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## **Palo Alto Art Center Exhibitions Celebrate Youth Creativity** **“Cultural Kaleidoscope” and “Youth Art” Return to the Palo Alto Art Center**



Image credits from left to right: Anya L., 12th grade, “Enchanted,” ceramic, Henry M. Gunn High School; Melina C., Kindergarten, “Bear Party,” watercolor, Los Robles—Ronald McNair Academy, Ravenswood City School District.

PALO ALTO--The Palo Alto Art Center is pleased to announce the return of two beloved exhibitions celebrating the creativity of youth in our community, on view from April 29 to May 20, 2023.

“Youth Art” celebrates the imaginative spirit of the students from the Palo Alto Unified School District, featuring a selection of artwork from students in grades K-12. Palo Alto Unified Visual and Performing Arts Coordinator Kelly Martin believes the Youth Art Show’s theme: “How Does Art Sustain Us?” will allow students to show how creative realization is discovered through artistic risk taking, fortitude, and personal expression. “We are asking students, parents, and community members to think about the ways art sustains them as a participant in the creation of art and as a viewer of the art show,” Martin said.

“Cultural Kaleidoscope” represents the culminating exhibition of the Palo Alto Art Center’s artists-in-the-schools program, which brings multidisciplinary, arts-integrated lessons to K-5 students in Ravenswood City School District in East Palo Alto and Palo Alto Unified School District. Lucy Larson, Director of Education at the Palo Alto Art Center shares, “For more than

two decades, Cultural Kaleidoscope, the Art Center’s artists-in-the-schools program, has leveraged the power of art to reinforce learning in social studies, science, and language arts. Students demonstrate their understanding of subject matter with their artistic creations, sharing their thoughtful, funny, and wildly inventive artworks in this culminating exhibition.”

Both the “Youth Art” and “Cultural Kaleidoscope” exhibitions were on hiatus at the Art Center due to the pandemic.

**FREE PUBLIC OPENING CELEBRATION:**

Join us for a free public opening celebration on **Wednesday, May 3 from 4:30 to 7 p.m. with remarks at 5:30 p.m.** The celebration will feature refreshments and an award ceremony. The celebration will include the talents of both Gunn High Jazz and the Palo Alto High Choir.

**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 150,000 people every year through a diverse range of programs.

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