



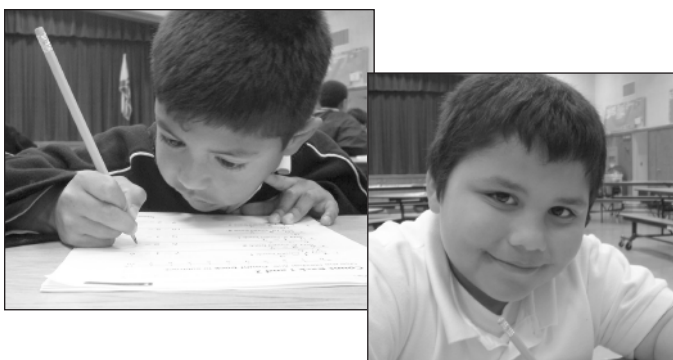
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**Community
Partnership
for Youth**

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Screen Play

It's after school. David, a first grader, looks hypnotized by the computer game he's playing. No surprise there—most kids his age get this look when engaged in video games after school. Only this isn't a normal after-school environment, and it's not the average game—it's CPY, and the game is based on language arts.

Jared Jungwirth, a graduating senior at CSUMB, service learner and CPY mentor-tutor, moves behind David to check his progress. Jungwirth takes particular enjoyment from seeing David get into the program because he helped resurrect the computer David's using from a tangle of computer parts and rogue cords as part of his CSUMB service project.

"I wanted to work with children for my project," Jungwirth says, "and use my Telecommunications Computer Science skills.

"Seeing the children actually using the computer and looking forward to coming to CPY is cool."



CPY STANDARDS

1. In CPY, we greet each other everyday with a smile and a handshake to strengthen the relationship between us.
2. In CPY, we honor and respect each other so we address one another with the proper language and speech.
3. In CPY, we value the space of ourselves and others and are careful not to intrude or injure each other.
4. In CPY, we are mindful of what is true and strive to be honest in word and deed.
5. In CPY, we treasure our rich heritage and hold the cultures of all people in high regard.
6. In CPY, we strive to reflect our beauty both inwardly in our understanding and outwardly in our appearance.

The Art of Growth: CPY Arts Give Kids a Chance to Flourish

Colorful tissue paper rustles in young hands. Smiles and excited conversation crop up on all sides of the table. It's part of a familiar scene: CPY students at Martin Luther King Jr. school—and sites across Seaside and Marina—completing CPY art projects. In this case, CPY King students are creating unique papier-maché flowers for a Cinco de Mayo event. Simple enough stuff, this project, like most art activities, but the effects of offering students access to art are far from simple.

Former King fifth grade teacher Angela Schiaffo-Kidd is familiar with the powerful effects of art. She wrote the thesis for her master's degree in education on the importance of art in local schools. "There's tons of research showing the correlation of art and improved academics," she says. But Schiaffo-Kidd says the positives go well beyond greater academic achievement.

"Exposure to art gives kids aesthetic appreciation of art, culture, and the world that might not be there otherwise," Schiaffo-Kidd says. "It gives kids the chance to see beauty around them.

"And for many kids, it is the way they have to express themselves. It gives them the outlet and the joy of self-expression that doesn't stop when they leave CPY."

In short, art in schools translates to stronger academic performance, greater appreciation of the world, and a critical avenue to self-expression, three major pillars for personal success and, not coincidentally, happiness. The evidence makes it difficult to overstate the value of art in schools—but therein lies the haunting reality of California art education today: Given these positives generated through art, why has art vanished from so many public schools?

There is no one answer. Philosophical shifts are part of it: in 1970 public school funding for teacher art education was cut, and remained that way until very recently. Other cuts are also to blame, as is a heavy emphasis on math and English due to their prioritized place on new standardized tests.

"The California Arts Council was cut by 90 percent in 2003," says Schiaffo-Kidd. "Recently, \$6 million for arts grants was cut by [Governor Arnold] Schwarzenegger.

"And with the classes focused on testing, there's barely any social studies or science, let alone art."

Schiaffo-Kidd says some schools in affluent areas can compensate with strong parent group funding; schools in low-income areas often cannot.

It's a sobering situation. Fortunately for CPY host schools, there's CPY's Art Academy, which has long prioritized and implemented art in partnership with a number of loyal and generous sponsors. It's a priority that has only gained momentum of late.

"The look in the kids' faces when I show up at one of the sites is amazing. The kids come running up, saying, 'Are we doing art today?'"

***Sue Ann Hillyer,
CPY art director***

Recent Art Academy modules have culminated in projects like the huge "Welcome to Monterey" seascape mural that hung at the Monterey Airport for eight months, the decorating of CPY's booth at the city of Seaside's

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Drawing Upon Opportunity: CPY kids complete art projects several times a week during the school year and daily during the summer.

CPY Speak: Art Work

The excitement that comes with art activities at CPY is self-evident. But that doesn't mean hearing from CPY students why they find art so engaging isn't exciting in itself:

"You are never done! You get a chance to unleash your mind on paper."

John, age 11

"It's fun. And you get to express yourself."

Herminia, age 11

"Because it is messy—I like drawing and mixing colors and I like papier maché because it feels squishy and it builds sculptures and fun things."

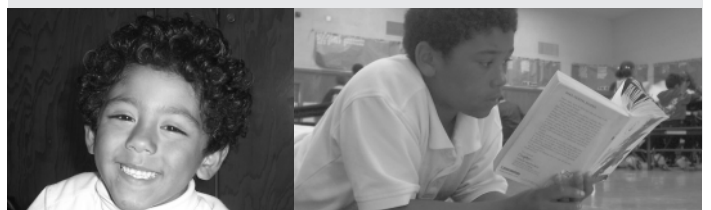
Theodore, age 9

"You learn about ideas."

Maria, age 11

"I love doing collages."

Iliana, age 11



FROM THE *Executive Director*

This time of year is always a very busy and engaging time: saying goodbye to university students that are graduating and moving on, welcoming returning CPY alumni as they come back to work in the summer, and completing our three-day training for Intersession staff and new junior council leaders.

This week I received a copy of a book that CSUMB creative writing students had made with our students. Inside the cover CPY children had written a number of personal notes. Here are some of my favorites:

"Thank you for letting me be in the writing group"; "Thank you for letting me be in CPY and keeping me safe"; Thank you for letting me be in this program."

Service Learning students also wrote down their thoughts, including:

"Thank you for letting us come to CPY and teach such lovely kids"; "These kids rock!"; "You have the best job!"

All the comments serve as great reminders of how much relationships mean at every station in life, particularly for our vulnerable youngsters during the stages of vital personal growth when CPY works with them. And they indicate that the school year is coming to a close and our summer activities are being planned.

I look forward to having our Art Academy in full swing. Daily art projects are being planned and guest artists are preparing their workshops with the children.

This summer, special anticipation will revolve around our CPY Reunion Barbeque July 29 and our Honoring Those Who Honor Youth Birthday Celebration Oct. 14. Please mark your calendar and join us.

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Share Hastey

Assets to the Community

Community is a defining word in CPY's title—it's also the defining ideal in its existence. So, as part of CPY's fundamental goal of assimilating the CPY Standards of respect and integrity into its students, we found it only natural to pull the local community of adults on-board its mission. Put differently: All too often we react negatively to the outwardly unappealing appearance of youngsters—What's this black clothes? Why the baggy pants?—when a less judgmental approach would further mutual respect. With this in mind, CPY was a founding agency in an group called Assets Builders Alliance, which seeks to proactively help local adults support youth in less than obvious, often easy, ways. As part of their work, they've created tools to help, like the following list of suggestions to consider when encountering youth:

What does it take to be an asset builder?

- Be open and honest
- Listen to children and teenagers
- Find the good in others
- Laugh with kids
- See past hair and clothing styles
- Take time for kids
- Get to know young people
- Ask kids for their help
- Speak out for children and youth
- Be real—be yourself
- Be friends
- Be available to young people
- Respect differences
- Spend time with kids
- Pay attention to children and teenagers
- Treat kids with respect
- Talk to young people
- Model positive values
- Handle conflict peacefully
- Set boundaries and limits
- Affirm and encourage young people
- See kids as YOUR responsibility

The Alliance adds this: "Remember: you don't have to do or be ALL these things to start building assets. You already have some strengths to offer. Start with those! Then work to develop others."



Creativity in Bloom: CPY children arrange flowers for Valentines Day under the tutelage of the Ikebana Society.

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Cinco de Mayo festival, and an artistic contest brought to CPY kids through a partnership with Monterey Bay Links, Inc., in which dozens of kids created posters showing how walking can help create health and wellness. Those projects were among 30,000 projects CPY students will complete this year.

And the program's growing stronger, says Sue Ann Hillyer, certified Lyceum creativity coach, art director of First Night for nine years and CPY's art director for the past six. "It's [growing] in so many ways," she says excitedly. "Every year we get to do more art projects. During intersession we really see multiple projects happen. I think that I've been there as long as I have has helped solidify it because there's someone there doing it all the time."

Hillyer's aware of the well-documented long-term positive effects that will result. But her preferred effect is more immediate.

"The look in the kids' faces when I show up at one of the sites is amazing," she says. "The kids come running up, saying, 'Are we doing art today? Are we doing art?'"

How can I help?

- \$25.00 per month: cover the cost of art supplies and homework materials
- \$50.00 per month: field trips and transportation
- \$100.00 per month: Afterschool Mentor Tutor Program for one child for one year
- \$250.00 per year: Business Sponsorship

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone (Day) _____ Phone (Evening) _____

email _____

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____

Please bill my MC/Visa account for \$ _____ or \$ _____ per mo.

Account # _____

Expiration Date _____

Signature _____

Make checks payable to:

Community Partnership for Youth • PO Box 42 - Monterey, CA 93942

CPY Wish List:

- Adopt a CPY Family for Christmas
- Art supplies
- Games Puzzles
- Sports Equipment
- Sponsorship for Newsletter

831-394-4279



Make a Date with History



In 1991 things were happening. A phenomenon called "grunge" was just gaining momentum as Nirvana gave its first concert. Riots rampaged through LA as Rodney King wondered why we can't all get along. And something far more lasting than both took place in Seaside as a group of community members studied how to structure a new program called CPY to give their youth the skills and values they would need to resist the growing dangers of crime and drugs in

the community. Fifteen years later, CPY has helped thousands of students do just that. One summer program with 200 kids has grown to year-round, integrated programs at four schools serving seven schools total and nearly 500 underserved children annually; meanwhile, CPY graduates have moved onto inspiring positions in education and leadership and continue to give back to the community that gave them their opportunities to be great. With all this in mind, please save October 14, 2006, for the Honoring Those Who Honor Youth Birthday celebration. And plan on starting the celebration on July 29, 2006, CPY's 15 year Reunion at Laguna Grande Park with the whole CPY family—and without the funky grunge flannels or the rowdy looting.

CPY 15th Year Reunion

July 29, 2006

Laguna Grande



Honoring Those Who Honor Youth

October 14, 2006

Monterey Marriott

In the Business of Caring

Through a new program established this year, local businesses have seized the opportunity to sponsor CPY students. Their response has been inspiring: we now have 25 Business Sponsors. The annual contribution of \$250 or more made by each of these businesses makes up the difference between the fees paid by the student's family and the amount that CPY raises from other sources like grants and fund-raising events. These local businesses make a powerful difference in the lives of our children, and we hope that you will thank them for their support and honor them with your patronage. Please let us know if your local business would like to participate in the CPY Business Sponsorship program.

AMERICAN SUPPLY COMPANY
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