



## For Immediate Release

### Saint John Arts Centre Launches 'The Art Room', New Kids' Art Program

**Saint John - Friday, April 23, 2021** – The Saint John Arts Centre (SJAC) has opened registrations in the first two of five workshops in a new art program for kids aged 9-12. Called 'The Art Room', the workshop series aims to promote the goals of its tagline: Artistic Pursuits / New Friends / Self-expression / Confidence.

Each workshop is 4 weeks long, with 2-hour classes per week on Saturdays. Students can register for any or all of these workshops as they are offered throughout the year. A strict class size limit of nine students will ensure social distancing, and masks will be mandatory for everyone, as per current Public Health guidelines.

The first two offerings begin on May 15th; 'Let's Draw' (10am-12pm) is taught by the program's developer, SJAC's Education and Outreach Coordinator, Harriet Taylor, and 'Create with Clay' (1-3pm) is lead by professional ceramicist Danika Vautour. The other three workshops - 'Let's Paint', 'Fun with Printmaking', and 'Wild Art Studio' (revolving topics), will launch later in the year.

'The Art Room' program provides keen young artists with an age-appropriate visual arts education that ignites creativity in a quality learning environment. Education in the visual arts fosters students' exploration and expression of ideas while enhancing mental, emotional and motor skills, and students will benefit from forming new social connections with kids who share their interests.

"Encouraging kids in art exploration is not only fun, it can lead to a boost in self-confidence, motivation, and overall performance in their schoolwork," says Harriet Taylor, a veteran instructor and Academic Dean at the New Brunswick College of Craft and Design before joining the staff of SJAC in February. "As they create, they also develop friendships and community."

#### **For more information, please contact:**

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