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September 2020

To whom it may concern,

My name is Dorothy Smith, and I am in the K-12 Art Education BFA program at Appalachian State University. I am very interested in completing my student teaching internship at your school. With Associate degrees in both animation and graphic design, I feel that I have a lot to offer students in expanding their ideas of what art is and what it can be.

I was always one of those kids who loved to doodle on the back of my assignments in class. While doodling can be one way to help some people focus, I had become so focused on doodling that I completely tuned out my teacher. Over the years I learned techniques to use art as a way to express my feelings and ideas while using it as a treat for myself *after* I'd get my classwork done. Now, as a mother of two and having substitute teaching experience, I have a better appreciation for childhood creativity and imagination, as well as the thoughtfulness of adolescent thinking and problem solving.

In getting to know me you'll find that I have a deep appreciation for professionalism, organization, and communication. I feel that it is a privilege to receive a free and fair education, and it is an even greater privilege to attend an institution of higher learning to become more aware of how children learn and think, how to work with those who may have had experienced trauma, and to experience a larger world of various art techniques, history, and mediums than I had ever thought possible. It would be my pleasure and privilege to share these great experiences with a classroom. In addition to being professional, I also find myself to be very calm, patient, and thoughtful, rather than immediately reacting to things. I fully believe that building good relationships often builds bridges between various obstacles in and around the classroom.

I have previous teaching experience from substitute teaching grades pre-k through fifth grade for Moore County Schools in North Carolina in 2017. I have also had internships with Watauga County Schools such as helping and observing children in an afterschool program, working in a self-contained special education classroom, and working in an art room. Every classroom is different and offers different experiences to grow, opportunities to learn, and relationships to build on. Please feel free to browse my education website at <https://smithdb1.weebly.com/> for reflections on readings we've had in class, artworks from various studio courses, personal visual journals, and even lesson plans I've made. I am looking forward to hearing from you soon and greatly appreciate your consideration in choosing me to student-teach in your art class this Spring semester.

Kindest Regards,

**Dorothy B Smith**