



## Artist-in-the-Schools Program Announcement Cultural Kaleidoscope, 2022-2023



### Kindergarten – Fifth Grade Art-based Inquiry Program

Cultural Kaleidoscope is an art-based inquiry program that brings a teaching artist to your classroom and uses the visual arts to enhance language arts, social studies, and science curricula. This year, a fully vaccinated teaching artist will join your classroom for ten hands-on, art-based inquiry lessons. All classroom teachers and students will receive a research journal for their Cultural Kaleidoscope explorations. The teaching artist will bring all art supplies.

**September 2022:** Apply for the Cultural Kaleidoscope program. **Application deadline is Sep 19.**

**October 2022:** Classroom teachers and teaching artists will coordinate curriculum plans and teaching schedules.

**November 2022 – April 2023:** Art-based inquiry sessions will be delivered.

**May 2023:** Cultural Kaleidoscope Art Show at the Palo Alto Art Center/Field Trip to the Art Center, Program Evaluation

**Duration:** Ten 60-minute live classroom sessions with a teaching artist.

**Cost:** Cultural Kaleidoscope is offered at no cost thanks to support from the Institute of Museum and Library Services and the Palo Alto Art Center Foundation.

**To apply:** Please fill out this google form to apply for Cultural Kaleidoscope:  
<https://forms.gle/c4nvGzjuh9FT2xcN7>

**Questions?** Email [Heewon.Park@CityofPaloAlto.org](mailto:Heewon.Park@CityofPaloAlto.org)

## **CULTURAL KALEIDOSCOPE**

The Palo Alto Art Center received a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services to develop art-based inquiry curriculum. Teaching artists will deliver art lessons using the curriculum designed by arts-integration specialist Julia Marshall for Cultural Kaleidoscope. Details regarding the curriculum are below.

### **Art-based Inquiry and research journals**

Art-based inquiry is an approach to art education that frames art making as a form of inquiry—a way of exploring and learning about ideas, ourselves and the world. The goals of art-based inquiry are understanding important topics, imagining possibilities, and inventing new realities. Students create art in order to meet those goals and they do it with a teacher's guidance.

For Cultural Kaleidoscope, art-based inquiry is a concept-driven, learning-centered and open-ended approach that has broad and important implications. They are:

1. Emphasis is on exploring and learning about meaningful ideas and concepts—not solely on making art objects or practicing techniques.
2. Construction of artworks (using materials and techniques) plays a supportive role to learning about concepts and playing with ideas.
3. Learning is scaffolded and open-ended
4. Thinking is emphasized and made explicit
5. Creative interpretation, imagination and invention are included in every project
6. Curriculum is understood as a whole—as a continuum of projects and activities that build upon each other.
7. Reflection and documentation are integral to the process.

Research journals are an important part of creative art inquiry. These books are more than sketchbooks. They are similar to the field study books used by natural scientists and social scientists but also have the sketchbook/idea-generation component associated with art. The research journal is a place to:

1. Record information gathered during the investigation
2. Brainstorm and develop ideas
3. Convey ideas and information visually and verbally
4. Express feelings and interpretations of the subjects investigated
5. Experiment with ideas, techniques and materials
6. Record reflections on the subject of the investigation, the process of learning about it, and the thinking that took place.

The research journal enables a student to chronicle his or her learning, thinking and idea generation over time. In that way, it helps to build metacognition. It is also personal and, therefore, meaningful. The book also promotes creative inquiry—a shift away from making isolated hands-on art projects toward constructing conceptual threads among art activities and projects (a trail). Furthermore, it encourages learners to see themselves as artist-researchers and scholars. Above all, research books can integrate learning across the curriculum—building literacy skills and making cross-disciplinary connections.