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TEMPORARY ART PROVIDES LONG-TERM BENEFITS FOR PALO ALTO KIDS

Italian Street Painting Festival Chalk Drawings Raise Thousands for Local Teacher Grants

PALO ALTO, CA – Wednesday, August 19, 2009 – This weekend, at the 28th annual Palo Alto Festival of the Arts, the Italian Street Painting Festival brings more than 40 street painting artists to Tasso Street (off University Avenue) in downtown Palo Alto to create a temporary gallery with works ranging in size from 4' x 6' to 12' x 12'.

Free to the public, each artist's chalk drawing is sponsored by local businesses and families with all proceeds benefiting the local education foundation, Palo Alto Partners In Education's (PiE) 2009-2010 Teacher Grant program. The Teacher Grant program is open to all PASUD teachers and awards \$50,000 in grants twice a year for innovative classroom programs and projects.

The Italian Street Painting Festival takes place this Saturday August 22 and Sunday August 23 from 10am-6pm. Professional, amateur and Palo Alto student chalk painting artists will create works of art right on the street, sharing their talent with Palo Alto Festival of the Arts visitors. Palo Alto's Italian Street Painting Festival began in 2002 and over the years has attracted experienced artists from across California.

In keeping with PiE's commitment to kids and the arts, there is also a special section – 'Chalk-a-lot' – where kids can create their own chalk drawings. For a nominal fee of \$10, youth artists, ages 2-12, are given a 2' x 2' square to create their own chalk art masterpieces. Children who participate will be given a gift pack, which includes a set of soft pastels donated by University Art.

Artists will begin laying the groundwork an hour or so previous to the festival opening at 10 a.m. on Saturday August 22nd and work throughout the weekend creating these impressive-but temporary masterpieces in chalk just for this festival.



http://papie.org/images/ISPF_BEACH.jpg



http://papie.org/images/ISPF_Boys_enjoying_cat.jpg



http://papie.org/images/ISPF_Onlookers-2.jpg

ABOUT PALO ALTO PARTNERS IN EDUCATION:

Palo Alto Partners In Education (PiE) is a non-profit educational foundation dedicated to raising money for public education in Palo Alto's Unified School District. For more information about PiE, please visit www.papie.org.

SPONSORS AND ARTISTS JOINING THE 2009 ITALIAN STREET PAINTING FESTIVAL:

Particular thanks go to Stanford Shopping Center for the Chalk-a-lot event, Whole Foods and Country Sun for artist's lunches. We also thank University Arts, DeMattei Construction, Westin & Sheraton Hotels, KDFC, Inventures Group, Townsend & Townsend & Crew LLP, Haverstock & Owen LLP, Kiwanis of Palo Alto, Wayne Renshaw Architects, Granite Rock, Accent Arts, Barton Architects, JSW Financial, Micheline Justman, The Sands Family, Gary & Annette Fazzino, Al & JoAnne Russell, Barbara & Michael Klausner, Susan & Jim Sweeney, Tom Wagner, Anne & Greg Avis, Diane & Joe Rolfe, Marilyn & Bill Bauriedel, Joy Sleizer & Ozzie Osbourne, Mary & Tom Haverstock and Cindy & Peter Ziebelman.

For more information about the Palo Alto Festival of the Arts and the Italian Street Painting Festival, visit: www.mlaproductions.com/PaloAlto.

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