

## Autobiography on my art experiences

### Recall:

My experience within the arts occurred when I was young, my first exposure to the arts was through drama. My brothers, cousins, and myself would create plays, making set designs, and dressing up in our parents clothes, dancing or creating plays about anything and everything. It was an event that we would always look forward to when the relatives came to visit. As we started to get a bit older, my brothers decided it wasn't fun to always be the babies or bad kids in our plays, so the theatrics were terminated..

My mom always sang to us growing up, so music was an important part of my life. When I was 5 years old I started piano lessons, my first performance was at age 6 for the Sons of Italy Christmas party. By age 12 through college I performed playing the piano at concerts, community events, weddings, and taught myself how to play the organ and played weekly at two different churches. The money I earned from my performances paid for a car and also put me through College.

In addition to music, I enjoyed crafts I would create Christmas ornaments and ceramics for my family and relatives. I also did a lot of paint by numbers growing up. In addition to mosaics with pebbles and beans, weaving, embroidery, sand art, leather embossing, and woodworking were also additional crafts I enjoyed..

2.

I was fortunate my mother had a sewing machine, and taught me how to sew. I made Christmas stockings for the local foster care program, and scarves for the elderly that resided in the local care facilities. Years later I created and sewed dog themed Christmas stockings, collars, and toys, which were sold at craft fairs.

I still love to create blankets and pillows, ceramics, flower arrangements, and play music. Although time seems to be limited to take part in those hobbies now. However, when there is a break from teaching I try to create an art project.

#### Reflect

As I review what I have written, I realize I am very tactile and love to create a variety of different art projects. I feel I am successful in certain types of art, but not all, especially painting. I also realize the fun I had putting on plays with my brothers and cousins for our family. It must be the reason I enjoy my students doing Readers Theater.

I have had times when I was frustrated with what I created, and wanted to throw it in the garbage, but then realized if I put it away and returned to what I was doing it wasn't so bad after all; with a few adjustments being made. Music was very successful for me not only as an art but also became a source of revenue. In addition, I have been successful with sewing, and ceramics. I enjoy being creative with the projects I have control over and in which I can see the end result of something I have begun. I am not

3.

successful in singing unless it is in the shower or car and no one can hear me. Thank goodness I do not teach primary grades. My experience with painting and charcoal drawings were frustrating to me, I do not seem or know how to take colors or shadowing to create what I can personally see with my eyes or in my mind and put it on canvas. .I have taken several classes but for some reason I could not apply the knowledge learned and transfer it to my hands and brain.Maybe in a couple of years I will attempt to paint and do charcoal drawings again.

Connect

My definition of art is the use of imagination and using an expression or skill creatively. I have had many learning experiences with art, I love the creativity and the ability to create something that is useful or esthetic to view.

I enjoy all forms of art and look forward to creating art lessons as a part of STEAM.