at Curtis Hall. Floaties and life vests available.

**Classic Kids Crafts for Older Kids** (Multimedia) with Diana  
Make colorful suncatchers, marbled paper, sandwich box monsters, and more!

**Experimental Photography** (Photography) with Sarah  
Make pinhole cameras, practice framing and shooting, and learn basic photo editing.

## WEDNESDAYS:

**Etegami: Picture Letters** (Illustration, Painting) with Diana  
This Japanese folk art involves making simple pictures into postcards with short proverbs or haikus.

**Big Group Sculpture** (Sculpture) with Maia  
Design and create one big sculpture as a team throughout the session. Cooler than the Statue of David, probably!

**Costumes for the Spring Play** (Textile) with Angela  
Design and create costumes for the cast of the Spring Play using a variety of textiles, recycled materials, and tons of imagination.

## THURSDAYS:

**Acting for the Spring Play** (Theater) with Brian  
Learn basic acting techniques in preparation for our annual Spring Play.

**Set Design for the Spring Play** (Multimedia) with Jessica  
Use wood, cardboard, paint, fabric, lights, paper and other materials to design an elaborate set for our Spring Play.

**Puppet-making** (Textile, Multimedia) with Diana  
Use spoons, cups, bags, socks, and paper to make a variety of different puppets, including articulated Indonesian shadow-puppets.

## FRIDAYS:

**Dramatic Writing** (Creative Writing) with Jessica  
Write your own skit or play! We'll have a staged reading of our works for Session IV Performance and Exhibit Week.

**Creative Yarn Crafts** (Textile) with Sarah  
Create your own yarn creatures, bowls, ornaments, and other crafts.

# CLASS SESSION V

*April 22nd - June 14th*

*(Subject to change; certain classes limited to a specific age range TBA before beginning of session)*

## MONDAYS:

**Improv Dance** (Dance)  
with Risa

Learn how to communicate stories and your messages for the world without talking: through movement. This is a great outlet for young artists that will give them lots of different ideas for creative expression.

**Make Your Space: Interior Decorating** (Multimedia) with Jessica  
Learn to make your room a really cool space that represents your personality.

**Community Journalism** (Writing)  
with Angela  
Interview locals, write articles, and create your own newspaper.

## TUESDAYS:

**Swimming** (Recreation)  
with Angela

Fun, relaxing free-swim at Curtis Hall. Floaties and life vests available.

**Paper Boat-making** (Multimedia)  
with Diana  
Design your own paper ships and develop a boat that will win the ultimate boat-sailing contest at Jamaica Pond!

**Stencil and Graphite Art** (Illustration) with Sarah  
Use graphite and charcoal to illustrate free-hand. Also, produce your own stencils to use with various materials.

## WEDNESDAYS:

**Make a Music Video** (Video, Music) with Maia  
Produce and edit an epic visual accompaniment to a song.

**Gardening** (Multimedia)  
with Diana  
Resurrect our community garden plot - turn it over, plant seedlings, transplant, and watch everything come to life.

**Costumes for the Spring Play** (Textile) with Angela  
Design and create costumes for the cast of the Spring Play using a variety of textiles, recycled materials, and tons of imagination.

## THURSDAYS:

**Acting for the Spring Play** (Theater) with Brian  
Practice acting and rehearse parts in preparation for our annual Spring Play.

**Set Design for the Spring Play** (Multimedia) with Diana  
Use wood, cardboard, paint, fabric, lights, paper and other materials to design an elaborate set for our Spring Play.

**Music and Visual Effects for the Spring Play** (Theater, Multimedia) with Jessica  
Sounds, music, lighting and special effects will give extra dimension to our Spring Play.

## FRIDAYS:

**Creative Writing** (Creative Writing) with Jessica  
Write a short fictional story and make a picture book.

**Bead Art and Jewery-making** (Multimedia) with Sarah  
Learn about Native American beadwork, make your own designs, and create your own jewelry and sculptures.

# STAFF BIOGRAPHIES



**ZEAN DUNBAR:** Zean is our Operations Director, responsible for handling all registration and payments. Zean is a ukulele player, passionate gardener, JP resident, and holds a degree in Psychology from Simmons College.



**HELEN "HOMEFRIES" MATTHEWS:** Homefries, KidsArts! Program Director, started as a volunteer in 2007 and has a special interest in music, design (print, web, and fashion), language arts, and gardening. Homefries holds an M.A. in Social Theory and an interest in group dynamics, social justice, and collaborative art projects.



**ANGELA MARTINEZ:** Angela has worked at KidsArts! for 18 years. She's often recognized in Jamaica Plain by the scores of kids she's worked with -- not just at KidsArts! but also at the Hernandez school and La Piñata youth program. Angela is a staple of the local youth arts scene. Born near Santo Domingo, she shares her cultural heritage through her arts classes. Angela is a talented seamstress, cook, painter, and woodworker. Her classes tend to focus on hands-on crafting and construction.



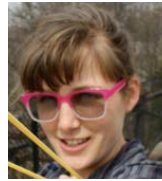
**JEAN CONNELLY:** Jean has worked with KidsArts! since 2010. She's a Teacher's Assistant on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. She's a talented painter with a focus on watercolor. Jean also has a passion for photography. She's known for her kindness and quick wit.



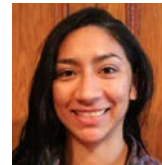
**BRIAN MEANS:** Brian is our dance and acting teacher. A dancer with the Anna Myer Dance Company and Side Street Crew, Brian brings a focus on choreographed hip hop performances. Brian holds a degree in Performance Art from the Boston Arts Academy.



**DIANA MAI:** Diana is our photography teacher, skilled in a variety of visual media. Diana has a keen eye for design and editing. Diana is a JP resident who's active in the neighborhood and maintains a huge garden. Diana has a degree in Art and Women's Studies from Northeastern.



**MAIA LAPERLE:** Maia is our Site Manager three days a week. She's worked with KidsArts! since 2009. Maia's also a seasoned artist who focuses on video, performance, sculpture, and multimedia art. Maia holds a B.F.A. from MassArt. Her classes are imaginative and experimental.



**SARAH BARRIOS:** Sarah is a fantastic illustrator, painter, photographer, crafter, and chef. Sarah has a very relatable style with students, and always keeps them very engaged in her project-based classes. Sarah is also an avid cyclist.



**JESSICA GILL-GRANT:** Jessica began in the fall of 2011 as an intern. Last spring, she taught several popular classes and has a B.A. in Art Therapy from Lesley. Jessica has a down-to-earth, friendly approach that children love.



**RISA HORN:** Risa is our dance/yoga teacher, focusing on contemporary dance movements. Risa's also skilled in a wide spectrum of art media and holds a B.F.A from the School of the Museum of Fine Arts. When not at KidsArts!, you can find Risa making art with teens at Urbano in JP.

**After School enrollment is open throughout the school year.  
Vacation days and weeks are also offered.  
Enroll at [jpkidsarts.org](http://jpkidsarts.org)**