

Dear Oakbrook Elementary,

Welcome back! It's going to be an amazing artistic school year! I am so looking forward to creating with your learner! In fact, January 4th 1999 was the day I was hired. After earning a BFA & MAT, student teaching at Ebeling & Malow, creating art with learners for Utica Community Schools has always been my goal! I am so proud and privileged to do so!! Thank you!

We will be creating within all four disciplines of art: drawing, painting, print making and sculpture with some aesthetics, art history & art criticism sprinkled in. To better prepare your learner to be an artist we will focus on the Elements and Principles of Design. These design elements are carried over through their academic and professional careers; no matter what they choose to do!

Thank you so much for all your future and past support! Of course, we could always use your thoughtful donations of time and supplies! We love to recycle here in our art room. Reduce, Reuse and Recycle the Three R's are the way to be; in these modern times of upscaling, and resale, we like to have the opportunity to have learners explore their creativity with these environmentally sound endeavors. I am looking for parent who are Fire Fighters and Police Officers to model for our learners in our Art room! So if you, or a member of our stakeholders, are so inclined we would love to see you in some gear or uniform for our learners!

Art will be on display in the hallway, by their classroom, by the office, or in the Art wing Hallway, known as the S.A.M. suite. Annually we have a District wide Arts Festival in spring!

I'll be here most days of the week! I feel very fortunate to be back at Oakbrook. I have moved around a lot, and this year makes Oakbrook the place I've been the most and the longest! It really feels like home. Thanks in no small part to the: learners, Family Tree, staff and Dr. Rediske.

Our art room uses "I can" statements to reinforce what we are learning. This year our School Improvement Goals are: Reading, Writing, Math, Science and Social Studies. In our art lessons we will embed: cross curricular lessons & activities, multiculturalism, the local standards and benchmarks. Using first hand/ hands on, authentic learning with proper technique and procedures our artwork will be fantastic! Every lesson is age appropriate & open ended, so learners feel comfortable and safe to explore, create and ultimately master the technique while enjoying the creative process.

I look forward to another wonderful year creating with your learners.

Sincerely Your Art Teacher,
Mr. Jeff Titran (Mr. T.)