

# YOUNG ARTISTS WORKSPACE

SPRING 2000 NEWSLETTER



Two young artists from the Burkhalter school.

## ART FOR TOTS

Thank you to all the parents who have brought such enthusiasm to the *Art for Tots* classes and who continued to come during our rainy season! Now that we are enjoying warmer weather, we will be doing some art activities *outdoors*. Look for wet chalk drawing, body painting, insect costumes, and more.

**Art for Tots Tips** To make your toddler's experience at YAWS as rewarding as possible, I would like to offer a few suggestions:

- Dress your child *and* yourself in clothes that can be stained. Even washable paints are not always that washable.
- Give your child a chance to play outside first.
- Avoid drawing figurative images for your child. It's quite exciting to watch them develop their *own* unique images.
- Write your child's name on the backs of artwork and place in the drying rack. Once dry, they will be kept in folders for two weeks.

## FINE ARTS FOR KIDS

We are lucky at YAWS to have an incredible group of 5-8 year-old artists. Over the past few months, they have worked hard at developing paintings and drawings *over time*. They have learned the importance of working further on pieces that can become richer with the extra effort.

The projects this session have included watercolor flowers in the style of Georgia O'Keefe, printmaking, collage inspired by the quilts of Harriet Powers, silkscreen, and large paper figures with moveable joints.

## YOUNG ARTISTS STUDIO

Our talented and hard working 9-14 year olds have learned to build their own canvases and are beginning to expand their artistic ideas by creating their own series of paintings. They are also involved in the design of a tile bench that will be installed along the Ohlone Greenway.

It has been six months since the Young Artists Workspace first opened its doors, and already an amazing collection of art work has been created within its paint-covered walls. During the month of January, over fifty pieces of children's art adorned the dining area of North Berkeley's Cafe Espresso Roma. Young artists from each age group lent their wonderful paintings, drawings, and prints to be displayed before a very appreciative audience. The show received countless compliments and inspired several young art lovers to visit YAWS and create some artwork of their own. Thank you to all the children and parents who helped to make the show a success. Also, a special thank you to our friend from Monterey Market who supplied a light bulb, ladder, and a helping hand in our moment of need!

YAWS continues to receive significant assistance from several City officials and departments, private foundations, local businesses, community groups, and our newly formed Community Advisory Board. In January, we were awarded a grant from the ROOF Foundation, a program created by Red Oak Realty in order to help fund East Bay community groups, schools, and non-profit organizations. More recently, Jack Darrow, our devoted Totland gardener, took the necessary steps toward our getting a much needed water heater. Many thanks to Jack and Lisa Caronna, director of Parks and Waterfront, for making this happen. And without the constant support and guidance of Council Member Linda Maio and her staff, YAWS would be nothing more than a nice idea.

# SPRING 2000 NEWSLETTER

## FAMILY WORKSHOPS

## ADULT WORKSHOPS

Family workshops provide children and their parents with the chance to learn a new skill and create something wonderful together. Don't miss out on this satisfying experience!

### Ichibana

with Eun Hee Kim

Saturday, April 29th, 2000

11am to 1pm Ages: 5+

Cost: \$5 per family (sign-up required; class limited to 18.)

Bring plant and flower cuttings from your yard and Eun Hee will teach you and your children the visual poetry behind this unique style of flower arranging. Come celebrate spring and the beauty of our natural world.



Photo by Sean Sparks

### Mexican Garlands with Maria Mendoza

Saturday, May 6th, 2000 10am - noon Ages 5+

Cost: \$5 per family (sign-up required, class limit 18.)

Maria will show us how to use tissue and other special papers to construct vibrant flower garlands. You and your children will also learn how to make special paper buds and flowers you can attach to real branches to create a flowering tree! For further information, call 204-YAWS.

In order to raise money for YAWS and satisfy the creative urges of parents, YAWS will continue to offer adult workshops. Because we want to make these workshops affordable without depleting their fundraising potential, we are offering a discount of \$10 per class if you sign-up for both workshops. (Sign-up fee must be provided at the time of registration in order to reserve a place in the class.)

### FLOORCLOTHS

Saturday, March 25th, 10am to 1pm

Saturday, May 27th, 2pm to 5pm

Cost: \$35 Class Limit: 8

You will be provided with everything you need to design your own durable, attractive floor covering.

### MOSAIC

Sunday, April 16th, 2pm to 5pm

Cost: \$35 Class Limit :12

Assemble a colorful stepping stone while you learn the versatile technique used in shard art. What you learn here will help you to go on and make bird baths, frames, furniture, even a new bathroom! Crate and Barrel has donated boxes of great broken ceramic pieces, so don't miss out! To sign-up, call 204-YAWS or talk with Jennifer Burke.

## ART EXHIBITS

April 2nd through May 2nd - Prints, watercolor, and mixed media pieces created by the FAFK students will be on display in the Children's Room and Periodical Lobby at Berkeley Public Library's Central Branch.

May 6th through June 8th - YAWS will have an exhibit of artwork in the case at Berkeley Public Library's North Branch. In addition, will we be showing our paper quilt during the library's annual quilt show.

April 15th to June - Acrylic paintings by the YAS and FAFK students can be seen at our temporary window gallery located at 2571 Shattuck Avenue. This space has been generously provided to us by John Gordon of Gordon Commercial Real Estate. (If you can help build the free-standing walls that will become the backdrops for this show, please contact Jennifer.)

Please take the time to visit these exhibits. The children's amazing artwork is truly worth a look.

## TOTLAND MURAL

The 10th Annual Mural Awareness Month Awards Panel and the Board of Precita Eyes Muralists of San Francisco have chosen the Totland Mural as the recipient of this year's Community Mural Award. As the notification letter states, "this award celebrates the very finest in community mural creation." This is a great honor, and our community should be proud of its accomplishment. The Totland Mural is proof that people of all age and skill levels can come together and give birth to a project that not only beautifies our public space, but touches and inspires our surrounding communities.

The MAM award ceremony will take place on Saturday, May 13th, 2000 in S.F.'s Precita Park (off Army Street) from 1:30 - 5:30 p.m. It would be great to have a crowd of Totland muralists and YAWS supporters in the audience when the award is presented. Please join us for the MAM festivities!

**Congratulations to all of you who helped create our mural!**

## COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD

YAWS is fortunate to have brought together an outstanding group of East Bay activists, educators, artists, and parents to form the Young Artists Workspace Community Advisory Board. In the months to come, we will be determining a clearer vision for YAWS such as: funding and outreach strategies, ideas for more public and collaborative art projects, and plans for site and program improvements. YAWS would like to welcome the following board members: Mark Liolios of Berkeley Partners for Parks; Annie Alcott, educator and parent, Kalen Meyer, artists and parent; and Raquel Pinderhughes, educator and parent. The experience, enthusiasm, and good sense possessed by this group has already made a difference to the future growth and success of YAWS. Many thanks to each of them.

## TOTLAND SUMMER FAIR

Toward the end of June (no exact date has been set) we will be having a Summer Fair which will serve as a fundraiser for YAWS as well as a lovely way to celebrate the good weather and our special community. We are planning games and art projects, a raffle, a children's art exhibit, a children's theater performance, and more.

Of course, an exciting event like this requires a lot of work by volunteers and someone to head a planning committee. Your participation is needed to make the Fair memorable. It is also an excellent way for you and your children to meet your fellow community members and make new friends!

**If you are interested in volunteering, call 204-YAWS.**

## YOUR HELP IS NEEDED

Many of you have asked what you can do to contribute to YAWS. Your interest in helping is greatly appreciated. Below are some tasks that always require extra assistance.:

- Creating and updating mailing list
- Helping to hang artwork for shows
- Soliciting donations
- CLEANING!

**Talk to Jennifer Burke if you can lend a hand.**

YAWS already receives daily support from several devoted parents. Thank you to Julie Searle for getting the room ready on voting day, Tom Brown for building a custom storage unit, Wilma Wyss and Julie Searle for helping to hang the January show, Thea for donating our new phone, and Chisato Karasaki for being the only parent willing to clean the studio on Saturdays. Also, many thanks go to Sabina, Jenna, Tiffany, and Susan for their regular help cleaning brushes, tables, and chairs after Art for Toys. It's all of you that keep YAWS going strong.



## CLASS BREAK:

Session four begins Sunday, April 9th and ends June 8th, 2000. YAWS will be closed April 17th through April 23rd due to Spring Break.

YAWS will also be closed from June 12th - September 4th, 2000. Berkeley Day Camp has use of the YAWS studio during this time.

**Art for Tots (ages 1-4)**

Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, 10:15 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.

Drop-in class; \$2 suggested donation;

no pre-registration required

**Fine Art for Kids (ages 5-8)**

Wednesday 3:45 - 4:45 p.m.

Thursday 3:45 - 4:45 p.m.; Sunday 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

Cost: \$25 materials fee for eight class sessions.

Pre-registration: must be completed by Jan. 15.

Session 4 starts April 9th, and ends June 8th, 2000.

**Young Artists Studio (ages 9-14)**

Monday 3:30 - 5:30 p.m.

Sunday 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Cost: \$30 materials fee for eight class sessions.

Pre-registration: must be completed by Jan. 15.

Session 4 starts April 9th, and ends June 8th, 2000.

All fees can be adjusted according to a sliding scale;

*no child will be turned away.*

To register, or for more information, call (510) 204-YAWS

**TOTLAND CLEAN-UP DAY: SATURDAY,**

**APRIL 22<sup>ND</sup>, 9:00 A.M.-12:00 NOON**

Come spend the morning helping to get Totland ready for the busy spring and summer seasons. We will be raking sand, scrubbing picnic tables, and generally sprucing up our beloved park. Please join us!

**AQUATIC PARK PLAYGROUND**

From May 31<sup>st</sup> through June 4<sup>th</sup>, volunteers will be building the new play structure at Aquatic Park designed by the children of Berkeley in November, 1999. Everyone's help is needed to make this dream playground a reality. On May 27<sup>th</sup>, YAWS will be hosting a "paint-a-tile" event to raise money for the playground; your hand painted tiles will be installed in the new playground! For more information, call Zasa Swanson at: (510) 649-9874.