

MEETING ROOMS 6&7

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Sessions

FRIDAY

10:30-11:20 AM

Betsy Gross - Miracles of Jesus Escape Room

1:00-1:50 PM

Writing Like a Tree with Noah Gonzales

Writing doesn't have to be boring or overwhelming. It can be fun and engaging. In this session, we will break down writing a story into a simple eight-step process called the Novel Tree Concept. You will learn how to formulate your own story idea that gets you excited to write and leaves you feeling encouraged.

2:15-4:20 PM

Creating a Masterpiece Art Class with Randy Whitman

Lessons in Pencil: Rocketing through Space - Learn how to draw an amazing rocket in pencil.

Lessons in NU Pastel: Baby Duckling - This fun and accessible class guides you step-by-step in crafting an adorable baby duck using vibrant NU Pastels.

10:30-11:20 AM

Betsy Gross - Salvation Scriptures Escape Room

1:00-3:05 PM

Creating a Masterpiece Art Class with Randy Whitman

Lessons in Conte': White Stallion - Join us as we take you step by step through the process of drawing this beautiful white stallion with Conte Crayon on black paper.

SATURDAY

The Creating a Masterpiece class is the only one that requires pre-registration on your registration form. All other classes operate on a first-come, first-served basis. Be sure to arrive early for the class of your choice, as they fill up quickly.

MEETING ROOMS 8&9

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Sessions

FRIDAY

10:30-11:20 AM – Plant Identification with Alora Woodruff

In this class we will learn about common North Dakota plants and how to identify them using their most prominent feature: leaves! Basic leaf anatomy and characteristics will also be covered.

1:00-1:50 PM – STEM Activities with Lori Slaubaugh – Bridges, Shapes, & Strength

“What is the strongest shape?” Students will dive into this question as they use simple materials to design, build, and test their own bridges, seeing which designs hold the most weight and making fun improvements along the way.

2:15-3:05 PM

Children’s Book Illustrations From Beginning to End with Eliyah Gonzales

Take a behind-the-scenes look at illustrating a children’s book! In this session, we will unpack the process of creating a children’s book illustration from beginning to end. If you love to draw and use your imagination, but aren’t always sure how to get those ideas onto paper, this session can help put you on the road to seeing your illustrations through.

3:30-4:20 PM

Adventures in Storytelling, Part 1 with Rinnah & Reanna Knight

This year, Adventures in Storytelling will teach students to create audio dramatizations of stories using sound effects, props, vocalizations, accents, and music. Students will tell a story from out of sight and effectively communicate its feelings and settings while remaining true to the script. Students will be provided with props, or they may bring their own, to support their storytelling endeavour.

10:30-11:20 AM – Knot Tying with Alora Woodruff

Are you tired of your knots never holding? Knots can be confusing at first, but with practice and determination, they become easier. Join this knot-tying class to learn basic knots, practical knots, and even some fun knots!

1:00-1:50 PM – STEM Activities with Lori Slaubaugh – Balloon Power Race Lab

Get ready to race! Students will explore motion, force, and energy by building and testing their own balloon-powered cars. Through experimenting, racing, and redesigning, kids will learn how physics works in real life.

2:15-3:05 PM

Adventures in Storytelling, Part 2 with Rinnah & Reanna Knight

You do not need to pre-register for these classes. Arrive early for your chosen class, as they fill up quickly.

MIDDLE SCHOOL Speakers

Betsy Gross, wife and mother of 4 children, has homeschooled for 12 years while keeping her kids involved in sports, music, church ministries, and missions. Two of them have graduated from college where they helped tutor other students who need it, one is currently in college and all three traveled around the world doing missions their first year of college through a special program called, Pack Your Bags. Betsy has worked at Trinity Bible College for the past 15 years as the director of the Academic Success Center, making it possible for students with educational needs to be successful at college. Betsy guides students to discover their learning styles, navigate through papers, tests, and projects by teaching them structure and organization. Betsy is a jack-of-all-trades considering she can install new toilets, fix leaky sinks, put up drywall, paint, crochet and sew beautiful blankets, etc. She has made several weddings fantastic using her skills at cutting and styling hair, hemming and fixing dresses, and photography. Betsy loves children and has taught a pre-school class at church on Sundays for the past 29 years. But the most important thing to Betsy is her faith in God and Jesus, which she lives out by doing everything with kindness and love.

Noah Gonzales was born in beautiful Colorado, where he developed a passion for reading and writing. He is a Christian author who strives to write stories that tackle deep themes through a biblical lens. As a teen, Noah found that many engaging fiction books required sacrificing conviction. As his love for reading continued to grow, so did his desire to make a difference through his writing. Through this desire, Writing For A Better Tomorrow was born and serves to encourage and equip young writers to change the world one word at a time.



Eliyah Mai Gonzales is a young Christian illustrator with a passion for bringing stories to life for families and children. Growing up in a big family, she's had the privilege of seeing the imagination of young minds firsthand. This not only inspires her but also spurs her on to create vibrant and whimsical illustrations that bring a smile to children's faces. When she's not illustrating, you can find her playing piano, guitar, or holding a large cup of coffee in her hands while reading a good book.



Randy Whitman is the National Sales Manager for Creating a Masterpiece and travels throughout the U.S., sharing with homeschool families the importance art plays in each student's life. Having been homeschooled through high school, he understands the vital role art plays in our children's lives.



Rinnah & Reanna Knight Rinnah Knight is a 30-year-old in-home caregiver and music teacher. She has played violin for 20 years and currently runs the music program at her church. For several years, Rinnah has been a co-operator and editor for Knight Publishing. Rinnah is currently living in Dickinson with her mom and sister. Reanna Knight is a 28-year-old nanny, childcare worker, and Sunday school teacher at her church. For the last 18 years, Reanna has been editing and is now a graphic designer and co-operator of Knight Publishing. Reanna is currently living in Dickinson with her mom and sister. Rinnah and Reanna are both homeschool graduates and annual attendees of the North Dakota homeschool convention. For the last two years, they have taught a workshop to middle school children titled " Adventures in Storytelling. This workshop has helped students learn to turn ideas into stories and has helped them broaden their understanding of writing and oral storytelling.

Alora Woodruff is a homeschool graduate and grew up attending the ND Homeschool Convention. She now serves as the Camp Manager at Shepherd's Hill at the Crossroads, a bible camp located in the heart of the Turtle Mountains near St. John, ND. Alora loves working with youth of all ages and sharing her love of nature, camp, and Christ.



Lori Slaubaugh is a North Dakota homeschooling mom of ten with 21 years of homeschooling experience, currently teaching six children. I am a registered nurse with a master's degree in nursing education and actively serve in my church helping in children's programs. I enjoy helping kids explore STEM and health topics from a Christian perspective, sparking curiosity and excitement for learning.

