

[https://www.hometownsource.com/abc\\_newspapers/news/artsentertainment/rumriver-art-center-brings-art-program-to-ramsey/article\\_5b838f35-cd73-5193-a42b-d9dff5014c20.html](https://www.hometownsource.com/abc_newspapers/news/artsentertainment/rumriver-art-center-brings-art-program-to-ramsey/article_5b838f35-cd73-5193-a42b-d9dff5014c20.html)

## RumRiver Art Center brings art program to Ramsey

By Eric Hagen Aug 29, 2016

The RumRiver Art Center took its show on the road to Ramsey in August for a special Art in the Park series.

For an hour every Thursday prior to the start of the outdoor concerts at The Draw park, children were able to try watercolor painting on canvas the first week, followed by oil pastel painting the second week, making polymer clay figures the third week and working with watercolor on paper on the final day on Aug. 25.

The group sizes were limited to 36 students, ages 5 to 15, each week. Everyone got to participate for free.

"We have the art center, but we want to bring art to where the people are," said Larry Weinberg, founder of the RumRiver Art Center, which is based in the Old Milk Factory building at 2665 Fourth Ave. in Anoka.

Mark Riverblood, Ramsey Parks Superintendent, said the city has been focusing on offering more recreation opportunities for residents. With the summer concert series offering musical entertainment, he thought it would be nice for the community to express their artistic talents in another medium. He hopes that someday Ramsey could offer an arts in the park program for adults.

"We think this is fantastic. When we saw it advertised, we jumped right on it," said Kristin Tossey, who is married to former Ramsey Council Member Jason Tossey. They were with their 8-year-old daughter, Taylor, at the Aug. 18 Art in the Park. In this class, the students learned how to make dragons out of polymer clay.

Kayleigh Alberts moved from Ramsey to Elk River two years ago and was in awe of how much the area has changed since she moved. The artists were working right across the street from a new apartment building going up by The Draw park. Kayleigh signed up her two kids Brysin, 2, and Kialer, 5.

For Ramsey resident Jami Rinderknecht, she previously took her Girl Scout Troop 14642 to the RumRiver Art Center to complete an arts merit badge this past spring and was excited to bring her 8-year-old daughter Marissa to this limited-time Art in the Park program. The fact it was free was a bonus.

"I was so excited. As soon as I saw the flier, I got her registered," Rinderknecht said

[gallery ids="188996,188997,188998,188999,189000,189001,189002" size="full"]