

Art With a Heart wanted to share with you what your support and donations have allowed us to do with our students. Thank you for taking the time to see and hear our stories of children succeeding in the visual arts.

Art With a Heart Newsletter: February 2009

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Volunteer Spotlight



Jennifer McDonald

Jennifer McDonald is a dedicated volunteer for Art With a Heart. She commits herself three hours a week to the Kindergarten Program at IPS #55. Singing, laughing, and smiling are some common actions that one would witness in the small group that she leads. One of her many gifts is making personal connections with each child in the classroom. Jennifer also provides support to the teacher by bringing in her personal books that go along with the lesson that is being addressed in the classroom. Being a retired teacher from Pike Township, Jennifer understands the importance of the program and supports the students' growth and development of the Indiana State Standards. Art With a Heart appreciates her dedication to the program and names her as the "Giving Heart" recipient for the month of February!

Art With a Heart's School Year is going well with our Kindergarten and After-School Programs. The staff is all around the Indianapolis area *Encouraging Indianapolis Youth Through Success in Art*. We invite you to read some stories from the children we serve and learn about all of the exciting things going on with Art With a Heart.



Kindergarten Program

As a very cold winter approached us this year it was evident in our Kindergarten classrooms that hats and gloves were in high demand for our children in need. One of the Art With a Heart teachers saw this great need and started asking people in the community if they had hats and gloves that they could donate. Within twenty-four hours the donations were piling up on her doorstep. Art With a Heart received such a wonderful amount of hats and gloves that all the teachers were able to distribute them in all twelve of our Kindergarten classrooms. As a thank you for their new hats and gloves one of our Kindergarten classrooms made a poster to thank the many big hearts in our community.



After School Program

The student's in the after-school program at Christel House Academy have been creating art after being read different stories about personal struggle. The second and third graders read *Chameleon's Colors*, by Chisato Tashiro, and created different animals in clay. In the story, there is a chameleon that paints all of the animals' different patterns and designs so that they all appear very different from their normal selves. The animals find that there are problems associated with changing how they look and realize that it is better to be true to yourself. The students at Christel House loved working with clay and were very excited to paint their projects and string beads on a wire to create a wall hanging.



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