

Sally Young

These art schools that used to flourish all over New York, are rapidly diminishing to "academy" status, or no art classes at all. I work for the Children's Aid Society Afterschool Arts Program on Sullivan Street and we, after more than 100 years, are set to close in June 2012. Soon there will be no more "affordable" arts classes for children and adults. Not everyone wants to take art classes to earn a degree, and children need after-school and Saturday Arts programs for enrichment, and the schools now teach very little art or hands-on activities. All is about teaching the test. We can't lose these wonderful, traditional schools that have proven their success through time.