



Art is for everybody. It is not something that you should have to go to the museums in order to see and enjoy. When I work on big projects, such as a fountain, I like to include people who haven't yet developed their creative side — people yearning to let their creativity out. I like designing projects that make people feel safe, not afraid to get involved." -- Ruth Asawa

Rooftop Celebrates the 10th Anniversary of Community & Art at Family Art Night

October 2 Nearly 150 Rooftop parents, students and teachers gathered in the Mayeda gym for an evening of building community through art. After sharing a meal, teaching artist Andi Wong gave a special presentation honoring the artistic and educational legacy of Ruth Asawa. In the 1960s, Ruth pioneered community-based arts learning in the public schools. It was this model that guided her daughter, Aiko Cuneo, when she began the parent-led art program at Rooftop over 30 years ago. Ruth and Aiko's influence continued at Rooftop through the years, with studies devoted to Ruth's art, and residencies with Aiko and Ruth's granddaughter, Lilli Lanier. Ruth's impact resonates in the continuing work of our Art Parents today.



The evening's art-making used one of Ruth's favorite materials, baker's clay.* A simple mixture of ordinary ingredients, flour, salt, and water, was transformed at the hands of our family participants. We enjoyed a special guest, former Kindergarten teacher, Mary Ann Cruz, who returned from retirement to lead the art project for the evening. We revisited an activity that was from the very first Family Art Night a decade ago: families used baker's clay to create a miniature, metaphorical representation of themselves. Created were a wide variety of representations, from sea animals to flowers, from lumpia to cupcakes! The individual family pieces were assembled together as collaborative artworks on four large pizza trays. The pieces will represent our community of families at the Rooftop "Slice of Life" show at the Luggage Store Annex, opening November 9.

*for Ruth's baker's clay recipe, visit: www.ruthasawa.com/clay.html

Abada Capoeira at Mayeda



October 4 The Mayeda Gym was filled with the sounds of the berimbau, pandeira and atabaque (Brazilian stringed instruments and drums) as our middle school students shared a "Performance of Learning" as the culmination of the Abada Capoeira residency. In a series of in-class workshops, students learned the basics of the complex Brazilian martial art that combines dance, acrobatics and music.

Students also shared their learning of the history of Capoeira, with its origins in Africa and development by enslaved peoples in Brazil, who used music and dance to disguise martial arts training, as it was illegal for slaves to learn to fight and defend themselves. Students related what they learned with existing knowledge of the history of slavery in our own country.

The Capoeira residency was the first in a series of short performing arts residencies for our middle school students that will explore how perspective and point of view open possibilities in art engagement. Each residency will culminate in a "Performance of Learning" where students will share the knowledge and experience they gain.

ROOFTOP ART CALENDAR Upcoming Events

October, Ongoing - "A Slice of Life" Gallery Visits

Classes will be taking field trips to the Luggage Store Annex and Tenderloin National Forest to engage in art-making, assist in curating, and discover more about the neighborhood that will host Rooftop's first gallery show.

Sat. October 12 - 10:30 - 4:30- LEAP Sandcastle Classic

Come cheer our 5th grade class as they compete in the annual LEAP Sandcastle Classic. This year's theme is "Masterpieces in Sand." Our students have collaborated with a team of architects to create a design that will come to large-scale fruition.

October 16, 17 & 21 - Mayeda FT to the Disney Family Museum

Grades 6-8 will go on field trips to the Disney Family Museum to experience two exhibits: *Water to Paper, Paint to Sky: The Art of Tyus Wong* and *Camille Rose Garcia: Down the Rabbit Hole*

Sat. October 19 - 2pm - SF Opera Wagner's The Flying Dutchman

Rooftop students and their parents are invited to the SF Opera's final dress rehearsal performance of Wagner's *The Flying Dutchman*. Please request your free tickets by Oct 13th via our online request form at: <http://tinyurl.com/pmpjnoe>

Sat. October 19 - 2 pm - Blade Performs at Saturday in the Park

Rock out with Rooftop's Blue Bear band of 7th and 8th graders, Blade, as they perform with other youth bands in McLaren Park. This free event is sponsored by The Friends of the Jerry Garcia Amphitheater as part of a Saturday in the Park concert series.

Sun. October 20 - 11 am - Rooftop Run - Kezar Stadium

Come enjoy community and support Rooftop! Special thanks goes out to Ramona & Sebastian Dragnea who turned our students' creative contributions into an amazing Run T-shirt design!

Sun. October 27 - Kids Rock! 12-4, Jerry Garcia Ampitheater

A second rockin' event featuring Rooftop Blue Bear bands. This time it's our 5th & 6th grade band, The Icy Chills, performing at a fundraiser with student bands from other schools. Proceeds benefit the PTA of each school.

Thurs. October 31 - Rooftop Halloween Parade & Carnival

Come experience this favorite annual event!

Fri. November 8 - 6 pm - 75: Flo Oy Wong: The Whole Pie

Opening Reception at the Luggage Store Gallery for Artist-in-Residence Flo Oy Wong, featuring art by Flo, and many community artists, including Rooftop teachers, students & parents.

Sat. November 9 - 12-4, Rooftop Art: A Slice of Life Celebration

Don't miss the party of the year! It's Rooftop's gallery opening and neighborhood celebration gala at the Luggage Store Annex and the Tenderloin National Forest. Enjoy artwork created by Rooftop students, families and community partners, plus a performance of Marcus Shelby's musical composition: *Gwah Gai: Crossing the Street*, played by the Marcus Shelby Orchestra. For more information on our show please go to: www.artsed4all.org/Window/

Hardly Strictly Bluegrass Education Day

October 4 Rooftop's sixth grade class and Mr. Rogers' fourth graders experienced the joy of a large-scale music festival as they gathered with thousands of other Bay Area students at the Hardly Strictly Bluegrass Education Day. With performances by P.M.W. and MC Hammer, students relished the live music on a sunny day in Golden Gate park. Rooftop students even joined MC Hammer on stage as back-up dancers, showing Hammer and the rest of the crowd that Rooftop certainly CAN touch this! The performance was part of the eleventh annual Daniel Pearl World Music Days, which invites musicians to use the power of music to help spread a message of hope and unity.



SFUSD Music Instruction Begins

Rooftop welcomes a new musical theatre instructor, David Greenbaum (Mr. G.), who is one of three credentialed music instructors working at our school this year. Every week, students in grades K-4 gather in the MPR and Mr. G shares singing, dancing and theatre games, serving 300 children every Tuesday! Ms. Caitlin MacChesney returns for her second year at Rooftop, providing instrumental music instruction in violin, flute, clarinet and trumpet as an elective for 4th-8th graders. Ms. Flora Wong returns for weekly classroom music instruction in Grades K-2 and classroom recorder instruction in grades 3 and 5. Music instruction is provided by SFUSD with support from voters via the Public Education Enrichment Fund (PEEF).