

Patricia Ayité Biography

Patricia Ayité was born in Morocco and raised in Algeria and Southern France. She attended a private Canadian boarding school in Germany for grades 9-12, and College in the United States, graduating from Montclair State in NJ with a BA in French and a K-12 teacher's certification.

Patricia taught Art and English in French schools in Morocco, Mauritania and Senegal for 10 years before relocating to Colorado where she worked for 5-1/2 years as the Director of Admissions for Denver International School and then as Assistant Program Director for the Ecole Française de Denver, a new French/American school whose goal was to serve the population of Southeast Denver.

La Petite Ecole was founded in April of 2006 when the Ecole Française de Denver closed and Patricia felt that she could continue to offer the French curriculum to a small group of young children within her own home. Since that time, Patricia has become convinced that the home setting is the optimum learning environment for a young child, where they can discover their world and explore another language without many of the stresses and early fears associated with attending a large educational facility. Where else can one move from the kitchen and crêpe making to a cozy couch for story time and then out to the private garden to check on the tulips?

Patricia is also an artist, and uses watercolors, oils, and, less traditionally, instant coffee (Nescafé), as mediums for her art. While living in Mauritania, West Africa, she was commissioned by the National Post Office to paint five traditional Mauritanian scenes to be used for stamps. She also illustrated a book of Poems: Mauritania: Mirror of Time (Poems by Jacques Bariou). The book quickly sold out of its first printing and was chosen by Air France Corporation as a gift to its first class travelers to West African countries.

She has presented her work in over 23 individual solo painting exhibitions worldwide: *French Cultural Center in Nouakchott, Mauritania; Moroccan Embassy, Nouakchott, Mauritania; Hôtel de la Poste, St. Louis, Senegal; Novotel Hotel, Dakar, Senegal; Art Gallery in Atlanta, Georgia; Private showings in Mauritania, Senegal and Colorado.*



Sortie au Marché des Voiles
(Market scene in Mauritania)