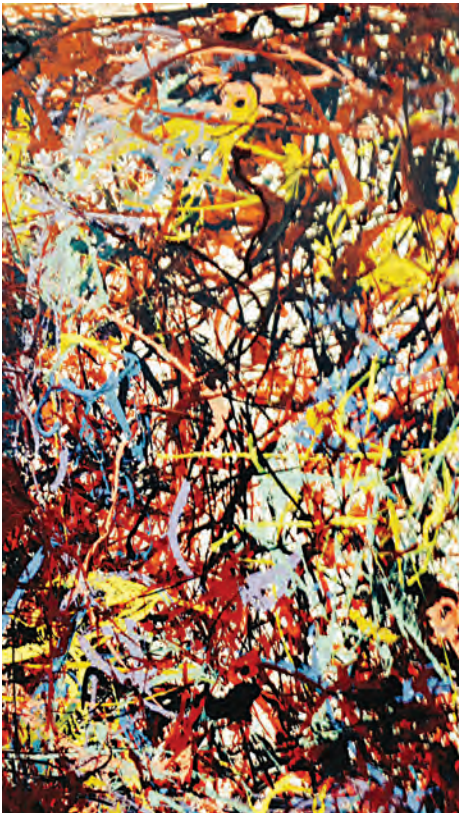




arttails

by MONET MOUSE

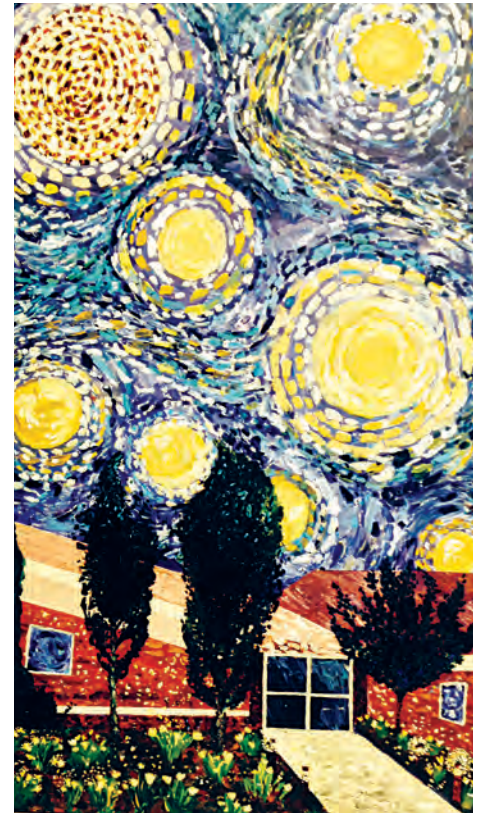
Students at West Clay Elementary School join Linda Cannon and Monet Mouse in painting Masterpieces!



Kindergarten and first grade splatter painted with yarn 🐭 and pretended the yarn was a worm 🐛 in the abstract style of famous American expressionist artist Jackson Pollock who lived from 1912-1956. Their painting dramatically displays the school colors with a splash of color here and there to represent the enthusiastic students.



Second and third grade brushed cotton-candy colored clouds and created an impressionistic West Clay Elementary courtyard upon their canvas. Claude Monet loved to paint outside, which is known as plein-air painting. 🐭 try it this summer! 🐭 Their painting is reminiscent of the gardens by the famous French artist Claude Monet, 1840 – 1926.



Fourth and fifth grade were inspired by *Starry Night*, a famous masterpiece by post-impressionist Dutch artist Vincent van Gogh, 1853 – 1890. West Clay students painted the entrance to the school at night. 🐭 Look how the strokes of color seem to move about 🐭 Fireflies dance to the music of the starry night and lunar eclipse. The moon has strokes of red to remember the eclipse which occurred during our time together.

Monet Mouse's Most Terrifying Tale:

Ooo-la-la! How Monet loves a good nap and the fun of finding a snuggly spot. One late afternoon Monet spied a tall floor lamp that opened invitingly at the top. The light was off and he scampered up the side, curled around the bulb, and fell sound asleep.

Every week, a group of art students arrive in the studio. The first artventure is to find the hiding Monet. Lights on! Off to the hunt! Where is Monet Mouse? In the grandfather clock? The piano bench? Atop the library book shelves? Mais non! Wait, what is that smell? Something burning . . . could it be? Let the noses lead the way. Quick, find Monet! Sure enough a little trail of smoke rises from the lamp. A tip of a tail is quickly pulled and reveals the smoldering mouse. STOP! DROP! ROLL! Loving hands pat and calm a terrified critter.

His whiskers look fine. His straw hat still perches intact upon his head. All paws are accounted for. Tail is not even singed. But his art jacket has a large hole and, beneath it, his little grey back is burnt top to bottom- all the way through -to the very stuffing he is made of! Is there any hope?

A parent arrives to the distressed children and immediately examines the still mouse. "I am a doctor!" she exclaims to our relief. "Have you scissors, a needle and thread? I will operate!"

As the young artists huddle about her, she tenderly and carefully cuts away the blackened material and cleans the wound. All is quiet as she sews up Monet Mouse with the tiniest of stitches and even repairs his jacket. Everyone breathes a sigh of relief. Hooray and thank you, chère Doctor Reinoso. Monet Mouse is revived! He is also very pleased with his scar and the adventure it reminds him of. He happily continues on (even though he's a little thinner and smelled like a campfire for almost a year.) C'est vrai!

Welcome to my house! Stop by if you are in the neighborhood.

Monet Mouse



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Linda Schmitz Cannon has created artworks in pencil, pen and ink, watercolor and oil since 1976. She has over 800 paintings in private collections nationally and internationally. A member of the Indiana Artists Club, Linda served on the board for a number of years and was the president for two. Through June 8, 2014 Linda has an award-winning oil painting, *Be Still*, in the 82nd annual IAC exhibition at the Indianapolis Museum of Art.



An artist and art educator since 1977, Linda's passion for art continues to flow from the studio to the community. Connecting with all ages and leading them to discover and experience art, Cannon has led classes, summer camps and workshops. At the Indianapolis Museum of Art, she was a docent for 17 years and instructed the community outreach program, Search and Discover, for five years. Cannon launched her Young at Art classes at the IMA in 1990 and then expanded them by means of Artist-in-Residence programs throughout Indy and neighboring schools. Presently the Playscape Artist-in-Residence at the Children's Museum, Indianapolis, Linda shares monthly artventures and her ArtTails publications with the children and families. She has enjoyed collaborating with all the children at West Clay Elementary to create an enormous acrylic 3-paneled canvas triptych.

In addition to her writing and studio schedule, residencies and art classes, L.S. Cannon also loves developing art projects with her husband, a graphic designer, time with family and friends, gardening, visiting museums, caring for wildlife, hiking with her dogs and reading . . . usually with a cat by her side.

"The life that I have chosen gives me my full hours of enjoyment for the balance of my life. The sun will not rise, or set, without my notice and thanks." – Winslow Homer

You can see more art by Linda S Cannon and ArtTails by Monet Mouse by visiting her website, lscannonart.com

