



Palo Alto  
**ARTCenter**

1313 Newell Road, Palo Alto, CA, 94303

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**(IMAGES AVAILABLE ON REQUEST)**

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**The Palo Alto Art Center Presents...**

## **ARTPOD 2007**

**~ Exhibition to Showcase Work from New Teen After-School Art Program ~**

**May 13 - June 3, 2007**

***Public Reception in Conjunction with Youth Art Exhibitions***  
***~ Wednesday, May 16, 2007, 5:30-8:00 p.m. ~***

**PALO ALTO, Calif. – April 19, 2007** – The Palo Alto Art Center (PAAC) presents the unique artistic talents of local teens at ARTPOD 2007, the first exhibition of exploratory works in life drawing, design and illustration created in a new PAAC after-school art pilot program targeted to artistic teens that was launched in Spring 2006. The public is invited to meet the artists at a reception in conjunction with the Youth Art and Cultural Kaleidoscope exhibitions on Wednesday, May 16, 2007 from 5:30-8:00 p.m. Supported in part by the Palo Alto Art Center Foundation, the teen after-school art program was created to provide older teens (15-18 years) with the unique opportunity to work in a collaborative environment outside of the classroom. Participants in the program must have demonstrated experience in art techniques and meet weekly throughout the academic year. Students have the opportunity to experiment with new media, work with visiting professional artists and designers, draw from a live model, develop their portfolios, and hone existing skills in a supportive environment. Students who participated in this year's program and who will present their work at ARTPOD 2007 include: Molly Barnes, Kendra Dunham, Marjie Ho, Anastasia Ionkin, Kaitie Macknick, Garrett Morton and Sally Ramirez.

Daisy Colchie, PAAC Program Director for the Teen After-school program and Project LOOK! Director, utilized a similar program model previously at the Jewish Museum in San Francisco in 2001. There she facilitated seven teens in conceiving, shooting and editing a video about their family migration stories from Poland in the 1940s and Russia in the 1980s.

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"Today's teens live in a highly competitive and scheduled environment that often gives them little opportunity to reflect on who they are and what is important to them. And, they have limited opportunity to connect with their peers without competing with them as well," explained Daisy Colchie, Program Director for the PAAC Teen After-school Art Program. "As part of this new program, teens learn how to utilize their artistic abilities to execute a vision and concept as part of collaborative, team approach. Through this, they can experience the difference between completing an 'assignment' and being part of a creative entity, the latter being more akin to the college and post-college experiences."

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The Palo Alto Art Center (founded 1971) is a nationally acclaimed, regional visual art center whose exhibition program focuses on documenting - and celebrating - the art and artists of the San Francisco Bay Area. The Center's mission is to foster creative process and thought by forging a greater appreciation and understanding of the visual arts through exhibitions, studio experiences, and related educational programs. The Palo Alto Art Center, Division of Arts and Culture, City of Palo Alto, is funded in part by support from the Palo Alto Art Center Foundation and the Arts Council Silicon Valley, in partnership with the County of Santa Clara and the California Arts Council. The Center is open to the public without charge from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday; 1:00-5:00 p.m. Sunday; and 7:00-10:00 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday. The Center is located at 1313 Newell Road, Palo Alto, CA 94303. For further information: Phone: 650.329.2366 / Email: [artcenter@cityofpaloalto.org](mailto:artcenter@cityofpaloalto.org) / Website: [www.cityofpaloalto.org](http://www.cityofpaloalto.org).