



Utah/Idaho Face Painters Association

# Summer 2013 Newsletter



Caty Gervais



Paintertainment.com

Design by Gretchen Fleener



Paintertainment.com



Yu C. Li



Caty Gervais





# ARTIST SPOTLIGHT



## ATHENA HYMAS-STOYALL



The first time I saw Athena's name was when I was looking up Utah Face Painting. This was back in 2009 and I had just begun my foray into face painting. I was looking for likeminded people, I was looking for my competition, let's call a spade a spade; I was looking for help. My business wasn't overflowing with customers like I thought it would be. I had a website, I had some Snazaroo paint, isn't that all I need?

I'd e-mailed back and forth with her a couple times, asking questions and getting advice. "You are a very talented artist so don't do any gig that isn't going to make you more money in the future." "I checked out your galleries and website, there are painters that aren't nearly as talented as you are making a lot of money because they know how to get it! You are great! So go for it!" Those were some of the words she wrote in her first e-mail to me. We'd never met, I'd never even spoke to her, but I could feel the enthusiasm and the genuine interest she had.

A couple years later, I was experiencing a slow time and as I had no other face painter friends I again reached out to Athena. We still had not met. I asked her a simple question, have you been slower than usual? Athena wrote me back a 9 paragraph e-mail giving me advice on how to get more business, ways to set myself apart from the competition and anything and everything I could ever hope to know. I kept this e-mail, and I still reference it even now, 2 years later.

This article is going to make her so uncomfortable, but for the few that haven't met her; I want you to know

what an amazing person she is. I had to cajole her into letting me even write about her for the spotlight! She is always willing to give advice, help with a design or teach a trick.

Athena got started in face painting by doing glamour and theatre makeup. To this day I have no idea how she fits everything in. She has 5 kids under the age of 18, usually has nieces and nephews staying over, works several days a week, and every weekend. She also has a calling with her church, has a hard time keeping up with all her e-mail correspondence, and occasionally will go out of state to teach a class.

I asked her advice on someone trying to go into painting full time. "I truly believe anyone can work as much as they want whatever you put into your business you will get out! You have to sell what you do to everyone you see, meet, talk to, look at etc. You have to believe so much in what you do that everyone wants to be a part of it! A lot of working full time is mental, you first have to believe you can do it then be creative enough to make it happen, weekly gigs help a lot, they are hard to find but ask everyone and someone will say yes, especially if you act as though you are doing them the favor! It is possible!"

Not only is Athena extremely busy, but she recently overcame a huge obstacle. She broke her right arm in several places and had to go into surgery to get pins put into it. She had a hard cast which made it nearly impossible to paint. "I painted left handed, or had the client turn in odd directions to make it work with my right, like every situation sometimes you have to improvise."

The only thing she doesn't like

painting, are things that don't challenge her creatively. Athena loves what she does so much, that her only problem is putting other things on the sidelines. "There is always something new to paint, there is always work to be had."

Where will this whirling dervish of a woman be in 5 years? "Hopefully doing the same I am today only better designs and faster. I love it just the way it is!"



Born in Siberia and currently living in Toronto, Natasha already sounds mysterious and intriguing. Take a look at her work and she only gets more interesting. Natasha started face and body painting about 5 years ago and has been painting full time for the past 3 years.

“One day I decided to paint my face for no reason, just for creative purposes. My friends saw it and on Halloween they asked me to paint them as well. At that time I had no idea that face/body painting could be a profession.”

With such a diverse portfolio, I assumed she'd have a favorite niche. “Anything goes, I don't have a favorite.”

Where does she get her unique and colorful ideas? “The world and its beauty are my inspirations. Humans and their stories, personalities, love, hope, dreams . . . there are so many things to be inspired by.”

With so many body paintings in her portfolio, I wondered how she finds all her models. “If I was looking for someone to paint I would ask on a social media site, “who wants to be painted.” I don't really have to do that anymore as I have a list of people who are excited to do it.”

In her spare time she paints on anything she can get her hands on, and makes videos. I introduce you to Natasha!

[www.natashadesign.com](http://www.natashadesign.com)





# I'M A PROFESSIONAL FACE PAINTER!

Face Painting is the amazing thing that has fallen into my life and been nurtured oddly by my husband. I talked about it once then left it alone for a while. But he didn't. And I will never be able to thank him enough for it! Being a military family I wanted to have something I could pack up and start anew somewhere else. Heaven knows I would be awful at selling you anything!!!!

After messing with a few Snazaroo kits from Michael's it was decided. I needed to do this! One day during the aftermath of D.C.'s Snowmageddon 2009-2010 we drove 2 hours to pick up my kit.

The business changes from location to location. East Coast, Middle America and West Coast all look at everything differently. But the one thing I know for a fact is this:

Pick a style you love and you feel portrays you in your best light..... Practice It! AND MAKE IT SHINE! Many face painters and artists have a signature style. We can look at some work and often times name the artist themselves or the inspiration. Don't be afraid to call yourself an artist. When someone asks you "What do you do?" Puff up proudly and say "I am a Professional Face Painter!" Attend your child's career day if you get the opportunity. Wear your colors and sparkles with all your pride. We are coveted, sought after and loved. Don't allow yourself to be sold short.

**YOU ARE AMAZING!**

Erica Saldaña  
Face Painting By Erica



## SUMMER BIRTHDAYS

April Jorgenson	May 4
Athena Hymnas Stovall	May 14
Crysta Barton	May 16
Eva Leonor	June 4
Alia Morris Zundel	June 27
Steve Strank	June 29
Erica Dyanira	July 10
Amy Sage Christensen	July 23
Katrina Fisher Nelson	July 30
Brett Hamilton	August 1
Dale Flink	August 7
Amber Frederick	August 12
Jerrica Ululani Olsen	August 13
Lizz Daley	August 13
Teresa Williams Calkins	August 19



## UPCOMING EVENTS

Laura Oliver Workshop  
July 18-19

Utah/Idaho Face Painters Jam  
September 12  
10:00 – 5:00