

Art + Nature + Technology: A Family

Jason, Jamie and Berty are a family of Makers.

Jason: A programmer by day, he has been toying with technology for over forty years. His first experiments involved forks in electrical sockets and building a SWTPC 6800 with his grandpa. More recently, he's built a full size video arcade for charity and 3D printed customized drain catchers for the bathtub. He has been in Make Magazine, featured at Milwaukee Maker Faire and collaborated with 23andMe to write an algorithm called 3DNA, which translates genetic data into 3D models. Jason was Tony Stark last Halloween. It wasn't much of a stretch.

Jamie: The formality of a law school education and a career as an executive director and consultant made her enthusiastic to toss around paint and dirt generally make a creative mess outside of working hours. She can list museum shown artist, published writer, high school curriculum developer, non-profit guru, master gardener, dog whisperer, queen of the kitchen, social justice warrior and cancer survivor on her resume, just don't tell any of her feminist friends that her favorite title is wife/mom. While currently focused on preparing baby Berty to leave the nest, she looks forward to growing into the wise old lady all the neighborhood kids think is probably a witch.

Berty grew up with Jason and Jamie for parents. It explains a lot. Berty's first drawing was at 15 months old. It was Jason. Or a potato with eyes and appendages. Or Jason. Since then, it's been almost impossible to find them without a marker and a sketchbook (or their bass guitar Dallon) in hand. A veteran of public school, environmental focused charter school and homeschool environments, Berty has a varied educational background. In middle school, Berty ran a wildly popular booth at Milwaukee Maker Faire on special effects make-up and spent a weekend painting dozens of little zombies and "feeding" them home-brewed stage blood. Last summer, they taught a six week film-making class to middle school students at the Beaver Dam Community Library. They are currently interning with the Friends of Horicon Marsh Education and Visitor Center (state portion) as a social media coordinator. They look forward to attending UW Madison's summer art intensive in July and venturing off to college somewhere in a little more than a year.