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# CULTURAL KALEIDOSCOPE

## ARTISTS-IN-THE-SCHOOLS PARTNERS PROGRAM

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### PREFACE & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Cultural Kaleidoscope is an art program that makes us all very proud! It was honored by the State of California when it was identified as a Demonstration Project and model program for the State in the California Arts Council's Arts in Education Initiative 2001–2004. Since its beginning in 1991, Cultural Kaleidoscope has consistently improved the quality of its content, its benefits to the community, and its impact on participating students and their teachers.

Developed as a direct response to the cultural diversity that exists between the communities of Palo Alto and East Palo Alto, Cultural Kaleidoscope is an artist residency partner program that brings artists into the classrooms. One classroom from East Palo Alto is paired with a classroom from Palo Alto, and over a 10-week period they work together on collaborative art projects. Cultural Kaleidoscope fosters cross-cultural communication and understanding through the arts for students from first through fifth grade.

The overall goals of Cultural Kaleidoscope are:

- To expose school-age children to the content and techniques of the visual arts.
- Through training workshops and curriculum publication, to supplement and enrich the art curricula of surrounding school districts, giving the visual arts a firmer basis within the core curriculum of those schools.

- To build understanding of and honor the artistic and cultural diversity in the community.
- To build community value for the arts as essential to the education of the whole child.

The *Lesson Guide: 2005-2006* represents the beginning of a new component of curriculum documentation. It has come together through the efforts of many. It grew out of a great idea—like all great projects—from former Palo Alto Art Center Foundation Board Member Marie Moore and her conversation with former Cultural Kaleidoscope Coordinator Stephanie Hatch. A grant from Adobe Corporation enabled its beginning development. Resident artists were asked to identify one of their lessons that could be adapted as a stand-alone for teachers to implement on their own. A senior teacher experienced in Cultural Kaleidoscope reviewed each lesson. Grants from the National Endowment for the Arts and Institute of Museum and Library Services enabled us to publish and distribute in hardcopy the lessons to all elementary-level teachers in the two districts. Each year new lessons will be added to create an ongoing resource for teachers in the Palo Alto and Ravenswood School District and throughout the state.

The idea began with Marie Moore and Stephanie Hatch, but it was the work of Cultural Kaleidoscope Coordinator Justin Greene that

made the publication a reality. Great thanks goes to Sharon Fox for her wonderful photography and design, Mary Hurlbut for her work compiling and editing the lessons and Maren Berg for her invaluable comments and suggestions. We also thank all of the Cultural Kaleidoscope 2005-06 artists: Claude Ferguson, Carmen Ogden, Erna Metzger, Barbara Selvidge, Dolores Gray, Kate Rone, Laura Oliver, Danielle Vold, Jane Moorman and Hua Zhang.

The Palo Alto Art Center Foundation and the Palo Alto Art Center feel that this *Lesson Guide* will, like Cultural Kaleidoscope, grow to be an important resource for classroom teachers—and best of all—open up new art education opportunities for students in the classroom. It could not have been done without the strong, committed support from the Palo Alto Art Center Foundation and funders to the program, the Institute of Museum and Library Services and the National Endowment for the

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Cultural Kaleidoscope is a program of the Palo Alto Art Center Foundation. Cultural Kaleidoscope is provided to classrooms free of charge.

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