

MAJOR ART / MINOR ARTISTS

- ◆ This exhibition will showcase the artwork of participants in the **SAUSD SPECIAL STUDIO** art program.
- ◆ This year's student artists (**grades 4 & 5**) are from **Davis, Lowell, Madison, and Martin Elementary Schools**.
- ◆ SPECIAL STUDIO serves students selected for potential artistic achievement from regular, gifted and talented, and special education programs.
- ◆ The students work weekly (20 one and one-half hour lessons) with artists Cheryl Michelon and Helen Seigel at their school site.
- ◆ One hundred students are participants in the 06/07 program. On exhibit will be approximately four hundred works of art in various media including: drawing, painting, printmaking, collage, and mixed media.
- ◆ The artwork ranges from representational to abstract and reflects the exposure of the students to many types of art and creative stimuli.
- ◆ The SPECIAL STUDIO program demonstrates what children can achieve when exposed to in-depth art instruction, where they are encouraged to seek diverse solutions to artistic problems.

EXHIBITION SITE:

Guggenheim Gallery
Chapman University
One University Drive, Orange, CA 92866
714.997.6815

DATES:

June 14 – 27, 2007

HOURS:

Open Daily, 1:00 – 5:00 p.m.

ADMISSION:

FREE

RECEPTION:

Thursday evening, June 14, 2007
6:00 – 9:00 p.m.

FACE PLACE

**black marker, colored pencil, transparencies, white paper
Lowell Elementary, Cheryl Michelon, Artist-in-the-Schools**

Salvador Dali is famous for his dripping clocks and fantastic mustache (which Dada artist Marcel Duchamp made even more famous by pasting it onto Leonardo DaVinci's Mona Lisa). Dali was one of the foremost Surrealist Painters. One of his portraits of Mae West uses articles symbolic of her fame as an actress and singer to describe her, such as a stage to describe her face with her long hair as the curtains and paintings as eyes, a table as a nose and a couch as her mouth. Students imagine a place that describes them and they choose elements of that place to stand in for their features. These are done in two parts, "place" on white construction paper, colored with colored pencils and washed with tempera and "features" on an overlapping transparency. Are we there yet?

GAUDI GARDENS

**magazine collage with tile, glass, and rocks on board
Davis Elementary, Helen Seigel, Artist-in-the-Schools**

Antonio Gaudi's fantastic architectural jewels decorate Barcelona, Spain. His wild, organic forms, covered with surface ornamentation, often brilliantly colored mosaic tiles, are powerfully unique. His creative voice is singular and powerful. Students are inspired by his work to design and build abstract garden pieces. Beginning with magazine collage on board, they juxtapose textures of like hues. After building this base, they add structural definition to the space with mixed media including tiles, rocks, and glass. Imagine being small enough to wander through these wondrous places... what an adventure!

MY MATERIAL WORLD

**colored pencil and black marker on paper, on map, on cardboard
Madison Elementary, Helen Seigel, Artist-in-the-Schools**

In honor of the United Nations-sponsored International Year of the Family in 1994, award-winning photojournalist Peter Menzel brought together sixteen of the world's leading photographers to create a visual portrait of life in thirty nations. *Material World: A Global Family Portrait* portrays one family in each country. The photographers lived with this "average" family in each country, learning much about them. Then a "big picture" photograph was taken outside their home, surrounded by all their (many or few) possessions. We learn a lot by studying how people live in different parts of our world community. In this project, students think about and draw their own material possessions, what "belongs" to them. Students apply color to emphasize what is truly important... not their "things", but their families.

SUPER LUCHADOR

oil pastel, tempera paint, high density foam, and shoe laces on tag board

Lowell Elementary, Cheryl Michelin, Artist-in-the-Schools

The film comedy Nacho Libre is about inventing an identity; a sort of super hero. This identity comes in the form of a Mexican wrestler or “Luchador”. The main character creates a costume and a mask and sets off to elevate the poor through wrestling. Students imagine themselves as a “Super Hero” and then design and build a mask to compliment this personality. These are then painted using analogous colors and trimmed with foam to emphasize the character’s personality, utilizing contrasting value or color. These alter egos are out to save the world — so watch out!

KANDINSKY SPIRIT

colored pencil on paper

Davis and Madison Elementary Schools

Helen Seigel, Artist-in-the-Schools

Wassily Kandinsky, a Russian artist, painted beautiful and lyrical abstractions. He was fond of both organic and geometric shapes. His work, like music, has rhythm and movement. Luscious color adds to the drama and poetry of his imagery. In these small and intricate drawings, students create and explore their own abstract vocabulary. They experiment, often layering to build unique colors. Tiny in scale, these become special little universes that we can visit and get lost in.

GREEN: BUILDING FOR OUR FUTURE

**wood, twigs, bark, paper, photographs, and pencil on paper
Madison Elementary, Helen Seigel, Artist-in-the-Schools**

After looking at architectural structures, including habitats in various parts of the world, students think about the link between form and function. They think about how people design homes and other buildings, taking into consideration what materials are indigenous to where they are building. An introduction to earthworks, such as Spiral Jetty by Robert Smithson, exposes students to the idea of using the natural environment as an art medium. Thinking about the future, and how we can learn to build with a more “green”, environmentally sensitive, attitude students construct an assemblage out of wood. Rather than cover the natural pattern of the wood grain with paint, students place each piece with care to emphasize its most beautiful side. Inclusion of a photograph references nature. The mirror symbolizes water, light, air, and space. Twigs, bark, handmade paper add texture. Tiny drawings emphasize the conceptual aspect of these poetic experiments.