

ARTS Workshops

Before you go

- Make sure you have completed the online Child Protection Training and you understand what's expected of you: <http://hr.ua.edu/faqs/im-a-ua-student-or-employee-how-do-i-complete-the-child-protection-policy-sessions-i-ii-course-in-training-academy>
Submit the certificate of completion to: mgalbrai@ua.edu. You only need to do this once per year.
- Check with the workshop organizers to see if they need advance help with anything

Working in the public schools

This is your opportunity to be a role model for young children. Here are some guidelines and reminders to make sure it's a positive experience for everyone.

- Dress appropriately
 - Nothing too revealing
 - Nothing hinting of drugs, alcohol, sex, offensive views
- Keep phones out of sight. Do not use them
- Talk with the kids. Point out what you notice/what is interesting about their art. Instead of "I like that" say "You chose some interesting colors" or ask, "What were you thinking of when you chose [that subject/theme]?"
- They'll probably ask you all kinds of questions (What's college like? Are you married? How old are you? Where do you live?)
 - You don't have to answer every question. In fact, you don't want to tell them where you live or give them your phone number. You do want to be a mentor and role model. So tell them what college classes are like, how you get into college, how you chose UA. Don't tell them about crazy parties or anything that may be inappropriate for young children. If you are asked something that makes you uncomfortable, humor is a great way to diffuse the situation. For example, if you are asked if you are married, you might reply, "Are you?" and leave it at that.
- Discipline: mostly the teachers will take the lead here, but here are some pointers
 - Wait until everyone is silent and turned your way before you start to talk about the project. Talk loud enough and clearly, but avoid shouting. If the noise increases, pause until it gets quiet again.
 - At Matthews, teacher hold up a hand, and then wait for all the kids to hold up theirs and get quiet before talking. I will ask to see if there is a similar practice at University Place.
 - If there is a problem, ask a teacher for help.
- Never be alone with the children. Teachers are required to remain with you. If you have had a background check, you may be alone with children, but avoid it anyway.

Timing: Get to the school 15 minutes before the workshop starts so there is time to set up. Plan on staying 30 minutes after it ends to clean up.

You will need to sign it at the main office. When you go to the school for the first time, allow an extra few minutes for this since they will need to copy your id, etc.

Locations:

Matthews Elementary, 1225 Rice Mine Rd, Northport, AL 35476



University Place Elementary, 2000 1st Ave, Tuscaloosa, AL 35401

