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PRESS RELEASE

2013 Art IS Education Public Events throughout Alameda County during March 1 – 31

- Featured Events -

A series of 100 Arts Events at all 10 locations of the Alameda County Library Art Exhibition at the Alameda County Administration Building Board of Supervisors Proclamation

Art IS Education is an annual showcase of youth arts learning in Alameda County in March during national Arts Education Month. This year's theme - "Every Child is Creative: Together We Create Our World" – encourages youth, families and communities to explore how the arts help us make positive change for ourselves, our communities and our world. To mark the 13th year of Art IS Education, Alameda County is pleased to announce the following events and opportunities:

Libraries + Art = Infinite Possibilities

In celebration of Art IS Education month, the Alameda County Library and Alameda County Arts Commission are presenting a special series of arts events for youth and families at all ten library locations plus the bookmobile. This series of 100 free arts events is titled "Libraries + Art = Infinite Possibilities" and includes a wide range of arts opportunities for youth and families including workshops, performances, concerts, exhibitions, and storytime activities. Workshops cover a broad range of art forms including origami, kirigami, recycled book art, jewelry, scrapbooking, pastel drawing, puppetry, knitting, and digital photography. Interactive performances include poetry nights, story nights, and sing-alongs. All library locations are presenting Mandala Community Quilt workshops where community members of all ages will create paper quilts that express what is important to their community. The quilts will be exhibited at the library locations during March. A complete list of events is available at www.aclibrary.org.

Family engagement events at the libraries are also part of the 100 Families Alameda County: Art & Social Change program that promotes family art making activities as a way to strengthen families and neighborhoods. The 100 Families program is a project of the Alameda County Arts Commission, with support and shared vision from the County's New Beginnings program that uses on-the-job training, mentorship and creative expression to encourage positive outcomes for at-risk youth.

Community Paper Quilt Exhibition

The Alameda County Arts Commission will present an exhibition of Community Paper Quilts inspired by the Art IS Education theme "Every Child is Creative: Together We Create Our World" at the County Administration Building as part of the Art In Public Spaces program. The exhibition will feature colorful paper quilts made by youth and adult community groups including Alameda County Library, Alameda County Arts Commission, Albany Library, Dublin Library, Oakland Ballet, and the Creative Power arts education program. The exhibit is on display on the first and fifth floors of the Alameda County Administration Building at 1221 Oak St., Oakland, from March 1 – May 30.

Art IS Education Proclamation

During the regular public meeting of the Alameda County Board of Supervisors on Tuesday, Feb. 26, 10:45am, the Members of the Board will proclaim March 2013 as Art IS Education Month. The public will be encouraged to visit the exhibition of youth and community art as part of the Arts Commission's Art In Public Spaces program on the fifth floor of the County Administration Building at 1221 Oak St., Oakland.

All events are free and open to the public.

For more information call (510) 891-5716 and visit www.acgov.org/arts, www.artiseducation.org, www.aclibrary.org. Art IS Education is a project founded by the Alameda County Office of Education in partnership with the Alameda County Arts Commission.

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