



# PRESS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release

## ***Youth Art and Cultural Kaleidoscope to Showcase Youth Creativity***



**PALO ALTO, CA** – The vitality, vibrancy, and unbridled creativity of youth will be revealed during this year’s *Youth Art* and *Cultural Kaleidoscope* exhibitions at the Palo Alto Art Center. *Youth Art* runs May 2-24, and *Cultural Kaleidoscope* runs May 2-31.

“Every year the Art Center comes alive with the power of youth creativity and expression,” says Art Center Director Karen Kienzle. “These engaging, colorful, and accessible exhibitions allow us all to tap into the unbridled creativity of children and teens. *Youth Art* and *Cultural Kaleidoscope* consistently remind me of the quote by Pablo Picasso: ‘Every child is an artist. ... The problem is how to remain an artist once we grow up.’”

*Youth Art* showcases artwork produced by students from kindergarten through high school within the Palo Alto Unified School District. The theme for this year’s exhibition is “Connections.”

“The arts connect to learning, creativity and well-being, and they provide a variety of ways for students to actively construct and demonstrate their growing understanding,” says Palo Alto Unified School District Art Coordinator Sharon Ferguson. “They optimize individual choice and positive autonomy, which directly relates to motivation and engagement.”

*(more)*

Cultural Kaleidoscope is a unique artist-in-the-schools program that links the neighboring and diverse communities of Palo Alto, East Palo Alto, and East Menlo Park, by building bridges through the arts. By partnering two K-5 classrooms from PAUSD and Ravenswood City School District to foster connections between students of diverse backgrounds, Cultural Kaleidoscope transcends traditional classroom instruction, providing engaging cross-cultural arts education. This exhibition showcases artwork produced in the residencies, featuring artwork in a wide range of media inspired by world cultures.

A free *Youth Art* and *Cultural Kaleidoscope* opening celebration will be held at the Art Center on May 6, 4:30-7 p.m., with opening remarks slated to begin at 6 p.m. The exhibition will be on view in the Art Center's galleries during regular business hours.

Earlier this year, the [Cultural Kaleidoscope](#) program received the California Association of Museum's State Superintendent of Public Instruction's Award for Excellence in Museum Education. The award recognizes the exceptional accomplishments in California museum programs that serve K-12 students and/or educators.

**About The Palo Alto Art Center:**

The Palo Alto Art Center is your place to discover art. See, make, and be inspired because everyone is an artist. Created by the community, for the community in 1971, the Palo Alto Art Center provides an accessible and welcoming place to engage with art. We serve approximately 80,000 people every year through a diverse range of programs.

The Palo Alto Art Center is owned and operated by the City of Palo Alto as a program of the Division of Arts and Sciences, Department of Community Services. The Palo Alto Art Center Foundation was founded in 1973 and is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that provides financial support and advocacy to the Art Center through a public/private partnership that allows us to enhance our reach and impact in the community.

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