LAURA BOTSFORD



Phone: 501-733-6629

Address:
14 Mockingbird Ln
Conway, Arkansas
72032

Email:
laurabotsford@yahoo.com

Website:
https://www.laurabotsford.com/aie

PDF Portland Power Tales Book with Portland Elementary Children

Laura is a multi-disciplinary artist with the Arkansas Arts Council. Laura has self-published 8 books with schools, clinics, and cultural centers as well as producing and directing 20 original plays in schools and Little Rascals Theater.

Her United Imaginations Workshops provides children of any age with collaborative writing and illustration skills. Her mellifluous approach to teaching theater craft, and behavioral and creative writing workshops are illuminated with well-being and moral lessons. Arts and Crafts workshops include mixed media, painting, and digital collage. She is also available for speaking engagements and Arts in Education workshops for teachers, PTO, and administrators in the Art of Writing with Children.

. Laura studied at the McPhail School of Performing Arts in Minneapolis, Minnesota, and taught a summer early childhood Arts program at the Minneapolis Children's Theater - Attended El Camino College, majoring in Early Childhood Education and Development. She attended Workshops in Theater Classroom, Curriculum Enrichment, classes for Autistic, Hearing Impaired and for Behaviorally challenged students. She is a graduate of the Governors Leadership School.

Organizations and School Workshops

Phoenix Youth Opportunity/Montrose Development Community Center
Little Rascals Theater – Neverlands Studio
Museum of Chicot County Association
Guachoya
Vera Llyod Presbyterian Family Services
J, Austin White Cultural Center
Hamburg High School
Portland Elementary
Lakeside Elementary
Lakeside Highschool/Lakeside Play Little Shop of Horrors/Poetry Book

PROFILE

I reside in Conway, Arkansas as a resident of 3 years. I am a versatile multidisciplinary artist with the Arkansas Arts Council. I have written 8 books and 20 plays with children in the past 34 years and a radio script for a fund raiser with the Portland Beautification Organization. I've written, produced and directed plays, conducted art workshops in mask making, set design, and written illustrative books with children. I am available for guest speaking on writing with children and how to incorporate the arts into standard curriculum.

*President and Founder of Neverlands Inc. a 501 c 3 organization for the arts since 1992.
DUNS # 968154364
EIN Number 71- 0729201

CONTACT

PHONE:
501-733-6629

WEBSITE:
https://www.arkansasheritage.com/arkansas-art-council/registry-rosters/arts-in-education/laura-botsford

https://www.laurabotsford.com/

Linkedin https://www.linkedin.com

EMAIL:
laurabotsford@yahoo.com

HOBBIES

EDUCATION

El Camino Community College
1973 - 1975
Early Childhood Education – Creative Writing – Modern Dance

McPhail School of Performing Arts in Minneapolis, Minnesota,
1967 - 1969
Acting

WORK EXPERIENCE

Artist Residency for the Musical the Wish at Portland Elementary, Ar.
2017–2017
Playwright Director, Production Manager, Music Director

Artist Residency for the Musical My Backyard, The Wish at Portland Elementary, Ar.
2016 – 2017
Playwright Director, Production Manager, Music Director

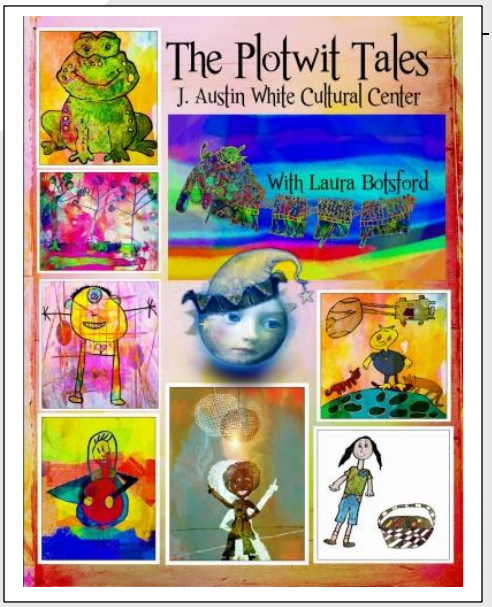
Vera Lloyd Family Services, Monticello, Arkansas, Book, Calendar, Summer Art Show Program
Three Summers from 2014–2017
Poetry and Art for the Book Truth in Changing Stars

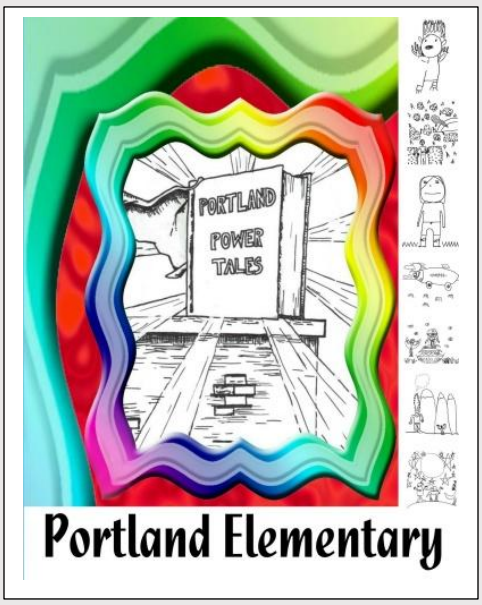
J Austin White – Two Summer Book Writing Workshop
Eudora, Arkansas.

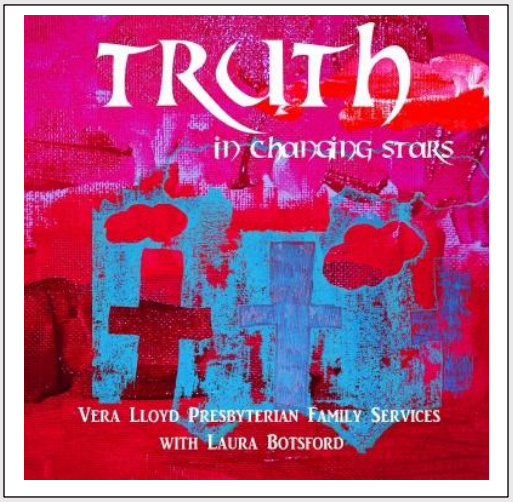
SKILLS



Book Writing - Publishing –
Grant Writing
Art Instructor
Playwright – Director – Production – Acting Coach
Set Design
Composer
Song Writer
Story Teller/Author
Graphic Arts and Mixed Media – Masks – Collage



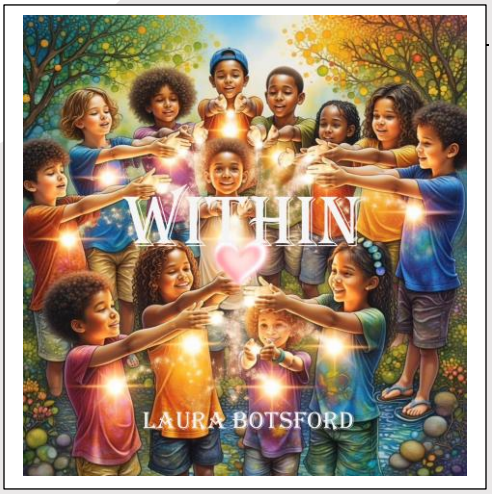




Past Workshops and Productions

History of Neverlands Inc. Arts

1992 * Incorporated LLC 501-c3 non profit
1993 * Arkansas Repertory Theater Delta Spirit - Sponsored by Delta and Pine Land and the Arkansas Arts Council.
1992-1998 * 12 original plays at Neverlands Studio and Lakeside Elementary school, written and performed by a cast of children under the direction of Laura Botsford.
1992-2002 * Lake Village October Fest - Story Telling and Recycled Art.
1993 * Scarecrow Contest - sponsored by Paul Michael Company.
1993 * Story Telling - Literacy and Music with Curtis Tate from Arkansas Arts On Tour and the Arkansas Heritage Territorial Restoration.
Montrose Development Community Center, AR.
1994 * Rains Out Of Africa, Original Story - African translations by Zinnsi Aganni Montrose Development Center, Arkansas
1996 * Lake Village Arts Festival on the banks of Lake Chicot - Sponsored by Bartons of Lake Village. Neverlands and the Arkansas Arts Council with AOT story teller, Faye Hanson.
1997 * After School Theater Arts Program in Hamburg, Arkansas.
1997 * Drawing and Water Color, Acting classes, Tale Of The Magical Sunflower Production. - Lake Village Elementary Governors Partnership. Rural Consortium Grant.
1997 * Little Shop Of Horrors- Set and Production - Lakeside High School.
1997 * Summer Portland Play Day
Banner, Stamp Art, Recycle Art In Imagination.
1997 * After School Theater Program Portland, Neverlands Studio.
1997 * Lake Village Arts Festival at the Museum of Chicot County
Curtis Tate Story Telling - MDC read Rains Out Of Africa. Alice Guffey Miller and Mars Hall Wood Sculptures, Steve Kelsey and Local Artist Exhibit.
1997 * Montrose Community Development Center Story Telling and Music.
1999 * Release The Peace - Hamburg High
1998 * Gifts to a Broken World- Lakeside High School - Touch Stone Grant
1999 * Cultural Reflections - 6 month project grant celebrating our area people's heritages; Black, Celtic, Italian, Hispanic, Native American, Chinese and Scandinavian.
1999 * Chinese New Year Fire Sculpture-Alice Guffey and Mars Hall, AOT Harpist.- Sponsored by the Arts Council and the Yee Family.
1999 * Native American Medicine Masks and Parade with Alice Guffey Miller, Chandrika and the children of Lakeside Elementary - Fossils and Grinding Stones with Zaney Carpenter. Arkansas Parks interpreter Don Simons animal tracks.- Lake Village, Lakeside Elementary.
1999 * The purchase of the Guachoya Art Center was made possible with the help of Neverlands Inc Arts 501-c3 non-profit for five thousand dollars. Neverlands grants from the Arkansas Arts Council brought the first series of exhibits and events through Cultural Reflections to Lake Village. Neverlands provided the Art Gallery rigging and 6 months of workshops in the center, at the school. Mosiac Workshop, Hungarian egg painting, guitar and voice Lessons, concerts and Gallery Exhibits.
1999 * October Fest-Recycle Art - Instruments
1999 * Alsace Southern Jewish Exhibit
1999 * Day Of The Dead Celebration - Lake Village Library with AOT artist Alice Guffey Miller.
1999 * AOT artist Ameria at Water Festival
1999 * Lakeside High School - Celtic Music and Irish Folk Tales - Guachoya
2000 * October Fest Scarecrow Contest and Art of Recycling Booth.
2000 * Awarded Expansion Arts First Year by Arkansas Arts Council.
2000 Tile Painting Workshop - Guachoya 2000 Egyptian Museum Tour Of King Tut - Jackson, Mississippi.
2000 - Summer Program AAC Grant at Guachoya. by Patsy Newcome Neverlands Inc. - President
2000-2003 * Phoenix Youth Opportunity Movement - Play Writing-Stage Production -Public Speaking and play production of True Colors. Neverlands Director, Laura Botsford at Phoenix Youth Opportunity with Mixed Media, Painting , Mask Making Workshops, Acting, Video documentation
2004 * Play writing - Time Fly's - Phoenix Youth Opportunity Movement.
2005-2006 We were on sabbatical and re-organized in 2007 with a new Board.
2007 * Summer Stepping Stones Workshop at Portland Elementary
2008 * Guachoya Art Center - Christmas Fair Artists Show Case for flowerchilddreams.com participants.
2009 - 2010 * Authors Club at Portland Elementary - Portland Power Tales.
2010 * Poster and Calendar Contest



2011- Little Rascals Theater
2012- Little Rascals Theater
2013- Portland Power Tales
Portland, Ar.
Whispering Spring Play – Portland Elementary
2014- Eudoraium
Book with J. Austin White Cultural Center
Summer Program, Eudora, AR.
Prince of Peace- Composer
Make and Believe - Book

Lake Side High School Poetry Book
Lake Village, Arkansas

Truth in Changing Stars – Poetry of Students and Art
Vera Lloyd Family Services Summer Program

2015- Plotwit Tales
Book with J. Austin White Cultural Center
Eudora,Ar.
Wishing Wall- Composer
The Ice Fishers -Author

2016 She Journeys - Author

2017- My Backyard Musical - Portland Elementary

United imaginations

2017- Aquarium Funk -Composer
Poet Streets – Composer
Journey of Fairy Tales - Composer
You Are – Book

2018 – Portland Winterfest-Coordinator
Public Relations, Marketing.
Yoshiko -Art Book

2019-
Eternal Flame – Author
Journey of Fairy Tales

2020- You Are -Author
Unicorn Giraffe - Author

2021- Sugar Snow – Author
My Little Sunshine

2022- Eternal Flame - Author

2023-2025 – Family Books and Video Documentaries

2013-2026 12 EP's

Wishing Wall
Prince of Peace
Poet Streets
Aquarium Funk
Journey of Fairy Tales
Parlor Tricks
Waterbrook
Remembrance
Desert Roses
Within
Splendiferous
Midnight Mystic