

Frequently Asked Questions

What is Kaleidoscope's BEHAVIOR POLICY? If a student is disruptive to the class then the parent will be called. If the disruption persists and affects the ability of the class to have their art lesson, then the student may be dismissed from the class without a refund.

My child is almost 4, may I enroll them in classes?

Kaleidoscope does not admit students younger than 4 years old, and they must be 4 by the first day of class. If your child is not the correct age they will not be allowed to continue in a class, and tuition will not be refunded.

Periodically we offer a class for 3s. We expect all children to be able to be apart from their parent and be independent in the restroom.

My child has a late birthday, or should be in the next grade, may I enroll them in those classes?

When classifying classes by grades, Kaleidoscope registers according to the grade the student is officially enrolled in. This occurs during the school year for our six week programs. Please do not advance your child. We do not want a student experiencing kindergarten to be in an art classroom with students experiencing third grade. Summer programs are grouped by age, not grade, and our lesson plans reflect this classification.

My child is very talented; can they be enrolled in the older classes?

Kaleidoscope has so many talented children; in order to be fair to everyone, students must register for the grade they are officially in. Class sizes are small, and teachers will strive to give their more advanced students extra challenges within the scope of the projects.

What grade is Junior High?

Kaleidoscope considers 6th grade to be junior high level.

During the summer what grade is my child considered?

For our summer programs Kaleidoscope now registers by the age of the student, not their grade. Please enroll gifted children according to their age level and not their grade level.

Do you have make up classes?

We are sorry, but we are unable to provide make up classes. For a variety of reasons students need to miss class, but unfortunately we are not able to accommodate make ups. Most often we do not offer the same class with the same instructor, so there is not really a "make up time." Different classes and instructors would be working on different projects and oftentimes projects overlap from week to week. Additionally, classes are often full and there may

not be room to accommodate an additional student. If your child will miss class, please inform the instructor or the office. If your child is sick, please do not send them to class. During the school year if your class is cancelled because of a snow day or your instructor's illness then the week between sessions is reserved so your class will have a make-up class at the same time on the same day at the end of the effected semester.

What is your cancellation policy?

All changes and cancellations are subject to a service charge. If you need to change or cancel prior to the cancellation date (2 weeks before the start of the class.) there will be a 10% service charge. After the cancellation date there is a 50% service charge if we are unable to fill the spot. Three business days before or after the first day of class there are no refunds, no credits.

What is the "best" way to register?

There is no one way to register. The first opportunity to register is online at 6am on the first day of registration. We recommend that you create your new user account in advance so you will be ready to register on that morning. After that you can call during regular office hours to register over the phone.

Payments are made at the time of registration. Registrations can also be mailed to 316 W Main Street Barrington and will be opened in a first come/first opened basis when the office opens on the registration date. Drop off registrations will be called to confirm registration.

What if I will be away from a computer on the first day of registration?

Consider dropping off or mailing in your registration request.

Can I be certain that I get the class I want?

Register as soon as you know what you want. Each session has a different demand for classes which is difficult to predict. We do our best to accommodate as many students as possible. Some classes do fill the first morning of registration; others might be open until the first day of class. It never hurts to check to see if a class is open, even if you think everything is going to be full! If a class does not meet minimum enrollment it will be cancelled (approximately 1 week prior to the first day of class).

The class I want is full, is it worth going on a waiting list?

Absolutely! Although it is always unpredictable, waiting lists do work! We often have changes and cancellations, especially during the summer months. Occasionally, we will open a second class if we have classroom space, instructor interest, and enough students on the waitlist.

How does the wait list work?

Leave the student's name and the best number to contact you and we will let you know if we have an opening. If your plans have changed in the interim, there is no obligation to enroll in the class. There is no rhyme or reason as to when changes and cancellations occur; sometimes it happens as late as the

first day of class. Although you are welcome to check your waitlist status, the Kaleidoscope office will contact you if there is an opening. Occasionally if we have a lengthy waiting list, an open room, and an available teacher we may even be able to add a class.

Will I receive a confirmation?

Kaleidoscope does not send out confirmations. Please mark your calendar when you sign up for a class. A receipt and/or copy of your registration can be mailed upon request. Confirmations are only given for drop off registrations.

Does my child need to have experience or natural ability to attend classes?

Students age four and older at any skill level are welcome to attend. It is important to place your children in art classes only if they are interested and enthusiastic about attending. In order to maintain a friendly and creative environment conducive to learning it is crucial that students understand that disruptive behavior inhibits their ability to learn, as well as interfering with the enjoyment of other students in the class. Disruptive students will be dismissed without a refund.

What class should my child take first?

It is not necessary to take classes in any particular order. Enroll your student in the classes they are most interested in and in their correct age or grade level depending on the class requirements. We recommend that you have a conversation with our Program Director if your child is especially gifted or has any special needs or learning requirements so we can assist in finding the best class.

Do classes repeat?

Kaleidoscope's instructors are always coming up with wonderful new projects to keep the curriculum fresh and exciting. Students may take the same class again and again, and the class will not repeat. Like playing a sport or an instrument, your child will improve in skill, appreciation, and confidence. *(Exceptions to this would be a very specific class such as "Nativity in Clay" where the class is focused on creating that particular project. Even in this case we have had students repeat so they could share their wonderful artwork with a lucky grandparent!)*

What if I forgot to pick up my child's artwork?

Due to the large number of students we have, we cannot keep artwork indefinitely. Kaleidoscope's policy is to keep the artwork for two weeks following the end of the session or special show. If more than two weeks have passed you can still come in or call the office to check for unclaimed artwork. Some art may be hanging on a wall, or out in the Kaleidoscope garden. It's worth a look!

Can my child accompany me when I attend an adult class?

We are sorry, but children are not permitted to accompany their parents to adult classes. Other adults are there to have a child-free art experience. If you are interested in taking art with your child, consider scheduling a semi-private lesson for your family. If your child is home sick from school, please do not bring the possibility of infection into the school.

Who is eligible for scholarships?

During the difficult times art can make a difference in our lives. Students in financial need or in crisis may apply for a Kaleidoscope Art Scholarship. There is a short form to fill out. Kaleidoscope requests those who are able to pay for at least a portion of the class fee do so. If you receive a scholarship you are expected to attend all classes unless there is an illness, or other unavoidable circumstance. Please notify the school if this is the case. Classes must meet minimum requirements to run. To serve as many individuals as possible, we also have to limit the amount of scholarships designated to a particular student. Scholarships will not be granted for more than one class per semester and no more than 3 semesters per year. If tuition has already been paid in full, it will not be refunded for a scholarship, but you may apply for subsequent scholarships, if you qualify. Scholarships are not guaranteed and are dependent on available scholarship funds.