

FAQ

What happened to the old Saturday Art Club?

Abbot Hall art gallery has relaunched Saturday Art Club so that they are now bookable creative sessions for kids. They will learn new artistic skills using a variety of different materials and techniques. A lot of these sessions will be messy and allow children to experiment with art. We also want to hear children's responses to our exhibitions and their ideas about the artworks they are creating, so we will showcase all participants' artwork on display for visitors to the gallery.

Who is running these sessions?



Hamish McLain's practice explores the intersection between drawing and painting, investigating how a graphical sensibility can interact within the world of abstraction. In recent work he has been focusing on how the rural landscape of Cumbria can inspire his abstract paintings.

Hamish has been based in Cumbria since Spring 2015. Prior to this he lived in London where in 2013 he graduated from the MA Fine Art programme at Chelsea College of Art and Design. Previous exhibitions include 'Sneak Peak' at Maker's Mill, Keswick; 'Cumbrian Artist of the Year 2017' at Rheged; 'C-Art 2016' at Sprint Mill, Burneside; 'Merz Barn Residency', Merz Barn Langdale 2016; 'Striking Out' High Sykeside, Grasmere, 2015 and 'There's always space to move' Curators Coffee Gallery, London, 2015.

In 2016 he was one of six artists nominated for the artist of the year exhibition at Rheged. In Autumn 2019 he will be displaying and making new work as artist in residence at Makers Mill, Keswick.

Hamish has previously run Saturday Art Club for families at Abbot Hall, along with adult painting workshops on abstraction and two 'Paint Night' master classes on Monet and Kurt Schwitters.

For further information please visit www.hamishmclain.com.

To contact the artist directly please e-mail hmclain@hotmail.com

How long does each session last for?

Each session will last for 3 hours, from 10am - 1pm, which includes a 15-minute snack break in the café.

What is the course content?

- Week 1: Collage
- Week 2: Foam reduction painting
- Week 3: Charcoal drawing
- Week 4: Abstract painting

Can parents/guardians join in?

Due to the active nature of the sessions, we ask that parents/guardians only join in towards the end of the session at 12:45pm. Our staff can tell you where Art Club will be if your child requires an early pick-up or if you would like to observe the session.

How about younger siblings?

Children younger than 7 can take part in our free family drop-in activities, which will take place around the gallery at the same time as Art Club.

Please note children younger than 7 require parental supervision and are eligible for free entry with adult admission.

Where do I turn up for Art Club?

Please arrive at Abbot Hall art gallery at 10am, where a member of the Learning team can sign you in and direct you to the beginning of the session.

Where will the snack break be?

The snack break will be at the back of the Bakestone Café at 11:30am. Feel free to stop by to hear what they've been doing.

What kinds of snacks will you provide?

We will provide water and squash for refreshments, alongside rich tea biscuits, dried raisins, and grapes. Please inform us if your child has any allergies or dietary requirements and we are happy to accommodate.

What if we can only attend some sessions?

We are offering this new course at a special discounted rate for families to try out these new sessions. You can book for just 1 session on 27th April for £5, and if your child wants to come back you can book for the next 3 on the 4th, 11th, and 18th May for £15.

Can children take their work home?

After children complete their artwork at the end of each session, they can take their pieces home. Their final pieces made on the 18th May will be exhibited throughout May half term in a pop-up display in the gallery, after which they can take them home.

What is access in the gallery like?

Please read the Access Statement available on our website:

<https://www.abbothall.org.uk/visit/access-statement>

Will there be another Art Club?

The next course of sessions will run for 5 weeks, from 8th June – 6th July.

Where can I find more information?

For more information, please email learning@lakelandarts.org.uk where we will do our best to answer your query.