

The best holiday gifts are the ones you make yourself.



WRAP UP YOUR YEAR WITH THESE SHORT CLASSES, INTENSIVES + WEEKEND WORKSHOPS.

VisArts’ Holiday Classes run November 30 – December 13. More class details and materials lists are available online.

Our multi-age classes are great for families!

Remember that youth students must be accompanied by a registered adult.

THE VISUAL ARTS CENTER OF RICHMOND

The Visual Arts Center of Richmond (VisArts) has helped adults and children explore their creativity and make art since 1963. Each year, the organization touches the lives of nearly 50,000 people through its classes, exhibitions, community programs, camps, workshops, and special events.

Each year, VisArts offers more than 1,600 visual and creative arts classes in clay, wood, fiber, painting, photography, printmaking, glass, metal, drawing, writing, decorative arts, and other visual media. More than 230 instructors teach across our 17 professionally-equipped studios in our current 30,000-square-foot facility. The Visual Arts Center of Richmond is generously supported by CultureWorks, the National Endowment for the Arts and the Virginia Commission for the Arts.

Founded as the Hand Workshop, the organization has grown and relocated throughout the city since our early days in Church Hill. In the 1980s, we found our home on Main Street in the heart of Richmond’s Fan District. After purchasing the former Virginia Dairy Company building and completing renovations, the organization marked this new chapter by changing our name to the Visual Arts Center of Richmond, or VisArts, as we are often known today. In early 2026, VisArts purchased the former Fan Tastic Thrift building, ushering in another exciting season of growth.



ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Jess Kingswell (she/they) is a Seattle-raised, Manhattan-hopping Illustrator. Her work draws inspiration from the old-growth rainforests and mountains of the Pacific Northwest where she grew up and the stories that come out of them. Her aesthetic is usually inspired by the imagery accompanying these stories, Illuminated manuscripts, folk art, and craft movements like quilting, weaving, and embroidery. Jess received a BFA in illustration from the School of Visual Arts in NYC.



MEMBERS GET 10% OFF TUITION

More class details and materials lists are available online. Visit visarts.org or call (804) 353-0094 to register.

Non-Profit
Organization
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Permit No. 2068



1812 W Main St
Richmond, VA 23220

Return Service Requested

MINI ART WORKSHOPS INSIDE

Registration opens to the public on Wed, Oct 28
Early access for VisArts members opens on Wed, Oct 21
Visit visarts.org or call (804) 353-0094 to register



HOLIDAY WORKSHOPS

NOVEMBER 30 – DECEMBER 13



CLAY

ADULTS AND YOUTH 5+

Make Your Own Air Dry Clay Ornament

Claudia Meyer

Roll out slabs, cut out shapes, make patterns in the clay, and embellish your own handmade ornaments.

A: 1 Thursday: 12/10, 5:30 – 7pm

B: 1 Saturday: 12/12, 10:30am – 12pm

C: 1 Saturday: 12/12, 3:30 – 5pm

\$35

ADULTS AND YOUTH 9+

Raku Firing Workshop

Paul Klassett

Explore raku, an exciting firing method that creates beautiful cracked or iridescent glazing.

A: 1 Saturday: 12/5, 2 – 5pm

B: 1 Saturday: 12/5, 6 – 9pm

\$30 ✂

Terracotta Aromatherapy Ornaments

Elizabeth Schlatter

Make a clay ornament designed to naturally hold and release essential oils.

A: 1 Sunday: 12/6, 10:30am – 12pm

B: 1 Wednesday: 12/9, 5:30 – 7pm

\$35

Hand Building: Make a Menorah

Claudia Meyer

Learn how to turn a block of clay into a menorah!

1 Sunday: 12/13, 12:30 – 3pm

\$45

ADULTS AND YOUTH 12+

Hand Building: Votive Candle Holder

Claudia Meyer

Bring some brightness to your cozy winter nights and make some candle-holding pots!

1 Thursday: 12/3, 6 – 9pm

\$75

+ Hand Building: Altars + Image Transfers

Merenda Cecelia

Create a small ceramic altar or mini curio cabinet.

1 Saturday: 12/5, 10am – 1pm

\$80

+ Hand Building: Taper Candle Holders

Claudia Meyer

Learn to make matched taper candlestick holders.

1 Sunday: 12/6, 2 – 5pm

\$75

ADULTS AND YOUTH 15+

Hand Building: Make Your Own Clay Mug

Ammity Rose

Learn the techniques of coil or slab building to make a mug.

1 Sunday: 12/6, 10am – 1pm

\$70

ADULTS 18+

Wheel Throwing for Everyone

Elizabeth Schlatter

Learn the basic techniques to throw a pot using white stoneware and food-safe glazes.

A: 1 Monday: 11/30, 5:30 – 8:30pm

B: 1 Wednesday: 12/2, 5:30 – 8:30pm

C: 1 Sunday: 12/6, 1 – 4pm

\$70

DIGITAL ARTS

ADULTS AND YOUTH 9+

Digital Animated [Gifts

Avery Nguyen

Learn the basic technical skills necessary to create 5-30 second digital animations on iPads.

1 Saturday: 12/12, 10am – 1pm

\$50

ADULTS AND YOUTH 15+

3D Printing Crash Course: Make a Keychain

Curly Dacs

Learn basic modeling in Nomad Sculpt, set up a printer, and create a custom keychain.

1 Weekend: 12/12 – 12/13, 2 – 5pm

\$120

DRAWING + PAINTING

ADULTS AND YOUTH 12+

Drawing + Watercolor: Tarot Cards

Merenda Cecelia

Learn all about tarot cards and design your own in pen, ink, and watercolor pencils.

1 Wednesday: 12/9, 6 – 9pm

\$55

ADULTS AND YOUTH 15+

Winter Landscapes in Gouache

Jay Crilley

Learn how to best use gouache, an opaque watercolor paint, to portray winter landscapes.

1 Sunday: 12/6, 10am – 4pm

\$120

ADULTS 18+

Drawing + Watercolor: Holiday Botanicals Edition

Merenda Cecelia

Use pen and ink with watercolor pencils to create vibrant renderings of plants and flowers.

1 Wednesday: 12/2, 6 – 9pm

\$55

Watercolor for Beginners: Christmas Imagery

Claire Berry

Learn watercolor basics to paint your own wreaths, ornaments, stockings, and more.

1 Friday: 12/4, 2 – 5pm

\$55 ✂

Watercolor for Beginners: Festive Doors

Claire Berry

Perfect for greeting cards, learn to watercolor a festively decorated front door.

1 Friday: 12/11, 2 – 5pm

\$55 ✂

FIBER

ADULTS AND YOUTH 9+

Needle Felting: Ornaments

Create small sculptures, creatures, and ornamental objects with a barbed needle and soft wool.

A: Troi Qualls

1 Monday: 11/30, 6 – 9pm

B: Claudia Meyer

1 Sunday: 12/6, 11am – 2pm

C: Troi Qualls

1 Wednesday: 12/9, 6 – 9pm

\$65

+ Basketwoven Snowstars

Tracy Haines

Learn how to transform simple weaving materials into a stunning, dimensional snowflake ornament.

1 Tuesday: 12/1, 6 – 8:30pm

\$45

Learn to Weave a Mini Basket

Tracy Haines

Learn to weave and make a cute little basket–perfect for gifts, your desk, kitchen catch-all, and more!

A: 1 Thursday: 12/3, 6 – 8:30pm

B: 1 Wednesday: 12/9, 6 – 8:30pm

\$50

Learn to Embroider a Mini Hoop

Ashley Tamber

Learn the basics of embroidery and complete a small project to take home.

A: 1 Sunday: 12/6, 12:30 – 3:30pm

B: 1 Sunday: 12/13, 12:30 – 3:30pm

\$60

ADULTS AND YOUTH 12+

+ Dyeing Yarn for the Holidays

Amber Pearson

Learn to space-dye two skeins of wool yarn with acid dyes.

1 Saturday: 12/5, 10am – 2pm

\$125

Furoshiki: Reusable Gift Wrap

Melissa Athey

Explore the Japanese art of gift wrapping and textile design.

1 Tuesday: 12/8, 6 – 9pm

\$85

*All youth must be accompanied by a registered adult

✚ New! ✂ Bring or Buy Materials 🧡 Shelly Shepherd Master Teacher Award Recipient

+ Weave a Mini Rainbow

Natalie Sullivan

Learn to warp and weave a 6-inch rainbow on a metal frame.

1 Saturday: 12/12, 10am – 1pm

\$80

+ Sew a Leather Wallet

Andrea Pintér

Make a one-of-a-kind leather wallet using your own decorative designs.

1 Weekend: 12/12 – 12/13, 1 – 5pm

\$180

+ Leather Holiday Jewelry Set

Andrea Pintér

Draw your own designs, hand-stitch leather, and create matching earrings and a necklace.

1 Weekend: 12/12 – 12/13, 9am – 12pm

\$150

+ Stitch a Mini Landscape

Lora Hart

Explore decorative stitching and make a small 4x4” artwork to frame.

1 Tuesday: 12/1, 6 – 9pm

\$65

Learn to Use a Sewing Machine: Make a Zippered Pouch

Lauri Jenkins 🧡

Learn how to set up your machine and practice using it in this fast-paced beginner course.

1 Wednesday: 12/2, 6 – 9pm

\$60 ✂

+ Learn to Use a Sewing Machine: Make a Pillow

Lauri Jenkins 🧡

Learn how to set up your machine and practice using it in this fast-paced beginner course.

1 Sunday: 12/6, 10am – 1pm

\$60 ✂

+ Learn to Use a Sewing Machine: Make a Tote Bag

Lauri Jenkins 🧡

Learn how to set up your machine and practice using it in this fast-paced beginner course.

1 Sunday: 12/6, 2 – 5pm

\$60 ✂

+ Dino Nugget Pillow

Ceci Tran

Learn how to sew curves, insert invisible zippers, and be challenged to work with sherpa fabric to create a dino nugget pillow.

1 Friday: 12/4 6 – 9pm

\$85

Garlands of Fresh Greens

Elizabeth Cogar

Create a custom garland with fresh, fragrant greens like holly, boxwood, pine, nandina, and fir.

A: 1 Thursday: 12/3, 6 – 9pm

B: 1 Tuesday: 12/8, 6 – 9pm

\$60

GLASS

ADULTS AND YOUTH 15+

+ Glass Icicle Ornaments

Kristi Totoritis

Learn how to use a torch to create borosilicate glass icicle ornaments for the holidays!

A: 1 Sunday: 12/13, 10am – 1pm

B: 1 Sunday: 12/13, 2 – 5pm

\$85

ADULTS 18+

Flameworking: Ornaments in Glass

Brad Pearson 🧡

Explore making simple small ornaments with flameworked glass.

A: 1 Saturday: 12/5, 10am – 4pm

B: 1 Sunday: 12/6, 10am – 4pm

C: 1 Saturday: 12/12, 10am – 4pm

\$135

Make Your Own Stained Glass + Copper Wreath

Barbara Atkinson

Learn how to make a beautiful wreath using copper and glass–just in time for the holidays.

1 Weekend: 12/5 – 12/6, 12 – 4pm

\$175

Small Glass Casting *(Intermediate)*

Jude Schlotzhauer 🧡

Learn how to make simple molds from found objects, then fill the molds with glass to be melted into 3D artworks.

1 Week: 11/30 – 12/4, 12:30 – 3:30pm

\$320 ✂

+ Fused Glass Mosaics *(Intermediate)*

Jude Schlotzhauer 🧡

Create new designs by assembling small pieces of glass into fused glass projects.

1 Week: 12/7 – 12/11, 12:30 – 3:30pm

\$320 ✂

METALS + JEWELRY

ADULTS AND YOUTH 5+

+ Sure CAN Do: Upcycled Ornaments

Melissa Duffy

Use engraving tools to make silvery ornaments that will last decades.

1 Saturday: 12/5, 2 – 3pm

\$25

ADULTS AND YOUTH 9+

Wearable Metal Jewelry for Beginners

Lynalise Woodlief

Learn a variety of jewelry-making basics including sawing, soldering, polishing, and surface treatment.

2 Tuesdays: 12/1 – 12/8, 6 – 9pm

\$140

Fold Forming Fun Metal Ornaments

Lynalise Woodlief

Learn how to shape and texture metal using folding, curing and hammering to create organic designs.

1 Saturday: 12/5, 10am – 1pm

\$85

ADULTS AND YOUTH 15+

Keum-boo: Silver + Gold Earrings

Shawn Noroian

Keum-boo is an ancient Korean gilding technique that applies thin 24k gold to silver using heat and pressure.

1 Saturday: 12/12, 10am – 4pm

\$165

ADULTS 18+

Introduction to Metal Jewelry Workshop

Jay Sharpe 🧡

Get familiar with the metals studio and create beautiful wire and sheet metal rings and bracelets.

1 Sunday: 12/13, 10am – 4pm

\$155

Metal Clay: Sage Leaf Bling Ring

Lora Hart

Use a real sage leaf as texture for a sterling silver ring that will shrink to fit perfectly.

1 Weekend: 12/5 – 12/6, 2 – 5pm

\$185

Metal Clay: Parade of Pendants

Lora Hart

Make uniquely shaped pendants and try out a variety of texture options, bail forms, and patina options.

1 Wednesday+Thursday: 12/9 – 12/10, 6 – 9pm

\$185

PAPER + BOOK ARTS

ADULTS AND YOUTH 3+

Shrinky Dink Charms + Ornaments

Claudia Meyer

Draw with colored pencils on special shrink plastic, then bake and watch them shrink into unique ornaments.

1 Sunday: 12/13, 10 – 11:30am

\$30

ADULTS AND YOUTH 5+

+ Shadow Box Art

Alicia Strum

Craft flowers, landscapes, or other expressive shapes with a variety of paper and collage materials.

1 Saturday: 12/5, 10am – 1pm

\$50

Wrapping Paper Fun: Family Printmaking Workshop

Casha Stempniewicz

Explore rolling pattern prints, styrofoam stamps, and mini gelli plate shapes to print your own wrapping paper.

A: 1 Thursday: 12/3, 5:30 – 7pm

B: 1 Saturday: 12/12, 10 – 11:30am

\$30

ADULTS AND YOUTH 9+

+ Japanese-Style Holiday Cards

Melissa Duffy

Learn Japanese folding, scoring, cutting, and knot-tying techniques to make obi-inspired cards.

1 Saturday: 12/5, 10am – 12:30pm

\$45

Watercolor Holiday Cards + Handmade Envelopes