JANUARY 2020

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INSTITUTE FOR THE ARTS

MONTHLY IFTA NEWSLETTER

COMMON ?'S

The January issue will address some common questions we have been receiving about our program.

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TEACHER FEATURE

Each issue we'll introduce you to one of our IFTA teachers. This month, meet an IFTA Art teacher!

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WHAT'S NEW?

Check out our current news items.

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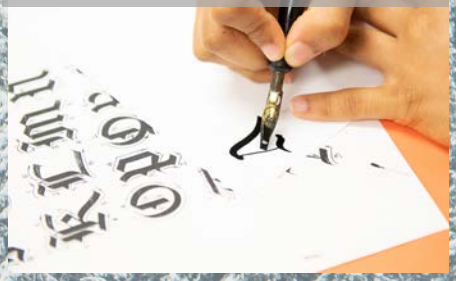
- STUDENTS STUDY FASHION DESIGN AT IFTA!

- BALLET CLASS AT IFTA!

- LEARN THE ART OF LETTERING!



FOLLOW US!

COMMON QUESTIONS

BY KARA DRINKWATER

This month I'd like to go over some common questions that I get about the program and hopefully provide some answers for families.

Website: We are aware of some challenges with the website and opening the course catalog. Our website department is working as quickly as they can to get it updated. In the meantime, I have updated all of our social media accounts to include both the Master Schedule and course catalog with all of the descriptions.

HPE9 and EPF: These two credit bearing courses are offered through IFTA for students that register for 4 weeks only. HPE9 will have only 25 seats and EPF with have 50. These classes are first come first serve and registration opens at 12:01 am next Monday! They are for pass/ fail credit and a counselor will be contacted at your child's school to make sure they approve of the enrollment. Sorry, we do no offer HPE10. We are trying to maintain the integrity of the Institute for the Arts and only offer these two as a bonus to students who sign up. When registering students MUST select them during the same block for all four weeks.

Transportation: Transportation is provided from 27 schools throughout the county. The list was recently posted on all of our social media pages with out times. When registering you will receive the times.

E-IFTA: This year our E-IFTA theme will be "All Around the World". Students will explore a different part of the globe each week through Art, Music, Theatre, and Dance. Teachers, once hired, will create lessons that are related to countries, movies, books, artisans, and historians related to each culture. Teachers will be hired based on the lesson ideas they present and their areas of expertise to ensure each class is exciting and engaging for all students.

Special Education Students: We appreciate your patience as we work with FCPS Special Education office to determine the level of support that will be provided this summer.

In closing, we are very excited that registration opens in just 1 week! Please share IFTA and E-IFTA with a friend on your social media pages! We'd like to have our biggest and best program yet for the summer of 2020!

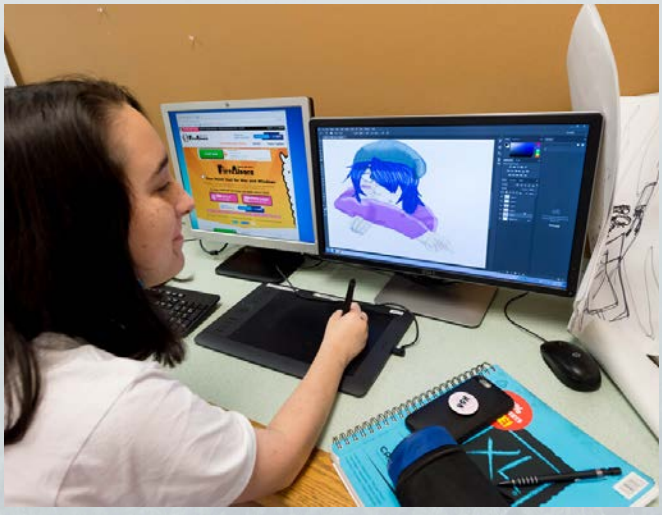
Teacher Feature

Meet **Ms. Carroll!** She has been a teacher at IFTA for 9 years! During the school year she is an Art Teacher at McLean High School. At IFTA she has taught Sculpture 1 and 2 and Public Art. She took the time and answered our interview questions:

Why do you work at IFTA? *"I love the atmosphere of IFTA. It is a place where all kids can feel they fit in and that in itself is magic. Kids are driven and want to be there and I am energized as an educator and artist by that. I love to see how passionate they are about the classes they take at IFTA. The best part of IFTA has been getting to know the kids* really well. Some students I have known for 4, 5 to 7 years in a row! I love the freedom to do a variety of sculpture lessons that I can't do at my home school."

Why should families sign up their children for IFTA? "IFTA I believe is like no other program. The faculty/artists are always amazing, professional and bring richness to their lessons. It is a place where kids have a huge variety of classes to choose from. A lot of classes offered at IFTA are classes they cannot experience in their schools during the year. It is place they can try out new things without pressure. Many of our classes help students build art portfolios too. I have found kids at IFTA support each other regardless skill or experience and create close bonds with others. Many create such strong bonds they continue to take IFTA year after year."

IFTA is so fortunate to have such a kind and dedicated teacher like Ms. Carroll. I know her students truly enjoy their time in her classroom!



WHAT'S NEW?

IFTA NEWS:

- We have a brand new graphic that was posted in our online advertisements and publications. We love it! (Right center picture)

E-IFTA NEWS:

- We have opened up our program to rising 3rd graders! We plan to divide classes as best as we can by age.

GENERAL NEWS:

- **Mark your calendars! IFTA and E-IFTA registration opens on February 3rd at 12:01am! Tell a friend!**
- Teachers interested in applying to work at IFTA or EIFTA may visit the following link to apply. Currently Admin positions are available and teaching positions will open in February.
- We have had a wonderful time coming out to schools to meet families at curriculum nights and summer camp fairs! We are looking forward to meeting more families at upcoming events!

SCAN ME

Graciously,