

Kids Place Lex, Inc.

Key Personnel — Biographical Information

LexArts Community Arts Development (CAD) Grant Application

Constance Grayson

Founder & Executive Director, Kids Place Lex, Inc.

Constance Grayson is a practicing visual artist with approximately 30 years of studio practice spanning painting and textile art, as well as the Founder and Director of Gallery 645, a contemporary art gallery in Lexington. She is also an attorney who practiced for many years in family law, working directly on issues involving children in the foster care system. In founding Kids Place Lex, Constance combines her legal experience with her artistic practice, creating programming that demonstrates the lifelong positive impact of arts involvement on youth in foster care and from under-resourced backgrounds. She oversees program design, grant management, and organizational leadership for Kids Place Lex.

Hope Soch

Director of Art Education, Kids Place Lex, Inc.

Hope Soch is an art educator and professional artist with over 30 years of experience teaching art in elementary schools. As Director of Art Education for Kids Place Lex, her focus is on encouraging youth to explore their creativity and develop their full potential through art, bringing extensive classroom experience and developmentally appropriate teaching practice to the organization's programs.

Michelle Newby Armstrong

Guest Artist/Instructor, Kids Place Lex, Inc.

Michelle Newby Armstrong is an art educator who taught art in the Fayette County School system for over 31 years. She serves as one of the guest artist instructors for Kids Place Lex's Passport to Art series, sharing her extensive knowledge of art techniques and art history with young artists in the program.

Debbie Blair

Guest Artist/Instructor, Kids Place Lex, Inc.

Debbie Blair is a Lexington-based, self-taught artist who turned her focus to art following a long career in the Thoroughbred industry. Her work reflects her life experiences and extensive international travel, which continue to inform and inspire her artistic practice and her teaching with Kids Place Lex students.

Enrique Gonzalez

Guest Artist/Instructor, Kids Place Lex, Inc.

Enrique Gonzalez is a Lexington-based artist originally from the Venezuelan Amazonian Rainforest, known for a modern impressionist style spanning equine art, landscapes, portraits, and murals. His work has been displayed in numerous galleries around Lexington, and he is an active volunteer, donating art and time to local organizations and charitable fundraising efforts. He brings this professional artistic practice and community commitment to his work as a guest instructor with Kids Place Lex.