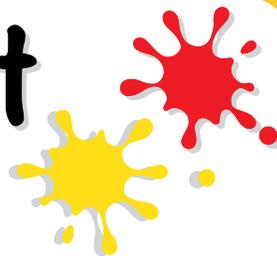




Paintertainment



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HEAD TO BACK

While last month we talked about the “dry season,” this month we’ve got St. Patrick’s Day events one weekend, and Easter already the next weekend! When it rains, it pours, right?! Living in the cold state of Minnesota, and being born in March, I always look forward to this month and the first signs of spring. As the snow melts, people come out of hibernation and begin frantically calling for quotes for their upcoming events as far out as Christmas! Face and body art are popular at adult events centered around St Patrick’s day, while Easter brings brunches and egg hunts galore for little girls and boys.

What do you do when you have two events literally back to back on the same day? This happens to a lot of us, especially on busy holiday weekends. I always try to allow plenty of time in between gigs whenever possible for a couple reasons: 1) I need time to re-charge myself, but depending on the events, 2) I also may need time to clean my tools, re-stock my kit, change up my setup or swap out my design menu. Sometimes I even need to switch between balloons and face painting, which may include a wardrobe change. Whatever you may need to do, make sure to allow plenty of time not only for this, but to allow for an event that might run over, or traffic in between the two. I always prefer to head straight to the next event and arrive early to catch up on other things in my car, rather than chance arriving late. If you have the time, try to squeeze in a little break for lunch or coffee at whatever is nearby your gig. I know I have so much more energy when I can take a mental break, slow down, and even stretch! It’s also a great idea to keep a handful of healthy snacks and plenty of water in your car if you don’t have time for a meal. A nap is a fantastic idea if possible too, but make sure to set an alarm on your phone so you don’t sleep through your gig! :-)

Once in a while though, you may be faced with the decision to either jam pack your day back-to-back, or turn down a gig. If you have two events that are a little too close for comfort and aren’t sure you’ll make it to the next one on time, and your clients insist on sticking to their desired start time, just be open with them before they sign any contracts. Most times they are just so happy that you are fitting them into your schedule, they are willing to be flexible.

As much as I personally love to be super punctual and arrive on the hour, in this business it is all about managing clients’ expectations. Make sure the first client knows that you must leave on time in order to get to your next event. It doesn’t hurt to be set up a little early so they still feel just as important! Let your next client know that you have another event right before, and while you can’t guarantee you will be there by X:00, you will do everything in your power to get there just as soon as possible. Most clients completely understand this and are totally fine with it if they just know ahead of time. Giving them a call or text when you are on the way to their event goes a long way toward managing their expectations and calming any anxiety they may have with you arriving in time. In the very rare situations when I need to do this with close events, I always tell them that I will try to arrive by a certain time, adding in 15 minutes of wiggle room to my estimate. This usually means I will arrive before I told them I would, and even though it may be later than they originally wanted, they end up thrilled that I arrived “early!” All they usually want in the end is to know that you will either stay for an allotted time period, or get every child painted.

Whatever you do this month, I hope you’re able to stay busy, take care of yourself, and enjoy each and every event!



What's News?



On the BLOG:

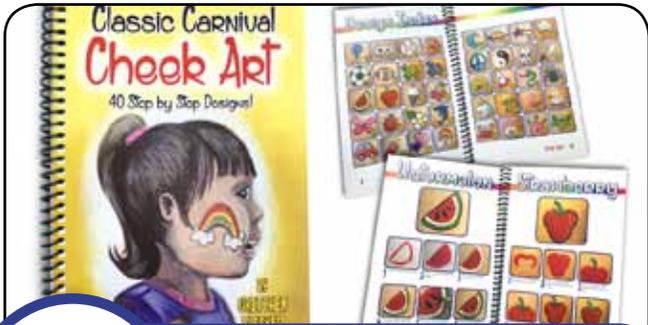
Check out photos of actual roses for reference in your realistic rose painting!



We have a new assortment of stencils...check them out today in the shop!



Check out our new assortment of Easter and springtime word menu designs!



NEW Products:

Gretchen has completely re-designed her original cheek art book! More designs, more tips, more techniques, & more photos, now shipping!



SILVER LACE PRINCESS



2016 Workshops:

Gretchen Fleener is now teaching workshops, starting this month in Minnesota! Click on our new "events" page for details!

March Coupon Code!

10% off

Enter code **LUCKYDUCKY** at checkout. Shopping cart must total \$25 or more before shipping and taxes. One coupon code redemption per customer. Offer expires 3/31/16.

