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## **Because Art Matters**

When I was four years old, I emigrated from Taiwan to America with my parents and sisters. Early interests in science and art guided undergraduate studies at Tufts University. I earned my Bachelors of Science in Chemistry and Art History, alongside premedical courses. In 1990, I found my soul mate, **Ken Yang**. We attended New York Medical College, got married, started a family, graduated, and became family physicians. We migrated south to put down new roots in Clinton, North Carolina. After eight years of practicing medicine, I chose to hang up my white coat and devote more time to raising our children. With four young Yangs growing quickly, I now embark on the next chapter of my life as a professional artist and art educator.

I find joy in creating art. I have often found greater joy in teaching art. I stress to students that art is not perfect, but perfect in its inclusion of ideas and styles. Self-motivation has led to many ways of learning. What began as a personal interest to share art with my own children, has developed into a non-school environment in which other young artists learn. Ho Yang Fine Art Academy is an informal source of art education where students connect fundamentals with personal creativity in understanding art, art history, and art appreciation: our goal is to understand that art can be the ultimate form of expression with the power to affect and enrich life beyond the classroom.

Art has grounded my sense of self in pursuit of what brings joy. I live by leaving regrets behind. I love by making worthy connections. I work hard to play hard. I am and have been an artist at the core of my being. I am an artist who creates and educates because art matters.

At the foundation of my life and art is my friend, Ken. Therefore, you will see all works signed **G. Yang because art matters.**