



Melissa Johnson, Owner/Manager

South Coast Paddling Company

Education

Regent University, Virginia Beach, Virginia – Master of Arts in Teaching (1993)

Tulane University, New Orleans, Louisiana – Bachelor of Fine Arts, Sculpture (1982)

University of the South, Sewanee, Tennessee – National Merit Scholar (1974-77)

Experience

2008-2009 *Ocean Springs Record*, Arts Editor, Ocean Springs, MS

2008-2009 Mary C. O'Keefe Center for Arts & Education, Ocean Springs, MS

2005-2007 Jefferson Houston School for Arts and Academics, Alexandria, VA

1993-2005 Patrick Henry Elementary School, Alexandria, VA

Freelance Journalist

- Interview and report on artists, events, and exhibitions for weekly newspaper
- Meet weekly deadlines for column as art editor
- Take photographs to accompany articles
- Help advise on layout for arts pages

Art Teacher

- Teach Art to Preschool-Fifth grade students, both regular and special needs children
- Plan, coordinate and execute field trips for teachers and student groups
- Develop summer camp program for arts and sciences
- Create art curriculum based on state *Standards of Learning* for all grade levels
- Integrate art curriculum with language arts, math, science and social studies at all grades
- Modify curriculum and delivery to meet students' individual needs
- Instruct using various learning styles, modalities and media

2335 Government Street, Ocean Springs, MS 39564

228-872-2030

www.southcoastpaddling.com

- Faculty sponsor for *Patrick Henry Eagle-Post*, student newspaper
- Coordinated student design and creation of Friendship Firehouse holiday tree (2007)
- Developed and taught *"The Magic Elementary Chef"* Super Summer program (2003)
- *"Roots to Shoots"* Garden, outdoor learning classroom construction (2002)
- Leadership team member representing "specials" teachers - responsible for operational and instructional decisions school-wide (2000-2002)
- Created grade level reporting process to specials teachers to facilitate interdisciplinary coordination
- Instrumental in developing *Parent Involvement Survey*
- Parent Volunteer Coordinator (2001-2002)
- Parent Involvement Study Team member, initiated *Teacher Volunteer Survey*
- Social Committee (2000-2005) Chair (2002-2003)

Honors/Grants

- Achieved National Board Certification (2003)
- Patrick Henry School, Semi-Finalist, School Change Award (2003)
- Art Director, Socrates Institute, *"Vision and the Scientific Habit of Mind"* (1998-1999)
- Virginia Commission for the Arts Teacher Incentive Grants (1994, 1998)
- Arts and Humanities Grant resulting in "PHES Kite Festival" (1994)

Certifications

- 2003 National Board Certification, NBPTS
- Mississippi Certification, Art K-12
- Virginia Certification, Art K-12
- Mississippi Certification, Preschool-Fourth Grade
- Virginia Certification, NK-5

Community Involvement

- Docent, Walter Anderson Museum of Art, Ocean Springs, Mississippi (2007-2008)
- Member, Friends of the Mary C. O'Keefe Cultural Center
- Volunteer, The Lord is My Help, Food Pantry and Soup Kitchen (2007-2008)
- Member, St. John's Episcopal Church, Ocean Springs, Mississippi (2007-2008)
- Choir member, St. John's Episcopal Church (2007-2008)
- Member, St. Peters in the Woods, Fairfax Station, Virginia (1995-2007)
- Acolyte coordinator, St. Peters (2003-2004)
- Worship Committee member, St. Peters (2003-2005)
- Choir member, St. Peters (1996-2007)
- Virginia Region Pony Club, Dressage Rally Secretary (2000, 2004)
- Dominion Valley Pony Club (DVPC) sponsor (1996-2004)
- DVPC Volunteer Award (2000)
- DVPC Summer Camp Coordinator (1999)

Additional Training

- *Changing Education Through the Arts* (CETA) - Two Year Course on Art Integration, Kennedy Center for the Arts, Washington, DC (2005-2007)
- Technology Integration Curriculum Course (TIE) (2000-2001)
- TIE course evaluator (2001)
- Vertical Committee to Develop K-8 Art Standards for Alexandria City Public Schools (1994-1995)
- Virginia Computer Institute Technology Workshop (1994-1995)
- Currently registered to take the ACA two-day course: Kayak Touring

Interests

- Art, kayaking, hiking, bicycling, literature, writing, travel, horseback riding, birding, singing, iconography

Melissa began her paddling interest in 1975 while at college where she participated on the White-water Canoeing Team and has continued to canoe and kayak throughout her adult years to present.