

DON MASSE

My earliest art-related memory is getting in trouble for drawing on one of the mint green walls in the family room with a bright red crayon. Since then, my love for the language of visual art has never waned. I am motivated to create by a desire to leave a positive mark, whether transient or long lasting, on the people in my life and the communities that I am part of. This could take the form of creating drawings and paintings large and small, apparel designs, or guiding students through the language of art on a daily basis.

I have taught at Zamorano Fine Arts Academy, a very large and diverse public elementary school in San Diego since 2001 where I am firmly committed to introducing my students to the work of contemporary artists (including numerous ones in San Diego) from a variety of backgrounds and creative fields. I do this because students become better engaged with visual art content and design challenges when they can see these elements being applied by diverse artists working in today's world.

When I am not in the classroom, you can often find me with a piece of chalk in my hand, either drawing in the street or in the safety of my own living room.