

Virginia Beach School of the Arts

Preschool for the Arts

3083 Brickhouse Court,
Virginia Beach, VA 23452
431-1382

Operating Procedures

Welcome to the only preschool dedicated to the instruction of the fine arts! We consider it both an honor and a privilege to pass our love of the arts to your child. Our studios will be a place of love, respect, creativity, encouragement, and fun for each student as we enrich the early years of their lives. Over 1000 PFTA parents have given us WONDERFUL feed back about their child's emotional, social and mental growth as they are eager to come to class each week. We are sure you will be extremely satisfied with our unique program as all of our other graduates and families have been! We love our Preschool for the Arts families!

Meet our Faculty

PFTA Coordinators

Steve & Virginia Largent have enjoyed working with children of all ages for over 20 years. Steve specializes in family counseling and will be the one you see daily in the office as you bring your child to class. He will definitely be one of the children's favorite people to hug, and high fives are a must! Virginia has a Bachelors of Music from Shenandoah Conservatory where she majored in piano pedagogy (teaching). Her area of expertise lies with educating preschoolers (which she has done for over 20 years) and doing research in the field of neuropsychology as it relates to early childhood development. Steve & Virginia enjoy skiing, antiquing, and spending time together. You can reach them by calling the school and leaving a message at 431-1382.

Art

Your child will just love art class! From the painting to the gluing, from the glitter to the construction paper, all of the students will be having such a good time they will not realize how fast they will be learning mathematics principals, symmetry, geometry, sets, patterns and more. Art is a great way to teach not only mathematics, but also geography, history, famous people, nature conservancy and more! All students will be practicing their skills in following directions, manners, sharing, communication and relating well to their teacher and classmates. Be prepared for masterpieces of paint, clay and more to adorn your family's home!

Music

Music class is always exciting and educational! Be prepared for your child to come home singing the presidents in order, states and capitals, the multiplication tables, as well as songs about animals and world famous places! Your child will see many orchestral instruments in show and tell, learn musical signs and symbols, notes, rhythms and more! Basic piano skills will be explored and many fun games that teach beginning

reading language and music theory will be played. Interaction with their new friends and such a small student teacher ratio make this music class educational and fun for your child!

Dance/ Creative Movement

Children love to move and children love dance class! They will be tumbling, playing with our 8 foot parachute, doing agility exercises, stretching, participating in creative movement activities, as well as doing balance, coordination and imaginary play. We stress good sportsmanship and character building at every opportunity. Hula Hoops, balls, jump-ropes, and balloons will keep children moving and building their brain-body connections! Dance class is fun and data from cutting edge science proves children must move to learn!!!

Reserve Your Spot for Fall

Your September 2012 tuition of \$100.00 (\$180.00 for twice a week attendance) will guarantee your child's enrollment in Preschool for the Arts for the 2012-2013 school year. Checks should be made payable to VBSA. Also, please send in your completed registration form and the art supply fee of \$95 which is to be included with your September tuition payment. Thank you. Please keep in mind that **this payment of \$195 or \$275 is NON-REFUNDABLE.**

Please mail all remittance to:
Virginia Beach School of the Arts
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Tuition Payments

Tuition for weekly attendance is \$100 per month (\$180 for biweekly attendance). Tuition is due by the first class of each month and reminders will be posted the week before tuition is due. There will be a box located at the front desk in which you can put your remittance. Please have your check already made out to VBSA when you arrive. Tuitions received after the first class of the month will be assessed a \$5.00 late fee. If your child does not attend the first class of the month, his/her tuition is still due and arrangements should be made to turn it in on time. You may mail payments and the completed registration form to our address given above. Tuition cannot be prorated due to your absence.

Tuition covers one month's instruction and is not prorated for 5 classes per month or for holidays or for cancellations. Preschool for the Arts may be closed if we feel it unsafe to travel during inclement weather. We will call you the morning of school being closed. Cancellation of classes will also be on our school answering machine by 7 am and we will call you. Also, if we have your email address, we may be emailing you also! Fortunately, Virginia Beach does not normally have severe weather and Preschool for the Arts does continue classes often times when Virginia Beach City Schools are closed. Tuition cannot be prorated or credited due to an absence(s) on the student's part or because of bad weather.

Calendar Year

First day of classes: Tuesday, September 4

Thanksgiving Holiday: November 20-22

Christmas Vacation: December 21 – January 7

First day of spring semester: January 8

Easter Vacation: (To be announced to coincide with Virginia Beach Public Schools)

Last day of classes: May 30

The above days are the ***only*** holidays we have off. There ***ARE*** classes on Columbus day, President's & leader's birthdays, and Veteran's Day. ***Please note these days on your calendar at home.***

THE POTTY

Children may visit the potty anytime they need to go. Our female teachers will be able to help any little dumplings in need of assistance. We have potty lid for children used to using them, but it is the "COOL THING" to use the big potty and peer pressure does encourage those not yet potty trained to make that step!

It is very important that your child be very close to or totally potty trained, *preferably* totally potty trained.

ODDS & Ends

If you have a question about your child's dance, art or music class, please see Steve and he will see that arrangements are made to contact that teacher after school. Our instructors have the great responsibility of caring for your child's safety as well as their education in the arts. Our attention must be on the children ***at all times***. Steve will be present every morning for your questions and to help you with any needs you may have. Again, we thank you for speaking with Steve before or after school. Please do not converse with the teachers ***during*** class hours or receiving and dismissal times.

Please dress your child comfortably. ***Rubber soled shoes are highly recommended*** and comfortable play clothes are encouraged. We do have cool smocks for art class!

Please write your child's name in his/her coat as well as on their backpack and spill proof cup/sports bottle.

A 20 minute snack break will be given from 10:45 - 11:05. Please pack a hassle free ***SUGAR FREE*** dry snack (fruit, granola bar). We allow ***WATER ONLY in SPILL PROOF CUP or SPORTS BOTTLE***. Again, snacks that must be eaten with a spoon or through a straw, juice boxes or canned drinks are not allowed. ***A back pack with your child's name clearly visible on it*** is necessary for transporting priceless works of art, and worksheets. Please check it daily for communications we may have sent home to you and please make sure that it is ***free of toys*** when your child arrives to PFTA!

A monthly newsletter will be sent home with pertinent information. It will be put into your child's backpack each month. Also, always check the white board in the lobby.

Classes begin at 9:00 am. Thank you for your promptness in arriving between 8:50 and 9:00 am. We thank you in advance for ***efficiency*** in dropping off your children to PFTA!

If someone other than a parent with whom we are familiar is going to be taking your child home, we must have written verification and we will ask any newcomer for ID. Please give all written information, special instructions, etc. to Steve who will be present every morning. **Please let us know if there is someone with whom your child should NEVER leave.** Anyone coming into or leaving the facility will either have to pass by Steve in the office or go through Virginia's studio. We are fortunate to have this security factor for the children's safety.

Behavior and Disciplinary Procedures

We have had the joys of working with little ones who are learning the boundaries of group dynamics and etiquette. I must say that every child is more than often very cooperative as they are captivated by their instructor's activities! We lovingly shape behavior with calm toned verbal correction and a time out chair when necessary. Parents would be notified of repeat offenders as the children learn to obey their authority's instructions for their own safety and benefit. If a child continually requires more discipline than instruction and becomes a distraction for his/her class, he/she will be removed from the program until the proper behavior can be exhibited. All of our teachers treat every student with equality, patience, respect and love. In order to maintain the highest quality of education possible, we must hold to this loving and firm standard of discipline. In our years of operation, we have never had any major concerns and no child has ever been removed from Preschool for the Arts.

Joining PFTA is a nine month verbal commitment. If unseen circumstances make it necessary for you to withdraw your child, one month's written notification and one month's tuition will be charged. Your child may attend class during their last month. **We depend on having 24 students per session to operate this excellent program and ask for parents to be committed to remaining in PFTA until the end of May.** We thank you for strongly considering this before enrolling your child. The only way we can offer PFTA at the lowest possible tuition rates is for you the parents to be as committed to this program as we are to you, your children and our teachers. Thank you for your cooperation and keeping in mind there are no refunds, credits or make up classes. The VBSA also offers Music Mommy & Me and BABY ART for students who are too young for Preschool for the Arts but don't want to miss out on any of the FUN! If you have older children interested in studying music or art please let us know! We are absolutely thrilled to have you in PFTA and plan on making it your child's favorite weekly activity! If we can be of service to you in any way please let us know. We pledge to give your child the absolute BEST fine arts education possible and look forward to working with your family this year!