

2023

## Hearst Center for the Arts - Digital Promotion Project

Na'ILa Clarkson  
*University of Northern Iowa*

*Let us know how access to this document benefits you*

Copyright ©2023 Na'ILa Clarkson



This work is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/).

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.uni.edu/ugswork>

---

### Recommended Citation

Clarkson, Na'ILa, "Hearst Center for the Arts - Digital Promotion Project" (2023). *Undergraduate Student Work*. 36.

<https://scholarworks.uni.edu/ugswork/36>

This Open Access Undergraduate Student Work is brought to you for free and open access by UNI ScholarWorks. It has been accepted for inclusion in Undergraduate Student Work by an authorized administrator of UNI ScholarWorks. For more information, please contact [scholarworks@uni.edu](mailto:scholarworks@uni.edu).

**Offensive Materials Statement:** Materials located in UNI ScholarWorks come from a broad range of sources and time periods. Some of these materials may contain offensive stereotypes, ideas, visuals, or language.

HEARST

CENTER FOR  
THE ARTS



Digital Promotion Project

Na'La Clarkson



The Hearst Center for the Arts is part of the City of Cedar Falls Community Development Department and is a vital community resource offering ongoing and affordable opportunities for exploring, performing, creating, and attending fine arts programs.



There are two parts to the Hearst Center for the Arts, the first being the exhibition spaces where various art shows are held! The bottom level is filled with classrooms and spaces to hold art classes for all types of people.



## About The Center



One of those classes held at the Hearst Center for the Arts is in collaboration with NorthStar Community Services based in Waterloo, Iowa to bring adults with disabilities art activities, education, and opportunities to express themselves called Cafe (Creative Arts For Everyone)



My name is Na'La Clarkson, I am a sophomore at the University of Northern Iowa. Currently majoring in Therapeutic Recreation with a minor in Philosophy. A passion of mine is social justice, activist, and community organization so in the future a career path I would like to take is social justice movement organizing with a focus on people of color with disabilities.

## ABOUT ME!



I am currently taking a course that emphasizes the technological, cross-cultural, and evidence-based practice aspects of Therapeutic Recreation. Where my peers and I get the opportunity to engage in art activities with adults with disabilities!



Some of my favorite leisurely activities are combinations of art expression such as visual art with the addition of poetry, or collages with various textures, images, and content. I also thoroughly enjoy being outside and connecting with nature, engaging with friends and community members, and anything that has to do with music!

# First Session September 15th, 2023.

## Outline of Day

- Set up - 5-10 min.
- Crafts
  - finger painting
  - watercolor
  - "Sticky rainbow" - glue + tissue paper on a rainbow
  - Beaded necklaces



## My Initial Thoughts

I had such a great time with the group as a whole, but especially with my participant of the day! They were so kind and wanted to share all of their favorite stories, interests, and opinions with others.

Participant of the day: A particular adult that I spent majority of my time with to build relationships!



## Participant of the day!

- Age: 49 yrs. old
- Loves arts and crafts.
  - Most favorite is painting.
- Loves dogs.
- Loves to sing.
- Attends a leisure camp! Where they sing songs, swim, and play games!



Second Session-  
Oct 20th, 2023.

### Outline of The Day

- Overall Theme: Indigenous people's day
  - Snacks: Popcorn, and Lemonade
  - Music: Native American flute music
- Crafts:
  - Dream catchers made out of paper plates, yarn, beads, and foam feathers.
  - Coloring whirling drums.
  - bundling sage



### Participant/Activity of the day

- Activity
  - I was in charge of the popcorn for about 35 minutes.
- Participant of the day
- Didn't have anything to say but they enjoyed themselves!



## Participant of the day

- Loves everything western or "cowboy" themed.
- Loves Christmas
- Likes to play sports.
- Likes to paint.
- Favorite color is orange.



Third Session- October 20th, 2023.



## Outline of The Day

- Set up - 10 minutes.
- Crafts
  - Painting pumpkins with tempura paint.
  - Painting gnomes with watercolors.
  - Coloring pages and "take home" bags with markers.



## Outline of the Day

- "Sticky Flower" - glue + tissue paper.
- Painting a sun with tempura paint.



## Participant of the Day

- Participant from the first session!
- Loves to sing! - we sang songs together.
- Loves to paint.
- Loves animals.

Fourth Session - November 3, 2023





# Fifth Session - December 1st, 2023



## Outline of the Day

- Set up - 10 min.
- Craft
  - Acrylic reindeer w/ tissue paper background



## Participant of the Day

- Loves country music.
- always knows what time it is.
- like to color and owns many coloring books.





# FINAL THOUGHTS AND CONCLUSION

I have had such a blast the past 3 months, and that is largely due to this opportunity to get involved in community and crafting! There were a variety of experiences that I am thankful to have had! from set-up to holding conversations with adults with disabilities to debriefing about highs and lows from the event with peers! Something that I think could be added to the program that would aid in community building is allowing participants to have a variety of choices. Many times I experienced the participants being frustrated because they had to finish one project to start another, and as adults, I felt as though they should be allowed that autonomy.

Something that I feel the program does well in community building is the ability for participants to go where they please to show their friends their projects!

