# **BVOH Teaching Artists Profiles**

**Mario Benton**. CLASS: Theatrical Modeling (Preschool – 5th)

Mario B is a well-known San Francisco Wardrobe Stylist and Fashion Show producer. He operates our popular Youth Modeling program. Mario mentors models from ages 5-25 and transforms them into high-end fashion runway professionals. His classes emphasize camera techniques, movement and self esteem. (http://www.modelmayhem.com/677406)

#### **Joseph Colmenares.** Graffiti Art (1st-5th)

Joseph has been teaching graffiti arts for the Bayview Opera House since the beginning of 2010 and his classes have created the banners for our Rock-Extinction exhibit and the summer camp. Joseph recently collaborated with sculptor Don Porfirio Vazquez on an installation on the BVOH grounds. He uses Graffiti Art to teach lettering graffiti style, using self-expression to augment standard letters. He guides his students in creating murals, banners and posters for public display, encouraging a choice of words to express a personal message.

http://blogs.sfweekly.com/thesnitch/2010/01/guerilla\_art\_stonemason\_don\_po.php

# **Danielle Maria Hoang. CLASS: Ceramics (**Age: K-5th)

**B**orn and raised in San Francisco, Danielle knew early on art was going to be her lifelong journey. Receiving the Ceramic Achievement Award in her senior year of high school solidified her decision to pursue artistic endeavors in college. She studied at San Francisco State University, Charles University in Prague, Czech Republic. She earned her BA in Art Studio with an emphasis on both photography and ceramics from California State University Chico. Her work has been exhibited in galleries throughout San Francisco and she works from Ruby's Clay Studio in San Francisco. She was a Ceramics Lab Technician at the City College of San Francisco. With an interest in tangibility, Danielle uses a variety of materials to express her fascination with mankind's ability to manipulate nature to create something new and desired. Including both organic and artificial elements in her work, she creates a degree of tension exemplifying the relationship between man's innovations and nature that exists in our world's reality. (http://daniellehoang.com/)

**Jacob Kramer.** CLASS: Orff Music (preschool-5<sup>th</sup>) Parent/Toddler Music (2+ & adults) Jacob Kramer received his Master of Music in guitar performance from the San Francisco Conservatory of Music in 2004. He has performed and taught music in many styles, with an emphasis on classical and folk music of the Americas. In 2007, Jacob discovered children's music, a field where he could synthesize all of his musical interests. Jacob became an Orff Schulwerk certified teacher in 2010. All of his music classes, whether private or group, for children or adult students, include singing, dancing, games, and student creativity. He has performed classical guitar solo, in the flute guitar duo Duo Fuoco, and has accompanied singers around the Bay Area. He is currently on faculty the San Francisco Guitar School. (http://www.linkedin.com/pub/jacob-kramer/22/875/b95)

**Armando Luna.** CLASSES: Yoga (preschool to 5th) & Parent/Toddler Yoga (3+ & adult)

Armando initiated our innovative parent toddler yoga class, and also teaches a session for preschool to 5th graders. His technique is gentle, yet motivating. By incorporating stretching, toning and flexibility, he creates positive results in wellness and mindfulness. Beyond BVOH, Armando Luna teaches Vinyasa Flow Yoga for beginning and intermediate levels and is a certified fitness instructor at various sites, including Gold's Gym and his own center, Championship Fitness. (Cue to 6:32: <a href="http://www.youtube.com/user/mondocf">http://www.youtube.com/user/mondocf</a> & <a href="http://championshipfitness.com/">http://championshipfitness.com/</a>)

## William Rhodes. CLASS: Mixed Media and Painting (K-5<sup>th</sup>)

Sculptural Furniture artist William Rhodes began his creative journey at the Baltimore School for the Arts. He earned a BA in Furniture Building and Design from the University of the Arts in Philadelphia and his MFA from the University of Massachusetts at Dartmouth. Rhodes' creative works are in the collections of various galleries and museums and featured in several major publications. Rhodes' travels to Africa, Asia and Central and South America strongly influences his work. (http://williamrhodesart.com/& http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ma3xrwq7SRo)

**Meghann Junell Riepenhoff.** CLASSES: Photography (preschool and up); SFAI You Tube Video (Middle & H.S.)

Meghann is a San Francisco-based photographic artist. Her exhibition record includes solo shows at El Museo de la Ciudad in Mexico and Duncan Miller Gallery in Los Angeles. She was selected as an artist-in-residence at the Rayko Photo Center and the Banff Centre for the Arts, where she received the Darwall Scholarship. Riepenhoff received the Ann Bremer Memorial Artists' Book award, has lectured with the San Francisco Photo Alliance, the Headlands Center for Research, has hosted workshops on the value of photography for at-risk youth, and teaches at the San Francisco Art Institute. She earned her MFA from San Francisco Art Institute and her BFA in Photography from the University of Georgia. (http://meghannriepenhoff.com/)

Robert "Finesse" Vicario. CLASSES: Break Dance; Hip Hop Dance (preschool to 5th grade); Bobby "Finesse" Vicario is a native of San Francisco, and a specialist in the art of break dancing. In 1995, at the age fourteen, Finesse witnessed a style of movement which from then on shaped his future. Since that time Finesse has competed both locally and globally, becoming a champion at home and abroad. In 2003, as a part of the Renegade Rockers, Finesse and his crew won the Euro Pro Am event in Toulouse, France. Finesse was also featured in the motion picture Planet B-boy as a part of the USA finals for battle of the year. Most recent activities have been victories at the Triffecta bboy battle in Sacramento, Battle of Supremacy in Sebastopol, and competitive action in Korea, for R-16. (http://vimeo.com/15675794)

#### **Lamont Young.** CLASS: DJ (grades 3 - High School)

DJ Lamont has been playing with records for 40 years since he was given his first Close N' Play record player by his mother in 1970. DJ Lamont is now celebrating his 25th year as a professional DJ, spinning at clubs, restaurants and social events of all occasions. Lamont has also worked in radio broadcasting, event management, and music retail and distribution. This

past year, Lamont travelled the entire west coast, from Seattle to San Diego, with a touring art show called Art Rocks. Lamont founded Fingersnaps as a means of creating community with music as a center of self expression. He has taught over 150 DJ's in his home studio and hundreds of youth and adults out in the community. (http://fingersnaps.net/dj-lamont.html)

### **COLLABORATORS** (they are really not visiting artists, they provide programs)

# **Abada Capoeira.** CLASS: Capoeira (2nd grade and up)

ABADÁ-Capoeira San Francisco (ACSF) works to preserve, develop, and share the martial art of capoeira with integrity, and to use capoeira to ignite positive change in individuals and in communities. ACSF has the mission to address the social and economic disparities that exist in our communities by inspiring personal and athletic success through artistic, cultural, physical and health education. (http://www.abada.org/)

## **Brushfire Painting Workshops**. CLASS: Expressive Painting (K-5th)

Brush Fire Painting uses the power of the arts to heal hearts and transform lives. Their Process Oriented painting is firmly based on The Painting Experience and The Point Zero Methods of painting that prioritize art creation as a tool for personal growth, authentic expression, and expanded sense of possibility. Process Oriented painting focuses on the creative process, unlike traditional art methods that concentrate on the products of the artistic process. (http://paintbrushfire.org/)

**San Francisco Art Institute:** CLASS: YouTube Video (Middle and High School) The San Francisco Art Institute's award-winning City Studio program offers underserved youth high-quality arts education in their own neighborhood, enlists youth in a long term program to gain passion for and skills in the fine arts, and assists them in developing a portfolio for a professional career in the arts and/or to possibly qualify them to apply for higher education. SFAI City Studio currently offers You Tube Video with Meghann Riepenhoff (http://www.sfai.edu/city-studio-0)

**SF CAMERAWORK First Exposure**: Praised as a model program by the State of California, First Exposures is unique in its one-to-one pairing of each child with a photographer who serves as a caring mentor and positive adult role model. Mentors are photographers with a commitment to youth empowerment through education, volunteering for a minimum of one year. First Exposures provides a creative outlet for students to express themselves in a safe and supportive environment, and encourages them to become articulate, confident, and responsible young adults. In 2008 First Exposures expanded its program by introducing a digital photography class in order to serve more youth.

http://www.sfcamerawork.org/education/first\_exposures/index.php