

Art & Astronomy Workshops for Homeschoolers

Who	Generally, secondary-school-age students, ages 12-18, although exceptions are possible. Interest/motivation can override age considerations (this is true for astronomy as well as art). And yes, we will teach adults!
When	If at your venue, weekdays, typically Wednesday through Friday. If at our Ozarks property near Montauk State Park, Missouri, typically Friday afternoons and all day Saturday. For the remainder of 2026, our availability is good except for the final weekend of August, the last two weekends of September, and the weekends of October 10th and 24th. Most weekends in November and December are good, except of course for Thanksgiving and Christmas.
Where	Either the venue of your choice, or our Ozarks property. That property is a 45-mile drive south of Rolla; it can accommodate 8-10 persons (students and adults combined) on site, with several more in resort cabins only ¼ mile away. If at the Ozarks property, you will be expected to provide/prepare your own meals, although we do stock some snacks and refreshments. Groceries are readily available in Salem (20 mi NNE) or Licking (12 mi WNW).
Art	Art History • Classical Antiquity • Medieval • Renaissance & Baroque • 19th & 20th centuries; Photography Elements and Principles of Art • line, shape, texture • value, form • center of interest, overlapping • movement, unity, harmony • variety, balance, contrast • proportion • pattern & rhythm Techniques in Media Murals

Astronomy	Brief talks on: • Sun & Moon • planets and their moons • telescopes & space exploration • asteroids/comets/meteors • stars and star clusters • nebulae & galaxies Material aligns with Next Generation Science Standards HS-ESS1 1-4, 6. Weather permitting, safely filtered solar observation during the day and various celestial objects at night, all through a 6” Newtonian reflector telescope. If at the Ozarks location, note that the Current River area is far from city lights and enjoys the darkest skies in Missouri.
Cost	Your Venue: • \$0.76/mile for our round trip from Kansas City, MO • \$200 per diem for our lodging and meals • \$40 per student for instruction and supplies • recommended class size if at your venue is 15–30 • as an example, for the St Louis area, this would be \$~120/student if there were 15 students, and \$~80/student if there were 30 students Ozarks Location: • \$0.76/mile for our round trip from Kansas City, MO • \$50 per diem for our lodging and meals • \$100 per person for lodging (covers entire stay) • \$40 per student for instruction and supplies • recommended class size in the Ozarks is 6–10 • this would be \$~300/student if there were 6 students, and \$~230/student if there were 10 students (could vary depending on number of adult non-students) • as mentioned above, you will need to purchase groceries and prepare your meals Note that these are pilot rates, at which we net very little after our expenses; if it goes well, we would expect to raise the per-student rate for future sessions.

Instructors:



Sharon Jeffus is an artist and art teacher who has been training and mentoring young people in art for over 30 years. She has a B.S.S.E. in Art Education from John Brown University and continued on in her studies to be certified to teach English from the University of Arkansas. Sharon studied painting at Metropolitan in Denver and sculpting at Southern Illinois University. She has written over twenty books, available in e-book form and through Rainbow Resources, has three approved AP courses, and is the proprietor of the internationally known company Visual Manna.



Jay Manifold is a semi-retired project manager who has presented at hundreds of education/public outreach events for the Astronomical Society of Kansas City over the past four decades. He is a former chair of the ASKC's Education Department and has been a keyholder at Powell Observatory since 2007.