

EUPHRAT MUSEUM OF ART, 2006-2007 REPORT

THE CORE OF THE EUPHRAT IS ITS UNIQUE, TIMELY EXHIBITIONS, PUBLIC EVENTS AND PROGRAMS, MEET-THE-ARTIST RECEPTIONS, AND EXHIBITION-RELATED PUBLICATIONS. The year focused on collaborative exhibition and program development, including working with art groups and other educational institutions in the Bay Area. In addition we continued programmatic and architectural planning related to building a new Euphrat Museum of Art on campus. In September the museum moved back into the renovated A9 building and had to renovate again to turn the smart classroom into an interim museum.

EXHIBITIONS HELD AT EUPHRAT MUSEUM OF ART

De Anza and Foothill Art Faculty/Staff Exhibition presented paintings, drawings, ceramics, photography, sculpture, and mixed-media artworks by full-time and part-time art faculty and staff from De Anza and Foothill Colleges. The exhibition included a maple-and-steel coffee table, one-of-a-kind photograms, self portraits in oils, a sculpture of paper-clay on steel wire, and a hand-bound artist's book which explored the influence of western culture on China and China's emerging influence in global politics.

November 14 – December 7, 2006

Changing Still Life was an interactive exhibition comprised of "still lifes" from which viewers could draw. Viewfinders and basic sketch materials were provided. The still lifes encompassed objects reflecting different cultures and histories, found/recycled objects, objects related to different academic disciplines, and some artworks. The objects came from artists and sources on campus and in the community. Historian Connie Young Yu and artist Janet Leong Malan loaned artifacts related to early Chinese-American history in the area. Campus input included College architectural elements salvaged by the California History Center, and specimens and models from the Biological, Health, and Environmental Sciences Division. A display of native plants related to De Anza's Environmental Studies Center. Artists Susan Danis and DeWitt Cheng displayed art and objects from their studios. Danis's sculptures referred to consumerism and the environment. Cheng's paintings related to science specimens he morphed into unique creatures.

January 22 – February 15, 2007

Material Culture connected a focus on textiles, both traditional and contemporary practice, with a focus on our culture of materials/materialism. Playing off different title interpretations, the exhibition featured artists with content relevant to the times and community. Artist/instructor Reneé Billingslea, Santa Clara University, used clothing in her installation *Fabric of Race: Lynching in America*. Here clothing/textiles drew one into an important but rarely discussed part of U.S. history. Artist Corinne Okada exhibited wearable art from recycled candy wrappers from other cultures, providing cultural links for different generations. Chike Nwoffiah, Director of *Oriki Theater* in Mountain View, presented traditional wearable art from the Igbos in southeast Nigeria. Artist Kerry Vander Meer took women's stretchy garments and built art installations that overflowed with creative energy of shapes, lines, and textures. Hector Dio Mendoza's community-inspired artwork reflected various meanings to material culture. His generational installation, *Atomic Landscape*, included solid sculptures made of crocheted doilies dipped in liquid concrete. Nazanin Shenasa, who helped curate the exhibition, exhibited a handmade silk costume, *Layla's Shroud*, about being separated from your dreams.

March 7 – April 19, 2007

De Anza Student Art Show presented artwork in a variety of media created by De Anza art, photography, and graphic design students in the last two academic years. Over one hundred artworks were shown, representing sixty-two artists. Eleven artists received recognition awards.

May 21 – June 14, 2007

EVENTS DIRECTLY LINKED TO EXHIBITIONS

Public Reception for *De Anza and Foothill College Art Faculty/Staff Exhibition*, featuring presentations by artists. November 28.

Public Reception for *Material Culture*, featuring presentations by artists. March 20.

Public Reception and Awards Ceremony for *De Anza Student Art Show*. June 12.

ARTS & LEADERSHIP PRESENTATIONS

Precita Eyes and Mural Development in the Mission District, artist and community activist **Susan Cervantes** presented a slide show, including how one develops a community program and develops social consciousness. October 18, 2006

Arts, Community, and the Public Purpose, artist and instructor **Eugene Rodriguez** presented his film, *Before, During and After FLOOD*, and addressed the need for a national conversation on the rewriting of contemporary arts programs/training to accommodate a more democratic practice. November 22, 2006

Material Culture exhibition: Arts and Leadership, artist **Nazanin Shenasa**, presented concepts of Arts and Leadership in connection with the *Material Culture* exhibition, which she assisted in curating. March 15 and April 12, 2007

Art, Leadership, and Cultural Citizenship, artist **Hector Dio Mendoza** spoke of his public art projects, also gave a presentation specifically for a class in Emerging Latina/o Leadership. Co-sponsored by Visiting Speakers Series and De Anza Associated Student Body, May 30, 2007

CAMPUS COLLABORATIONS

Collaboration with Creative Arts Division and Art on Campus Committee regarding *Student Show*, arranging monetary awards funded by the Art Department, purchases for the college's permanent collection, and documentation. Worked with student designer Cherie Stachel on announcement, and with graphic design instructor Bill Nagel on design and certificates.

Participation in Visual and Performing Arts Center Committee. Yearlong involvement.

CAMPUS OUTREACH

Artist Presentations in conjunction with *Changing Still Life* exhibition, artists DeWitt Cheng and Susan Danis, February 5, 2007

Author Reading, book signing, and reception with Jervey Tervalon, co-sponsored by the African-American Staff Association and De Anza Associated Student Body, February 7, 2007

New Student/Parent Night, Euphrat staff at Creative Arts information station, April 26, 2007

De Anza Student Interns 20 were employed as teachers' aides in the Euphrat Arts & Schools Program and as museum assistants and front desk attendants. Their areas of study were art and graphic design (10), education (3), architecture (1), nursing (1), engineering (1), community studies (1), communications (1), business (1), and math (1). Students learn about museum operations, contemporary art, multicultural art education, art history, and how to work with children and a variety of art materials. This experience gives students the opportunity to see if museum studies or art education is a career path they might want to pursue. Students are asked to reflect on their experience.

Visits and Tours include:

Beth Bresnan	Arts 1A/Visual Arts	Juliana Kang	Drawing, Design
Barbara Allie	Oil Painting	Cheryl Battiato	Drawing
Prakash Chandras	Drawing	Catie Cadge Moore	Art History
Sal Breiter	Art, Ideas, and Values	Mark Engel	Acrylic Painting
Nazanin Shenasa	Visual Arts of Islam	Moto Ohtake	Sculpture
Karen Chow	English 1A	Maxine Freed	Creative Minds
Marc Coronado	Puente/EWRT 1A	Diane Pierce	Photography
Wil Castaño	Photography	Marcia Briggs	Design and Color
Linda Mau	Ceramics	Ken Wiesner	Literary Magazine
Lori Clinchard	Arts, Ideas, and Values	Yael Karmi	Art 1A/Visual Arts

Multiple visits, some with curriculum and writing assignment built around exhibition.

Lifelong Learning Studio Practice. The Euphrat Museum serves as a lab for students.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH (in addition to Arts & Schools Program)

Member of San José City Hall Exhibitions Committee, ongoing

Juror for National PTA Reflections Art Contest. January 2007.

Middle-School Outreach. Tour and discussion for 8th Grade Academy of Citizen School of Campbell Middle School. Citizen School helps low-income students develop leadership abilities and community connections. February 23, 2007

Arts Council Silicon Valley Arts & Business Awards, Euphrat Museum sponsored table and nominated Euphrat Board members Margaret and Hsing Kung, March 9, 2007

International Fair booth in conjunction with Cupertino's Lunar New Year Unity Parade, included a hands-on clay art activity. De Anza student interns, Euphrat Artist/Teachers, and community members staffed the booth. March 10, 2007.

2007 Community Arts and Technology Festival booth, sponsored by the Cupertino Educational Endowment Foundation. Included a hands-on design activity and a display of graphic design and Adobe Photoshop artworks by De Anza students. A De Anza student intern and a Euphrat Artist/Teacher staffed the booth. April 28, 2007

Co-sponsored CATS (Contemporary Asian Theater) film *The Cats of Mirikitani* at festival. March 25, 2006.

Cherry Blossom Festival presentation, with Cupertino Arts Commission. April 28, 2007.

De Anza College Art Day for Arbutle School included an Art on Campus tour, visits to ceramics, sculpture, and Hip Hop dance classes, and hands-on art activities. May 14, 2007.

Juror for WORKS San José Membership Show. May 2007

Attended/Participated in:

Global Leadership Forum on Economic and Cultural Development, August 8, 2006

1st Act Forum – Creative Urban Center Initiative, August 23, 2006

ArtsEnhance Workshop, Krause Center for Innovation and Arts Council Silicon Valley, September 6, 2006

City of Sunnyvale Visioning Festival focus group participant, October 28, 2006

CRAFT Circle Webinars, a project of Crossroads Project for Art, Learning and Community, August – March 2007

CAMPUS/COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Nimitz School 50th Anniversary Mosaic Mural, served as a consultant to the project, contributed artwork from Euphrat art classes at Nimitz, Faria, and Stocklmeir schools. Participants in the Nimitz after-school art class, one Euphrat Artist/Teacher, one De Anza student intern, and two community volunteers helped install the mural. Dedicated June 7, 2007

2007 Euphrat Collaborative Public Art Project, *Art, Culture, Action*, a series of interrelated art projects with a focus on visual art, physical fitness, and cultural awareness. Elementary school students worked with three guest artists, four Euphrat Artist/Teachers, and five De Anza student interns. The collaborative projects included two larger-than-life *Dance of Life* prints and posters promoting National Parks and Recreation Month. January - May 2007.

EUPHRAT MUSEUM OF ART EXPANSION PLANNING 2006-07

New building, substantial work with consultant Mark Cavagnero Associates on plans, and with the large Visual and Performance Art Center Committee, which included project architects, DES Architects + Engineers, Euphrat Board representation, and numerous division, college, and district representatives.

Additional project development, funding, and fund raising. Yearlong work continued with the De Anza administration, Euphrat Museum Board, Foothill-De Anza Foundation, Creative Arts Division, and others about planning and fund raising. This included working on the Case Statement for the new building (published by Foundation in spring), working on needs of outfitting the new space with related costs, and developing appeal letters.

Developed interim museum space, including designing/building wall system with Tony McCann, Creative Arts staff. Worked to secure additional funding for labor and materials when dedicated Measure C funding did not come through on time to pay for walls. Moved into interim space.

Initiated new structure for Euphrat Museum of Art Board and began Euphrat Board Executive Committee. Euphrat Board members have assisted with all our programs outlined here, with planning, review, outreach, and fund raising, both donating time and money as well as encouraging others to donate.

Developed expanded Program Committee with on campus and off campus participation.

Developed funding for and initiated Concept and Design Team, with Nancy Hom, Steve Yamaguma (Design2Market), and Samson Wong.

Expanded current website to include information on past exhibitions, added sections ("Students: Interns and Outreach," "Arts & Leadership Presentations," and "Collaborations"), the ability to access and email in proposal forms, plus added information in all categories.

Began development of new logo, branding, coordinated promotional materials, and a new, redesigned expanded web presence (to be completed in 2007-08).

ARTICLES AND PUBLICITY include

La Voz, November 27, 2006

Los Gatos Daily News, December 8, 2006, cover photo

Cupertino Courier, March 7, 2007

La Voz, March 12, 2007

La Voz, February 5, 2007

La Voz, March 19, 2007, full page

La Voz, November 27, 2006

SAMPLE QUOTES RELATED TO EUPHRAT PROGRAMS:

Another great example of free press can be found in the Euphrat Museum of Art at De Anza College where I am a work study intern. They have all kinds of art shows that reflect parts of American life and history that aren't often mentioned in the regular media. The museum doesn't have to advertise products of big corporations and is funded by both the college and community donations... Community art museums like the Euphrat Museum are very important to have because here artists can express themselves freely and sometimes reflect another side of life that isn't often mentioned in newspapers or on commercial television. This is an important part of democracy - the freedom to show, see, and talk about all kinds of artwork, ideas, and events.

De Anza student Trang Tran, in a political science essay

The Euphrat Museum of Art's influence on the Peninsula spans many communities, from the fine artists it presents, to the schools, centers and institutions that the Euphrat collaborates with. The Museum's work has promoted diversity and cross-cultural understanding through art and deepened our knowledge of community issues in our area. I applaud its efforts and wish it continued success.

Richard Lowenthal, Cupertino City Council

For more than three decades, the Euphrat Museum of Art has inspired our citizens with its groundbreaking exhibits and collaborations. The Museum has fostered discussion and creativity in classrooms and in the community, and its influence is felt nationwide. We are very fortunate to have this organization in our area.

Otto Lee, Mayor, City of Sunnyvale

EUPHRAT MUSEUM OF ART, ARTS & SCHOOLS PROGRAM 2006-07

AFTER-SCHOOL ART PROGRAM

Professional artists conducted year-long art classes for third through fifth grade students at Braly, Lakewood, Nimitz, Fairwood, and San Miguel Schools in the city of Sunnyvale. These schools were identified as having high numbers of at-risk youth. Almost **2400** student-hours of **free after-school art instruction** were provided.

ART, CULTURE, ACTION AFTER-SCHOOL ART PROGRAM

The Euphrat Museum presented a special after-school art class series for first through third grade students at Nimitz School. The classes combined art, cultural awareness and physical fitness and included guest artists from the community. Almost **200** student-hours of **free-after-school art instruction** were provided.

FEE-BASED AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM

The Euphrat Museum of Art offered after-school fee-based programs at eight schools in the Cupertino Union School District (Blue Hills, Creekside Park, Faria, Lincoln, Portal Park, West Valley, Miller Middle, and Hyde Middle). Over **4,200** student-hours of **after-school fee-based art instruction** were provided.

QUINLAN COMMUNITY CENTER PROGRAM

The Euphrat Museum of Art offered fee-based after-school, evening, and Saturday art classes for children at the Quinlan Community Center. Over **6,270** student-hours of art instruction were provided.

TEACHING TOURS

Hands-on Teaching Tours of the Euphrat Museum of Art are arranged for school children during major exhibitions. Over **300** student-hours of **hands-on Teaching Tours** were provided by Euphrat artist/teachers on site at the Euphrat during the school day.

EXTENDED YEAR PROGRAM

Summer 2006 program offered Extended Year classes at two elementary and two middle schools in the Cupertino Union School District (Collins, Lincoln, Kennedy Middle and Lawson Middle). Over **14,330** student-hours of **during-school fee-based art instruction** were provided.

PRESENTATIONS

Assemblies at Nimitz School, guest artists from *Oriki Theater* presented two West African dance and drumming assemblies in conjunction with collaborative public art projects *Art, Culture, Action*, co-sponsored by the Lunar New Year Unity Parade Committee, February 13, 2007

COMMUNITY EXHIBITIONS AND EVENTS TIED INTO EUPHRAT ARTS & SCHOOLS PROGRAM

Community exhibitions have been a way for elementary and middle school students to grow in self-esteem through recognition of their work and a way for staff, families, and the community to be more aware of student work and the art program. We have placed rotating exhibits throughout the year at these locations: Collins, Fairwood, Kennedy Middle, Lawson Middle, Lincoln, and San Miguel schools, the Quinlan Community Center, the Sunnyvale Library, and the Sunnyvale Creative Arts Center in conjunction with the Hands on the Arts festival. The Euphrat children's art exhibition *Art, Culture, Action: Artwork by Cupertino Area Children and Youth* was sponsored by the **Cupertino Fine Arts Commission** and held in conjunction with the Cherry Blossom Festival. Children's artwork was also displayed at the Euphrat's International Fair booth in conjunction with the Lunar New Year Unity Parade, and at the Sunnyvale Park and Recreation office in conjunction with National Parks and Recreation Month. An estimated **19,000** people viewed these exhibitions.

SAMPLE QUOTES RELATED TO EUPHRAT'S ARTS & SCHOOLS PROGRAM:

Through its exhibitions, Arts & Schools Program, events, speakers, and special projects, the Euphrat has made a significant contribution to California's cultural heritage. Thousands of schoolchildren and other members of our community have been enriched by their presentations. Many kudos to this organization that has done so much in spite of budget cuts and small staff.

Pearl Cheng, Cupertino Union School District Trustee

What would we do without the Euphrat? Our schoolchildren learn so much when they go to the museum and when Euphrat Artist/Teachers come here. The staff and artists are helpful, sensitive, and inspiring. I look forward to more collaborations with this wonderful institution.

Dale Jones, Principal, Nimitz Elementary School

I wanted to send some praise your way in regard to the Euphrat's after-school art class at Columbia School. My son simply adored the class! Every week he came home on Monday with a good hour's talk on what they did in class, how "neat" the instructor was etc. I definitely noticed a "quantum leap" in creativity which I credit your class with. It takes a lot to pry a ten year old out of Super Nintendo for an hour, let alone ten weeks, but your program did it. Fantastic! You are appreciated!! Glad to see personally, as a fine arts alumni at De Anza, that my son is experiencing the talent also, that Euphrat has to offer! Bravo!

Ariane Alexander, parent and former De Anza student

The art class was awesome!!! When my family saw my artwork they said I was a real artist. I feel proud.

3rd Grader, Lakewood School

I do a lot of artwork at home since taking the class because now I love art. The class is great and you can make cool exciting stuff and learn many things.

4th Grader, San Miguel School

The art classes are the best and everyone should do it. It is a great way to spend time and show creativity. I learned that in art you can keep going and change something that you think is a mistake. Then you can be even happier that you made a mistake into something beautiful.

5th Grader, Braly School