

COMMUNICATION AT THE INTERSECTION OF ART AND DEMENTIA

Senior Access, Marin's favorite social club for folks with memory loss and dementia is initiating an intriguing pilot program, testing a new, viral approach to art and communication.

WHAT IS IT? Art and the creative process can enhance the lives of those living with dementia. It provides an avenue for expression, it is a therapeutic tool for eye-hand coordination and it offers an opportunity to build autonomy and independence. *Can art also create a space for enhanced communication between people living with dementia and caregivers?*

You will work with internationally recognized artist and dementia specialist, Michelle Burns, to explore how to replicate techniques for a creative process to evoke meaningful responses and build connections with people living with dementia.

WHO SHOULD APPLY? Anyone interested in this area of study and work may apply. You may be an artist, family caregiver, professional caregiver, or a student. We will respond to every inquiry. We are seeking a mix of participants.

WHAT WILL IT REQUIRE? You will participate in 10 hours of training and hands-on activities, including a 4-hour Saturday training workshop on **Saturday, March 28 from 10 am – 2 pm**, two 2-hour activities with people with dementia, and a 2-hour reflection and evaluation workshop in mid-June, most dates to be determined between you and Michelle. You will receive a certificate of completion for the course.

Together, we will explore the intersection of art, communication and dementia. You will have the opportunity to create your own class to experience using the techniques you learn.

Because this is a pilot study, your feedback is important. You will be asked to fill out questionnaires and reflect the workshops and your experiences. You may be asked to help finish art work and mount an exhibition.

I'M INTERESTED, WHAT SHOULD I DO NOW? Fill out a short application* and return to:

Mimi Schreiber at Senior Access
mschreiber@senioraccess.org

We will contact you after we have received your application.

I HAVE MORE QUESTIONS, CAN I TALK TO SOMEONE? Yes, you can call or email Mimi Schreiber at mschreiber@senioraccess.org or 415-491-2500 ext 19.

* If the application is not attached to this email, you can find it on our website, www.senioraccess.org, and clicking on the "Magical Expressions" page. There will be a link to the application.