

### Our Mission:

Growing Places provides early education programs that foster the development of the whole child.

### Our Programs:

#### Lee Early Childhood Site

6 weeks ~ 6 years

56 Pinkham Road

(603)868.1160

Director: Kim Snow

Teachers: Lindsey Colbath

Katie Gray

Michelle Guthrie

Shane Krafton

Lindsay Michel

Kate Milne

Greta Russell

Julie Scadova

Ashely Studer

#### Durham Early Childhood Site

2~6 years

60 Strafford Ave

(603)868.5674

Director: Hillary Hughes

Teachers: Jillian Calderara

Sarah Hastings

Becca Kelly

Emily Kluun

Ashley Studer

#### School Age Programs

5~12 years

(603)969.8677

Moharimet Elementary School

Director: Francesca Trial

#### TimberNook Programs

5~12 years

Moharimet Elementary School

#### Program Administrators

Sarah Nason

Wendy Rousseau

#### Executive Director

Cellissa Hoyt

#### Board of Directors

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## Growing Places' 21st Annual Art Show on the Horizon!

Excerpts taken from "Art in Early Childhood" by Jill Englebright Fox, Ph. D. & Stacey Berry, M. Ed.

On Wednesday, March 2, 2016 the Moharimet Elementary School gym will be transformed into an amazing splash of art, showcasing pieces from ALL of the children at our Growing Places' early childhood programs.

This visual display brings delight to our guests, but for our teachers the focus is not on the product so much as the process. The process of art supports the development of social-emotional, cognitive, and fine and gross motor skills. Young children feel a sense of emotional satisfaction when they are involved in making art, whether they are modeling with clay, drawing with crayons, or making a collage from recycled scraps. This satisfaction comes from the control children have over the materials they use and the autonomy they have in the decisions they make (Schirmacher, 1998; Seefeldt, 1993). Making art is a sensory exploration activity. Children enjoy the feeling of a crayon moving across paper and seeing a blob of colored paint grow larger. Kamii and DeVries (1993) suggested that exploring materials is very important because it is through exploration that children build a knowledge of the objects in the world around them.



As children grow and develop, their art-making activities move beyond exploring with their senses and begin to involve the use of symbols. Children begin to represent real objects, events, and feelings in their artwork. Drawing, in particular, becomes an activity that allows them to symbolize what they know and feel. It is a needed outlet for children whose vocabulary, written or verbal, may be limited (de la Roche, 1996). This early use of symbols in artwork is very important because it provides a foundation for children's later use of words to symbolize objects and actions in formal writing.

While making art, young children develop control of large and small muscle groups (Koster, 1997). The large arm movements required for painting or drawing at an easel or on large paper on the floor build coordination and strength. The smaller movements of fingers, hands, and wrists required to cut with scissors, model clay, or draw or paint on smaller surfaces develop fine motor dexterity and control. With repeated opportunities for practice, young children gain confidence in their use of tools for making art and later for writing. Making art also helps children develop eye-hand coordination (Koster, 1997). As children decide how to make parts fit together into a whole, where to place objects, and what details to include, they learn to coordinate what they see with the movements of their hands and fingers.



Creating art from a new perspective

This eye-hand coordination is essential for many activities, including forming letters and spacing words in formal writing.

(article cont. on page 2)

A Nonprofit Early Care, Education and Youth Recreation Organization

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[www.growingplacesnh.org](http://www.growingplacesnh.org)

Durham | Lee | Madbury





# Growing Places' 21st Annual Art Show on the Horizon! .....

cont. from page 1

It is a real “aha” moment when pausing and acknowledging just how significant the process of art is! It’s no surprise that more than a century later, early childhood educators still support Friedrich Froebel’s (early childhood pioneer) statement that “art encourages each child’s full and all-sided development”. The pictures below capture the many ways that a child’s “full and all-sided development” is challenged at our early childhood programs each and every day through a variety of mediums and platforms.



For more art inspiring moments, we welcome you to join us on March 2nd from 6-7:30 in the gymnasium at the Moharimet Elementary School for Growing Places 21st Annual Art Show! (snow date March 9th)



# Hillary Hughes and her Family...Growing with Growing Places

Almost two decades ago, Growing Places hired a stellar educator, Hillary Hughes. Early in life, Hillary knew she enjoyed working with children as she spent a great deal of time babysitting. Her passion continued and was solidified when she took an early childhood course at Marshwood High School in Eliot, Maine. During her high school early childhood internship, Hillary enjoyed the classroom setting, the children's enthusiasm for learning, and how eager and excited the children were to engage themselves in the fun curriculum she offered.

After high school, Hillary pursued her studies in Early Childhood Education at the University of Maine in Farmington. In 1997, Hillary was looking for placement for an Independent Study/field work and this is when she discovered Growing Places. Her good friend/sister in law, Wendy Rousseau, had just graduated from UMF and accepted a teaching position at Growing Places and encouraged Hillary to inquire. Growing Places granted Hillary's proposal for field work and within days she fell in love with the philosophy and atmosphere of the organization.

Not wanting to leave upon the completion of her field work, Hillary decided to continue with her internship at Growing Places. And as the saying goes, "the rest is history". Fast forward nearly twenty years and Hillary continues to share her expertise with Growing Places as the Program Director of our Preschool and Pre K/Kindergarten located in Durham. Of course this position didn't come without years of growth in this field. Hillary taught in our infant and preschool classroom for three years before deciding in 2002 to share her knowledge and experience with a leadership role as a Program Director. Her solid leadership both in and out of the classroom contributed to the successful undertaking of relocating our Durham site across the UNH campus from Forest Park to our Woodside location on Strafford Avenue in 2006.

The move was seamless thanks to Hillary and what she would contribute to as the hard work of her team. Due to her co-workers, she shared that Growing Places always seems like home away from home and not work. Quickly adding with a smile that Growing Places' fun playful environment is contagious and always a sure proof recipe to having a great day!

Not only has Growing Places been gifted with Hillary's presence over the years but with her children as well. Both of her children, Cody (now 19) and Saige (now 17) spent their early years with our Growing Places' family. Cody is now a college athlete at Virginia Tech studying business and Saige is graduating from high school this year and plans to pursue a degree in nursing.



The Hughes Family (Saige, Todd, Cody, & Hillary)



Saige (on right) with a good friend during her Growing Places days.



Cody (front right) going for a buggy ride with his Growing Places friends.



Saige & Cody Fall 2016

As Hillary prepares for her "empty nest" she continues to fuel her passion for fitness through outdoor hikes and walks with her husband of almost twenty years, Todd and their dog Brady. They both also enjoy taking in the fresh salty air at local beaches.

Hillary's uses her love for fitness to support foundations like the Jimmy Fund. In 2014 she raised money through walking in their half marathon and she plans to take on this adventure again this Fall. Whether it be work or play, Hillary always gives it her all and Growing Places is thrilled to be a part of it!

## Upcoming Events:

- Annual Art Show, Wednesday, March 2nd from 6-7:30 at Moharimet Elementary School, Madbury NH (snow date March 9)
- Save the date for The Wheeler Party: Wed. May 11th. More details about this event will be coming soon.

Please call 868.1335 for more information.

## Organizational Announcements:

- Growing Places' TimberNook summer camp registration is now OPEN. Please visit TimberNook.com for more information or to register.
- Growing Places' Camp Cowabunga registration opens on March 1st for in house and alumni and March 16th for the public. Email moharimet@growingplacesnh.org for more information or a registration packet.
- Now enrolling for Fall 2016! Contact us at 868-1335 for information about our early childhood programs in Lee and Durham or about our school age programs at Moharimet Elementary School, both Before School Care (new for fall 2016) and After School Care.



A HUGE thanks to our amazing Corporate Sponsors!

"It is literally true that you can succeed best and quickest by helping others succeed"~ Napoleon Hill

To learn more about this powerful partnership please contact Wendy at 868.1335.

