

Softlife After School Creature Making Classes

Fall quarter, 2011

For those families who are unfamiliar with me, my name is Coco Howard and I am a fiber artist, plush toy designer, and art teacher. I have been teaching in the Seattle area for nine years, and I am dedicated to bringing the concept of DIY art, craft, and design into the lives of young people. This year will mark my fourth year teaching Creature Making at Lawton. You can find out more about my work at www.softlifeindustry.com/, as well as the official Creature Making Class Blog at <http://softlifecreatureclass.blogspot.com/>.

This year in the Creature Making classes we will be designing and sewing plush toys of various styles and sizes. We will also work with various modeling, drawing, and rudimentary pattern making techniques to aid the students in the design process. I am organizing a student sale in December with Kristen Rask of Plush You! and Schmancy Toys (<http://www.schmancytoys.com/>). Any student who wants to participate can work on making plush toys in class for the sale, and they will be paid in cash for their total sales after the store commission. Schmancy is a great collectable vinyl and plush toy shop downtown, featuring the work of artists from all over the world. I am very excited for the opportunity to showcase the students work there this year.

This Fall I will be offering Two classes directly after school. This year I am dividing the classes by grade level to ensure that each class is tailored to the developmental needs of the students. The classes will run in two long quarters, October through February, and then March through June, in compliance with the PTA after school program guidelines. I will have two scholarship spots available in each class. The class schedules will be as follows:

Grade K through 2 : Tuesdays in room 111.

First quarter Classes begin on October 4th, 2011, and run for 17 weeks, ending on February, 14th, 2012.

Fee: \$235.00

Grade 3 through 5 : Fridays in room 111.

First quarter will begin on October 7th, 2011, and run for 14 weeks, ending on February 17th, 2012.

Fee: \$195.00

Classes will begin directly after school, including on early release days, and run for one hour: 4:10 pickup time on regular school days.

Payment is due to the Lawton PTA by October 4th. Checks should be made out to the Lawton PTA, and can be dropped off at the school office.