



ARTIST: Samantha, age 8

**A RETROSPECTIVE**  
OF PROSE, POETRY, DRAMA, MUSIC & ART  
BY STUDENTS OF  
**TOOLS FOR TOMORROW**

**2011**



## TOOLS FOR TOMORROW

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mary T. Roche  
*Chairman*  
Rachel Bryant Druten  
*President & Founder*  
Robert Hopkins  
*Vice President*  
Marilyn Janas, CFO  
Diane Fox  
*Secretary*  
Hal Haver & Elaine Prukop  
*Chairman/Friends of TFT*  
James Reed  
*Chairman Emeritus*  
Lee Appel  
Stacy Jacob  
Jean Kemp  
Doug Martin  
Edie Thoreson

### AFFILIATES

Katherine J. Andrews  
Annette Bloch  
Daniel Bryant  
Jean & Art Daman  
Mary Lou & Lew Doty  
Elizabeth & Alfred Hastings  
Jean Ann Hirschi  
Jackie Lee & Jim Houston  
Madeline Kuhn  
Louise & Bill LaNouette  
Joni Maltzman  
JoAnn McGrath  
Nancy & Beau Miller  
Audrey & Courtney Moe  
Jolynn Reid  
Lee Appel & Richard Victor

### STAFF

Edward F. DiNicola  
*Executive Director*  
Andrea Hecht  
*Operations Manager*

### TEACHERS

Pinky Babasa  
Ellen Brenner  
Julia Cisneros  
Joan DeVault  
Terry Forrest  
Kelly Hughes  
Reidun LeFleur  
Billy Makuta  
Nancy Nishiguchi  
Liza Reese  
Kasey Shockey

### PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS

**Cathedral City**  
Sunny Sands Elementary School  
**Coachella**  
Peter Pendleton Elementary School  
**Desert Hot Springs**  
Bubbling Wells Elementary School  
Two Bunch Palms Elementary School  
Edward L. Wenzlaff Elementary School  
Julius Corsini Elementary School

**Indian Wells**  
Gerald Ford School

**Indio**  
Martin Van Buren School

**La Quinta**  
John Adams School  
Harry S Truman School

**Mecca:**  
Mecca Elementary School

**Palm Desert**  
Abraham Lincoln School  
George Washington Charter School  
Ronald Reagan School

**Palm Springs**  
Cahuilla Elementary School  
Vista del Monte Elementary School

**Rancho Mirage**  
Rancho Mirage Elementary School

### GUEST ARTISTS

Joyce Bulifant & Roger Perry  
Agua Caliente Museum

**ARTIST: Daezianno, age 9**



### COLLABORATIONS

Tools For Tomorrow collaborates with:

- The Unified School Districts of Palm Springs, Desert Sands and Coachella
- Palm Springs Art Museum
- Idyllwild Arts Academy

### FOUNDATION AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT

*Tools For Tomorrow gratefully acknowledges the following foundations and community organizations for their generous support, past and present.*

Arcadia Association Of Realtors Inc.  
Bob Hope Classic  
California Casualty  
City of Indian Wells  
City of La Quinta  
The Champions Volunteer Foundation  
Community Foundation  
Serving Riverside & San Bernardino Cts.  
Desert Communities Foundation  
Desert Realtors Association  
EOS Foundation  
Gannett Foundation  
Highland Street Fndn, JoAnn McGrath

Junior League  
Katherine J. Andrews Foundation  
L.A. Sheriff's Department  
Levi Strauss Foundation  
Macy's Community Shopping Day  
The Carol G. Meier Fund to Benefit Arts  
Education in the Coachella Valley  
Mid-Valley Arts League  
Montgomery Family Trust  
Lluella Morey Murphey Foundation  
Out Of The Box Enterprises  
Palms to Pines Rotary, Palm Desert  
Prime Time International

Ralphs Rewards  
Community Contribution  
Rancho Mirage Women's Club  
Regional Access Project Foundation  
Shelley's Fashion Inc.  
St. Elizabeth Of Hungary  
Rotary of Rancho Mirage  
Sioux Falls Area Community  
Foundation, Joe and Jennifer Kirby  
St. Margaret's Episcopal Church  
Target  
Wells Fargo Foundation



## **TOOLS FOR TOMORROW MISSION STATEMENT**

***The mission of Tools For Tomorrow is to provide an after-school arts literacy program integrating creative writing, art, music and drama for children grades three through five in elementary schools throughout the Coachella Valley, at no cost to the children.***

Tools For Tomorrow promotes cognitive, emotional, social, multi-sensory and critical thinking skills by offering children a hands-on experience in Art, Music, Creative Writing and Drama. Tools For Tomorrow encourages the children's artistic self-expression and nurtures the positive self-esteem resulting from the discovery of their inherent creativity. As they create their own works of Art they acquire a coping mechanism for the future: a "tool for tomorrow" and a vision of what their lives can become.



## **HOW TFT MEETS THE UNMET NEEDS OF CHILDREN**

- Supports disenfranchised children
- Nurtures children in a safe environment
- Encourages self expression and creativity
- Provides a means for children to feel successful
- Listens to the children's ideas, issues, triumphs and failures
- Provides positive adult role models
- Provides a cultural experience the children would normally not have
- Teaches children tolerance and the value of diversity
- Provides literacy and understanding of the arts
- Provides a hands on art experience
- Teaches the children to take responsibility for their actions
- Fills the need for after school supervision in goal oriented activities
- Fills the gap where budgets have cut the arts in schools





## INTRODUCTION

This retrospective represents work of Tools For Tomorrow students over the past years. The artwork, stories, and poetry included here are examples of the powerful opportunity Tools For Tomorrow has to unlock the creative imagination and minds of the children we have had the privilege to touch.

A varied and integrated curriculum allows for many approaches to the disciplines, and the hard work and dedication of the TFT teachers is evident in every piece included in this retrospective. As the children's imaginations soar they experience success and a vision of what their lives can become.

Ed DiNicola  
Executive Director





## DEDICATION



*DARYL TIMMONS BRYANT*

*This anthology is dedicated to the memory of Daryl Timmons Bryant, beloved Southern California artist who died January 24, 2011.*

*Recognized as an exceptional talent, Daryl's outstanding watercolors were exhibited in galleries throughout the United States and Canada, and featured in national and international journals and books on art.*

*Daryl's life reflected not only her unique talent, but an integrity and dedication to quality. She continued to study and learn for she believed that art, as life, is an ever-evolving process. As long as she lived she inspired with the qualities of character, loving kindness, patience and generosity that were reflected in her beautiful paintings. As a result of Daryl's love for children and the arts, her philanthropic focus included Tools for Tomorrow.*

*In her honor and memory her sisters, Ginger Ludwick and Janet McNeil established The Daryl Timmons Bryant Art Spirit Award to be presented annually to a student not only gifted in art but who possesses the qualities of character and responsibility that symbolized their beloved sister.*

*"Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail."*

Ralph Waldo Emerson





**A RETROSPECTIVE  
OF PROSE, POETRY, DRAMA, MUSIC & ART  
BY STUDENTS OF  
TOOLS FOR TOMORROW  
2011**



*ARTIST: Samantha, age 8*

**TOOLS FOR TOMORROW**  
75-105 Merle Drive #600, Palm Desert, CA 92211  
Phone: 760.601.3954 - Fax: 760.674.9923  
[info@afterschooltools.org](mailto:info@afterschooltools.org)  
[www.afterschooltools.org](http://www.afterschooltools.org)

Daddy says the world is like a drum  
tight and hard. I told him I am going  
to beat out my own rhythm.

Jacky, age 9



# LOOKING BACK

*Artists and Poets Galleries  
from Past Newsletters*



**ASSIGNMENT: Studying Kachinas and Dream Catchers in the Native American Culture**

(Spelling and grammar are the children's own)



**GODDESS OF HELP**

My kachina helps knowledge and helps plants grow.  
 My kachina's name is Goddess of Help.  
 She loves to eat pizza and sphagetti.  
 She loves her mother and she likes dancing.  
 She likes wearing hats and helps everyone make good choices.  
 But she doesn't like doing homework.  
 That's all about my kachina.

Monique, age 9

Princess Star  
 likes pink and purple  
 She does magic  
 and she dance  
 She makes stuff  
 that people want  
 She likes people  
 that are always respectful  
 to others.

Stephanie G., 10



Roberto, age 9



Ryan, age 10

I, Icaris the Angle, will use my powers with my dream catcher  
 to help my tribe QueenKong!  
 I will put my fellow tribe members first in order to benefit my tribe.

What I do to help:

- If there are leaks I can fix them
- If some one is sick I can call 911
- If some one is hurt I can heal them or get some help

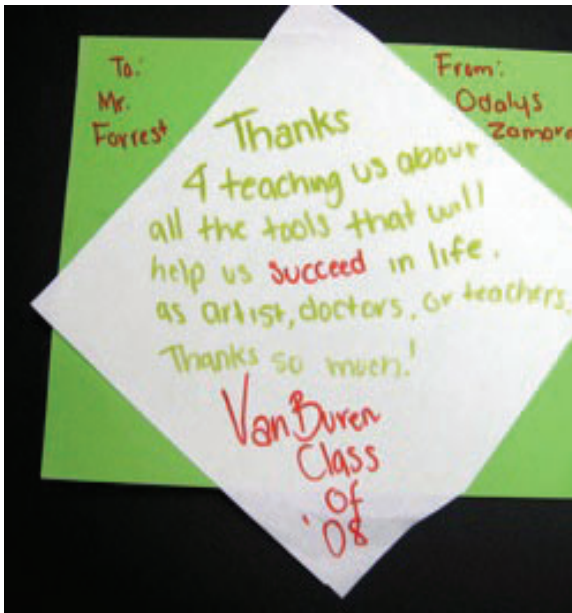
Jason M., age 9

# NOTES FROM THE CHILDREN

(The grammar and spelling are their own)



Erick, age 9



I like that no one teases anybody about anything. We all learned to be friends. We also learned about each and other. Some of us are in third, fourth, or fifth grade, but we're still all friends.

I enjoyed being in Tools for Tomorrow because I could really let my creativity flow out. I could also be myself. I learned many interesting facts while being in Tools for Tomorrow. I liked that you could also let out your ideas. As you can see, I really enjoyed being in Tools for Tomorrow.

Your friend,  
Yvonne, age 10

I like to Tools for Tomorrow because we do acting. I like Tools for Tomorrow because we make masks. I like Tools for Tomorrow because we get to run four laps around the MPR. I like Tools for Tomorrow because we make story up.

Chris P., age 9



Thank you for the tools that will help us in the day after tomorrow!

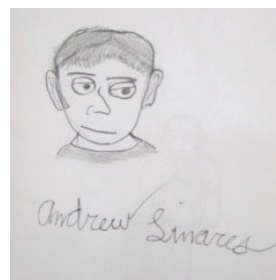
Odalys, age 9



Nadia F., age 9

I like when we act and I liked to be with my friends. I like my teacher Mrs. Jen and I like when we do music and art. I like how we do emotions like greedy, tired, afraid, mad, jealous, depressed and bored. It is exiting to do stuff and play and learn.

Angelica A., age 10



Andrew, age 9



Christian, age 9



# ARTISTS & WRITERS GALLERY

Winter 2009

## THE MAGIC BOX

I will put in the box  
My black belt  
Dragons' wings  
White furry tigers

I will put in the box  
The State of Texas  
The Atlantic Ocean  
The country of Ireland

I will put in the Box  
The sound of the rain dripping in my pool  
My dog barking at the birds  
Me playing my drums

My box is made from  
Dragon scales  
Angel wings  
Half moons and hawk's talons

In my box I will  
play with tigers  
fly with the dragons' wings  
Visit my friends in Ireland and  
See my grandma in Texas

Ricky, age 9



Emma, age 9



Jessie, age 10



Veronica, age 10



Maria, age 9



Jose, age 10



I am the sadness of a crying baby  
I am the sound of a scary monster  
I am the music of a Mexican Fiesta  
I am the teeth of a hungry T Rex  
I am the stillness after the wind

Emily, age 9

Alimalay, age 9



Zoe, age 10



Angel, age 9



Victoria, age 10



## RAINBOW

Emma, age 9

Amazing, peaceful, historical house  
 So many tourists milling about  
 Loud and thrilling this big huge house  
 It impressed me it did, this big old house  
 More than the Mississippi Bridge  
 It was beautiful this big old house  
 That raised a man I'm proud of sure  
 Martin Luther King Junior

KK, age 9

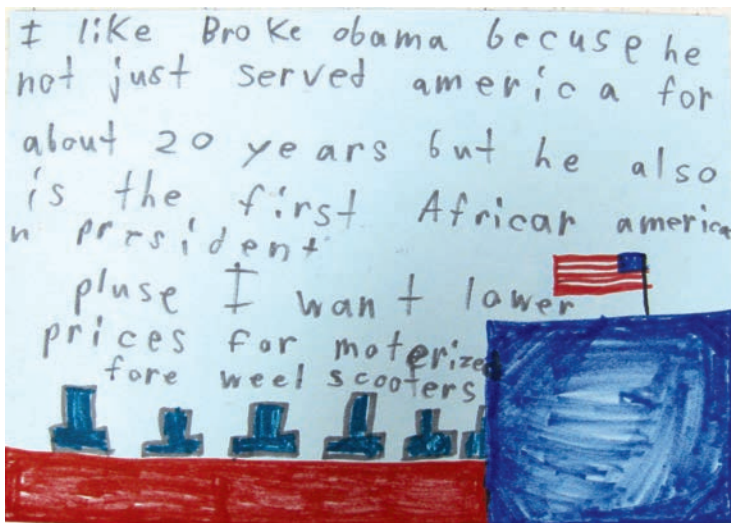
I am big and colorful  
 I wonder if I am taller than everything  
 I hear birds whistling in the wind  
 I see birds flying all around me  
 I want to be the tallest thing in the world

I am big and colorful  
 I pretend I have arms  
 I feel happy to be colorful  
 I touch the water of the waterfall  
 I worry someday it will not rain  
 I cry when it doesn't rain

I am big and colorful  
 I understand not every day it can rain  
 I say I have all the colors  
 I dream every day it can rain  
 I try to be bright  
 I hope I am very bright

I am big and colorful

Pedro, age 8



Hector, age 9



Ethan, age 9



Justin, age 9



Emily, age 9



Itzel, age 8



# ARTISTS & WRITERS GALLERY

Spring 2010

The paper cutout art on this page was inspired by a Native American story, *The Girl Who Talked to Horses*, and the poems by a book called *Buford the Big Horn*, by a local author.



Artist: Delia T. age 9



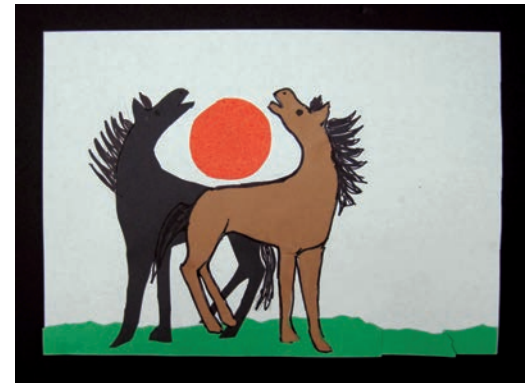
Artist: Liliana D. age 8

Buford the mighty bighorn had big sharp horns. He went up the mountains and looked at his beautiful mountain land. He saw a little baby fox sitting on a rock and a big strong mountain lion came to have the fox for lunch.

Buford said, "Oh, no." So he came running down the hill and he pushed the mountain lion into the rushing river. He pushed the rock to the water.

The baby said, "thank you, my hero." And the fox went back to her family.

And Buford became Hero of the mountain.  
Ariana S.



Unsigned: third grade

Once there was a bighorn named Buford. Buford the mighty, strong and brave. One day he went to the mountains and suddenly he finds a gorgeous and friendly mate. Then Buford walks up to her and he says, "Would you be my mate?"

And she says, "Yes."

The End

Sebastian G.

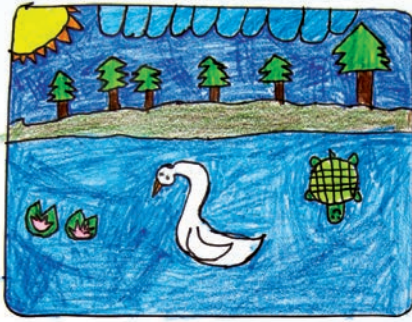


Artist: Ariana C. age 8



Unsigned: third grade





The Swan

The Swan swims with her friend the turtle gracefully in the pond, looking in the water for frogs.

by Maria Morales



Artist: Maria M. age 9



Blue Bird

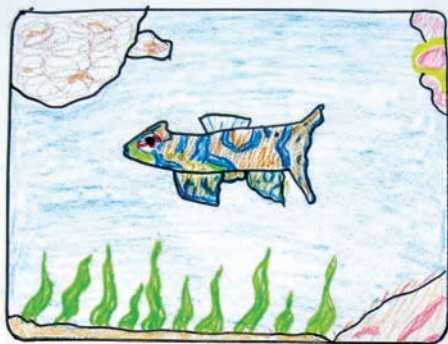
Blue birds fly up up in the sky, flying fast they pass. They are blue like sky blue. Their nests are the best.

By: Itzel Chavez

The Swan  
The Swan swims with her friend the turtle gracefully in the pond, looking in the water for frogs.

By Maria age 9

**The art and poetry on this page was inspired by Saint-Saens, *Carnival of the Animals*.**



Aquarium Fish

The beautiful colorful fish shines in the sunlight. The fish glides in the water and stays silent in the water still.

By: Kaila Maria

Blue Bird  
Blue birds fly up up in the sky. Flying fast they pass. They are blue like sky blue. Their nests are the best.

By: Itzel age 8

Aquarium Fish  
The beautiful colorful fish shines in the sunlight. The fish glides in the water and stays silent in the water still.

By Kaila age 9



Artist: Joey M. age 8

I AM AMAZED.....  
...by the sea  
...how a flower grows  
...by a dog running free  
I am amazed by me

Tyler, age 9

# *A Miscellaneous Collection of Poetry, Prose and Art*



A poem is like a.....  
tugging in your heart  
a sweet little voice  
a funny word  
a good compliment  
wind beating the sun  
the last leaf on a tree

Sarah, age 10



ARTIST: Dorie, age 9

I can't write a poem!  
I need a pencil  
I need a chair  
I need a book  
I need a pen  
I need an idea

Oh! Look! I just wrote a poem  
Clever me

Esperanza, age 8

With my third eye....  
I see life above the clouds  
birds that scream mine, mine, mine  
actors with special talents  
and books with secret meanings  
that are mine, mine, mine

Alexis, age 9

As sad as . . .

- . . wanting to write but not having the right tools,
  - . . having a brother and not seeing him.
  - . . having a sister and not wanting to see her.
  - . . being born and your dad leaving your mom and you.
  - . . having someone die who you really loved and took care of.
  - . . having your friends talk about you.
  - . . your closest friends having a secret they won't tell you.
- As sad as not being in any of your sister's baptism pictures.

But as happy as talking to my Dad and Mom  
and letting them know how I feel  
of what's going on  
and what's going on in my dreams and my wishes.

Amber, age 10



As Sad As . . .

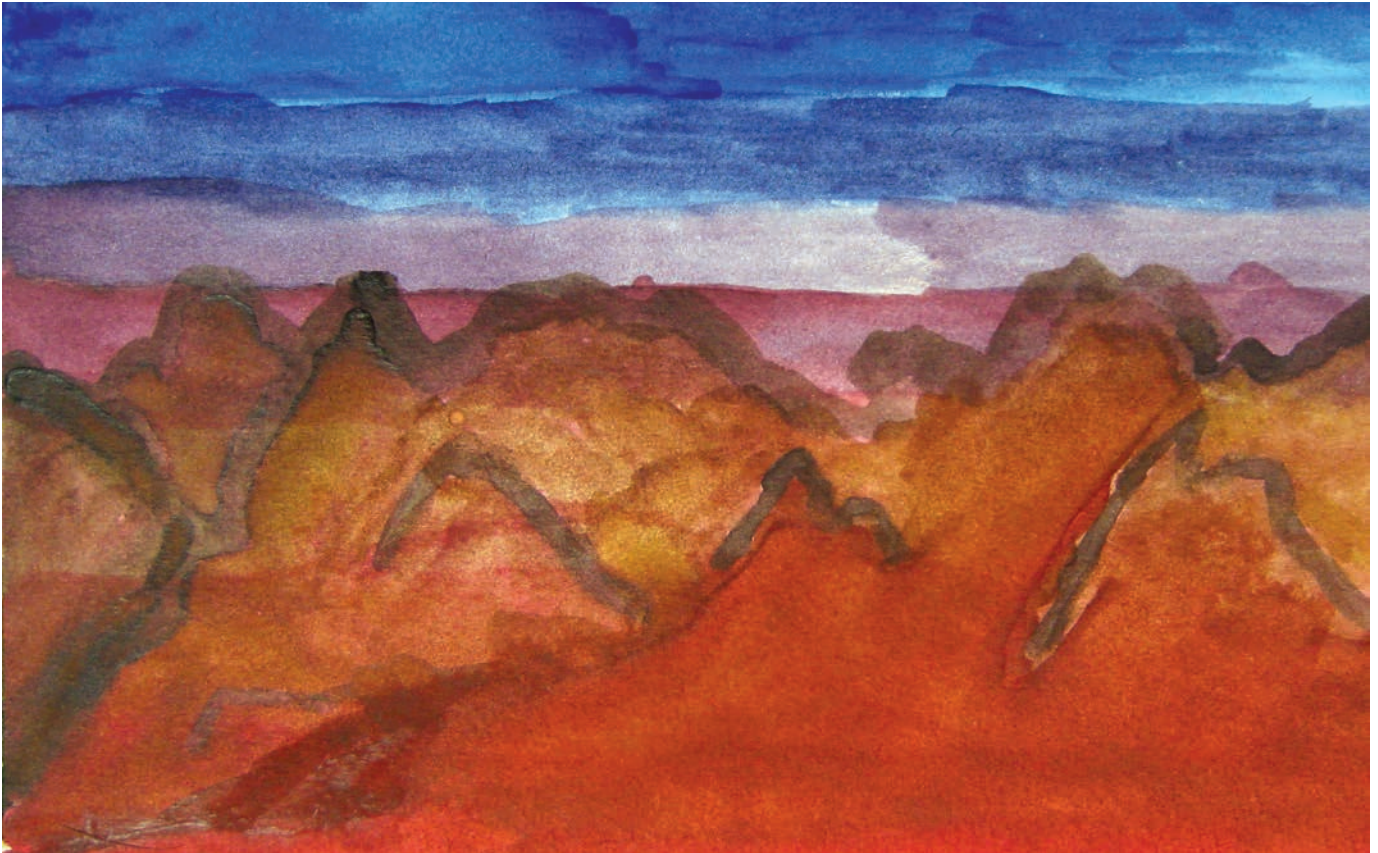
As sad as . . .  
an apple unpicked.  
As sad as a ring on a withered finger.  
As sad as a mistress with no hero.  
As sad as a hand with nothing to reach for.  
But around the corner there's hope.

Alec C., age 9

ARTIST: Jose, age 10

At night time I like to lie down and  
stare up at the sky.  
I make up constellations.  
I can hear crickets chirping.  
The trees whistling.  
The only thing I would like to do  
is fly around the planets.

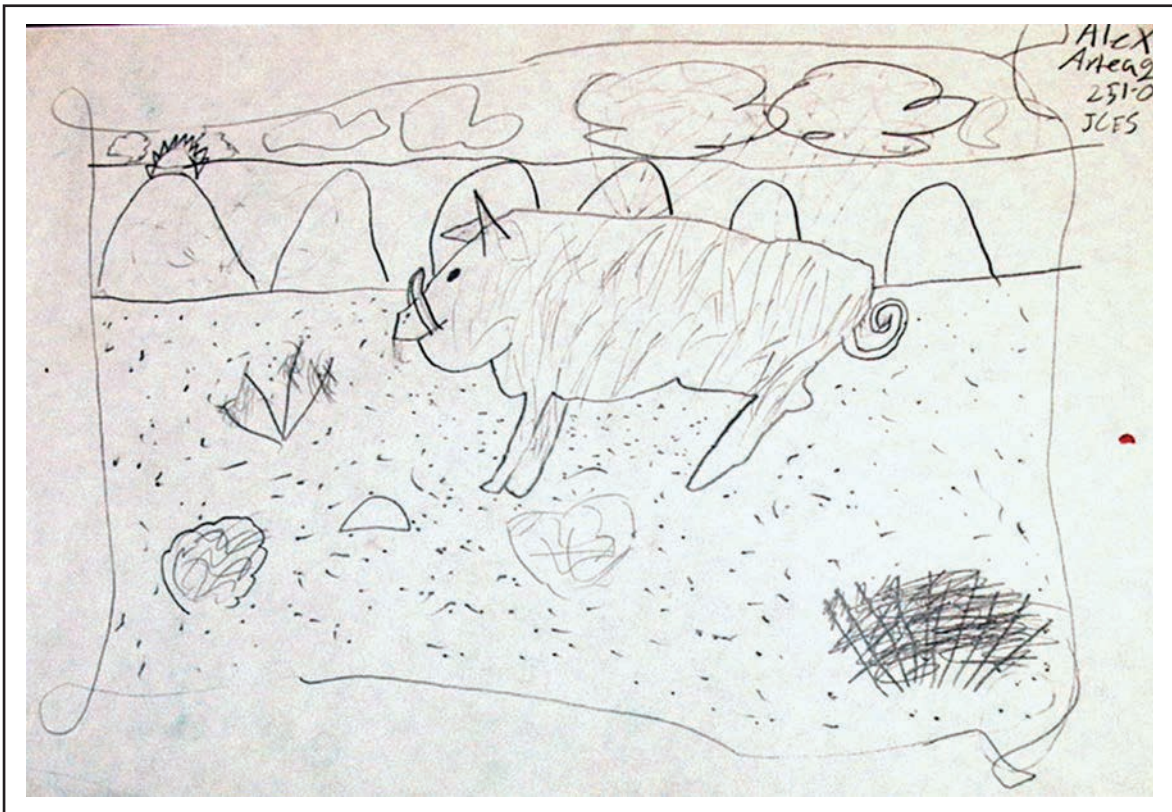
Alexander, age 10



Lizeth, age 9

During a time when I'm by myself,  
I look out into the desert and find a  
purple field of flowers.  
I see sand surrounding them.  
It sounds very silent and quiet.  
I must be the luckiest person ever.

Sarah, Age 9



Alex A., age 9

What is that?  
 Another dragon in the sky?  
 He does not look as beautiful as I.  
 Still I want to welcome him.  
 So he can come to dinner,  
 Now where is that dragon in the sky?  
 Oh well, I guess I am the only one  
 To eat tonight.

Alex C., age 10

## RAIN

When my friend came to my house  
 We went outside to play basketball.  
 During the game it started to rain.  
 When a drop hit me I felt its light touch.  
 I looked up and saw the cloud's tears.  
 I heard the rage of the sky.

Eric D., age 10

I wish one day when it rains  
 I wish it rained Skittles.  
 And everything is made out of candy.  
 The couch would be chocolate.  
 And the toys would be Jolly Ranger.  
 And cotton candy.  
 Then we won't be hungry any more.

Nancy, age 10



Martin, age 9

In the future I want to be a business woman.  
I want to be a business woman because I like talking on phones  
I think the clothes that business women wear are cool

Laura, age 10



Joey, age 10



Christian, age 8

In the future  
I want to be a spy.....  
because you get weapons  
and free donuts and coffee

Daniel, age 8



ASSIGNMENT: The students were shown the following pictures which told a story without words. They were asked to write a brief original work based on the pictures using the picture title, and the quotation supplied with each picture.

## The Mysteries of Harris Burdick

### By Chris Van Allsberg



**ARCHIE SMITH, BOY WONDER**

*A tiny voice asked, "Is he the one?"*

#### ARCHIE SMITH, BOY WONDER

By

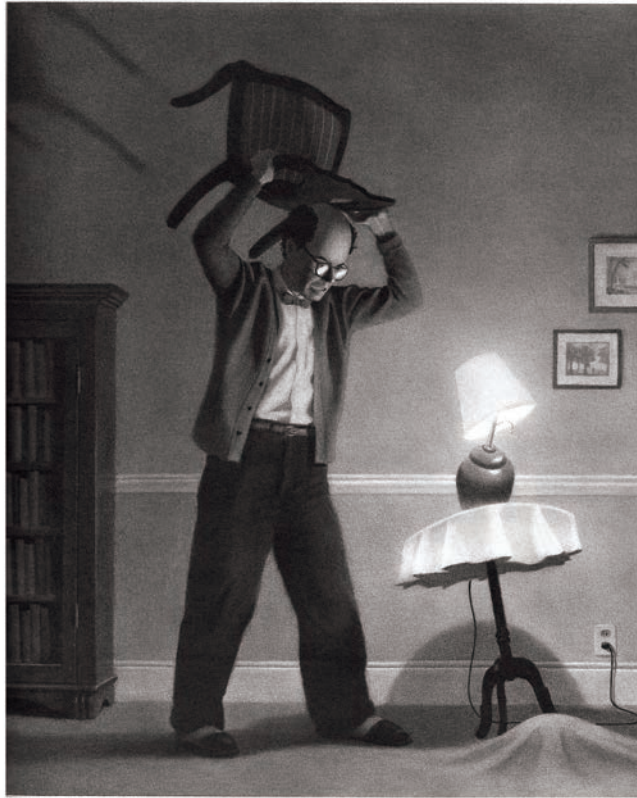
Avery, age 10

Once a long time ago, there was a boy named Archie Smith. This boy was special, very special. Archie was kind of like a wizard.

One night Archie was fast asleep. Suddenly two tiny balls of light appeared beside Archie who was lying in bed in his room. The two lights sparkled in the moonlight, then little squeaky voices started to talk. The voices said, "Is he the one?" Then the voices stopped, and tiny balls of light disappeared. There were moments of silence.

Archie woke up suddenly. He was sure someone or something was in his room. Archie got out of bed and searched his room, but found nothing. In disappointment, the boy crawled back into his bed and fell asleep.

The next morning Archie was not in his bed. He was nowhere to be found. Fifty years later, Archie was found near death by a river. But after Archie Smith was completely back to health, he lived a wonderful life.



#### UNDER THE RUG

*Two weeks passed and it happened again.*

#### UNDER THE RUG

By

Brandon, age 9

Mr. Smith was working at this desk when he heard a loud thump! Mr. Smith raced into the living room. Books lay torn on the floor. Crayons, pens, and pencils were stuck in the toaster. The lamp's bulb was covered in peanut butter, and a lump lay under the rug.

The lump wiggled, spun, then disappeared.

The next day Mr. Smith decided to try an experiment. He put a new light bulb in the lamp, and put the pens, pencils, and crayons in the pencil box. He made the room as clean as possible. Finally he installed a \$1,000 video camera to catch the action. When the sun went down, Mr. Smith lay in bed worrying, "what will happen if the thing breaks my video camera?"

Next morning, as he had suspected, everything lay smashed on the floor, including the video camera. But there was one clue: six large alien-like prints in purple ink.

#### UNDER THE RUG

By

Dionna, age 9

Once there was a man named Dr. Smith. Dr. Smith's favorite room was the living room. In his living room there was a lamp, chair, pitcher, bookshelf, and a rug. Dr. Smith was a Doctor. One night while Dr. Smith was watching TV, he heard something weird, so he looked and found a bump. He got scared. So he grabbed a chair and stacked it in the air. As he was going to hit it the bump said meow. He put the chair down and tried to find a way under the rug. Under the rug he found his neighbors cat. The reason why the cat came every two weeks is that the neighbor left once every two weeks to go see his mother.

## THE HARP

By

Jenifer, age 9

"Bandit and I are going out to the woods," I called to Mom. "Why, it's dangerous?" she asked. "We . . ." I hesitated, "We want to explore." I said nervously. Mom gave me a funny look. "All right, but be careful and be back before supper!" "Ok," I said.

I didn't really want to go to the woods because I wanted to only explore. I thought as we headed out. I wanted to see if the legend was true.

The legend . . . The Legend is that back in these woods there was a magical harpist, and he played songs so nice that every time he played a song if you heard it or not, you would fall asleep. They say that the harpist disappeared, so no one fell asleep during conversations or ever heard his music again. It is to be said that the harp is still there . . . I wanted to see if that is true.

All I have to do is follow the Red River stream. (I don't understand the name.)

Bandit barked and I came back to the now. Off in the distance was a black figure staring down a big hill. He saw me and disappeared. I ran to see down the big hill and sure enough, the Red River stream lay ahead. We followed the stream for hours and finally I saw something off in the distance. I looked at Bandit and he was scared. I just remembered at that moment the harp. It's true, I thought! It's really true. I got closer, probably the closest anyone has ever gone,



THE HARP

*So it's true he thought, it's really true.*

and there was a note. I picked it up and read:

Dear Whoever reads this,

I am the harpist. I left to bring peace to another wood and town. No matter where I go, the harp will stay where I last played. I may appear as a black figure, so don't be frightened. Whoever is reading this, DON'T TELL ANYONE!. If this gets out, I might be found and for me that would be bad. And please, don't move my harp.

Sincerely,

The Harpist

Wow, I thought as we were walking home. I know by the way he or she wrote the note, I must never tell anyone.

When I got home I thought more about it as I ate my supper. As I was going to bed, I tucked the note into my pillow case. I was glad I had found out about the legend now, rather than later.





# ***DRAMA, MUSIC & PERFORMANCE***



## YOUNG THESPIANS PERFORM

### Costumes and sets designed by the students

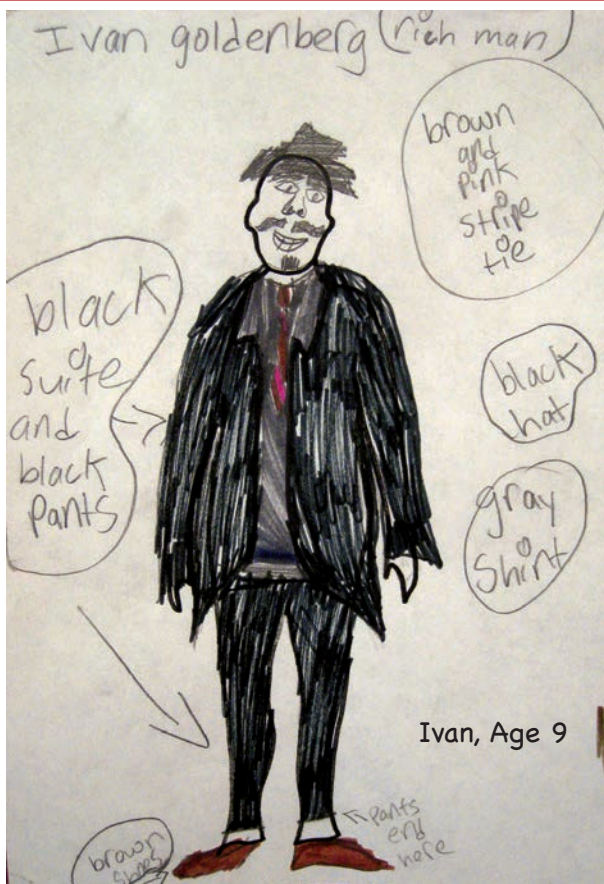


Vista del Monte Players: L to R back row: Yarely, Cody, Angel, Christian, Veronica, Emmellie. L to R. Front row: Payton, TFT Executive Director, Ed DiNicola, Novellie

Vista del Monte Elementary School Players performed an original Play as part of the curriculum of Tools For Tomorrow. They gave performances for their fellow students and parents, for the P.S.U.S.D. Board of Education, and for the Friends of Tools For Tomorrow.

With input from the students, Executive Director, Ed DiNicola, wrote and directed an original play inspired by Mussorgsky's "Pictures at an Exhibition." In this integrated arts experience the children learned about the Russian culture and music, suggested dialogue and designed sets and costumes for the production that was done in partnership with Louisa Castrodale, Fine Arts Coordinator for the Palm Springs Unified School District.

Director DiNicola expects to create similar plays that reflect the curriculum units, giving the children additional experiences to learn, expand their cultural and social horizons, gain confidence and self esteem and a team spirit in working creatively with their peers in Tools For Tomorrow's safe, on-site, after school environment.



Tony, Age 10



Jamie, Age 9



Elijah, Age 10



Dorian, Age 10



Angel & Cody



Cody, Age 10



Jamie, Age 9

**Class assignments for the original play, PICTURES AT AN EXHIBITION, written by TFT Executive Director, Ed DiNicola.**

- Choose one of the characters, tell what makes you/the character the happiest and what advice you would give Modest to write his music
- Create a costume for one of the characters



Veronica, Age 10



Veronica, Age 10



Peyton, Age 10



Novelee, Age 9



Jamie, Age 9

"My name is: Tatiana  
 I live in Kiev with Baba Yaga  
 My favorite thing to do is: go out and search vegetables in the orchard.  
 The thing that makes me happiest is: finding very beautiful and ripe vegetables in the orchard.  
 If I had to give Modest one piece of advice to write his music I would tell him that he should think of something that makes him very happy like hanging out with his best friend Valdimer.  
Baba Yaga: "If you met Tatiana you're probably wondering why she lives with an old witch like me. Well I don't get rid of all the children. So I kept her as a daughter or something like that. But I like how she brings back fresh vegetables for me. So yah! Now go." Jamie

House on chicken legs



Angel, Age 9

"My name is Tatiana. I live with mother gnome. My favorite thing to do is: paint picture of goats. The thing that makes me happiest is: see the Great Gate of Kiev. My word of advice is never give up, you are a smart person." Veronica

Angel



Jamie, Age 9 Ivan, Age 9



Novelee, Age 9

"My name is Dimitry. I live with my cousin. My favorite thing to do is walk down the street in Russia. The thing that makes me happiest is my dog, Comet. If I had to give Modest a piece of advice it would be to think of something that makes you happy." Elijah



Angel, Age 9

Jose, Age 10

## THE LAST WORD.....

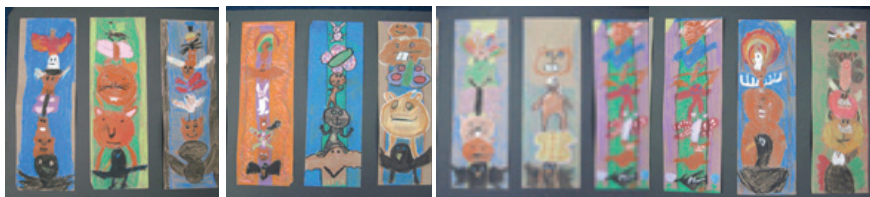
### FROM THE CHILDREN.....

**Dana Grade, 3** - "I love art because I can express myself in it. I learned that there are no mistakes when you use your imagination. When I draw I draw with my mind and I know the meaning of art is to express myself and have fun while I am doing it."



**Carlos, Grade 4** "Thank you TFT for teaching me about native Americans and about making gourds into art. I also liked learning about painting with sand and it taught me how Native Americans use things in nature that they could get for free to make beautiful art. I like being in the class with other kids and helping each other instead of not getting along too good."

**Heriberto, Grade 5** - Thank you for buying all the things we use here for art like watercolors, paper and other stuff that helps us be able to do the art. I learned to think about art and about music and see how music and art can be the same even though you listen to one and look at another. I won't be able to take TFT again because I will be in sixth grade but I will always remember what I did in class."



Fatima, age 9



**Alma Isabel, Grade 3** - I learned a lot like drama, art, history and many more important stuff that I can talk about in my classroom. The teacher was respectful to me. He taught me a lot. You guys are great. Thank you very much."

**Jennie T., Grade 5** - "I am so happy I had this chance. I had fun but learned too. It was a great chance for me to express my artistic talent and not have anyone make fun of me for my imagination. Thank you very much."

**Abigail, Grade 8** - "I am a volunteer in Tools For Tomorrow. I want to give my free time to help the kids get what I got when I was in Tools For Tomorrow. I am 13. I know the other kids will learn and be inspired from this class experience like I was. My favorite hobby is reading and like Tools For Tomorrow reading improves your education."

Guadalupe, age 9



### FROM THE TEACHERS.....

"Jorge told me he learned not to be scared when you are doing a play that you should be loud and like your work and want to share it. At the end of the program he was anxious to perform solo before the class and the parents."

"Haylee had a few problems with her peers when the class started but as the weeks went on she developed communication skills but more importantly learned how important it is to be a team player."

"The students developed an art vocabulary that they became very comfortable with. They were much more thoughtful about the choices they made even though their language level was very low. Classroom teachers stopped to tell me how much better behaved the students were in the classroom and especially how much more responsive they were in their willingness to share their thoughts aloud."



Julia, age 10

### FROM A PRINCIPAL .....

This is a great program that provides critical skills that many children would not otherwise be exposed to and to see adult role models in a non threatening, supportive capacity. The strategies our children learn in TFT are behaviors they can use to successfully access avenues of work and education they wouldn't be able to navigate otherwise. We are grateful to have so enlightening, innovative, challenging and forward thinking program to challenge our students to be successful."



## **THOUGHTS FROM THE FOUNDER**

*In 1999 Tools For Tomorrow began in four elementary schools in Desert Hot Springs. Since then the program has expanded throughout the Coachella Valley, from Palm Springs to Mecca, impacting the lives of thousands of children.*

*But the dream will not be realized until it is available to all the elementary school-age children in our beautiful valley, until all our children can have the opportunity to discover and develop their unique talents as they experience the joys of, art, music, drama and writing in an environment that offers not only the experience of success, but loving-kindness, sharing and responsibility.*

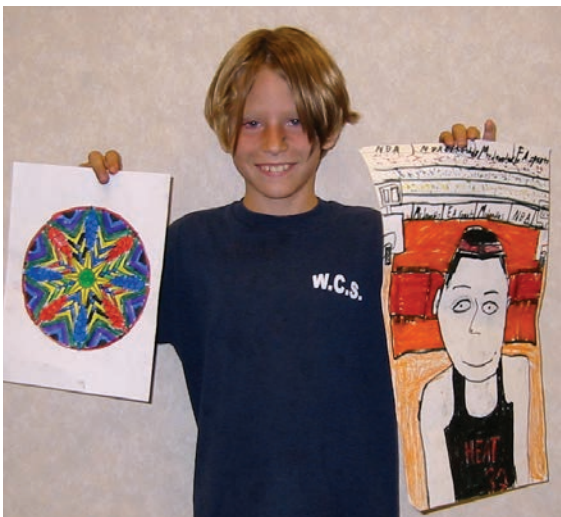
*I truly believe that Tools For Tomorrow and programs like it can develop in children, hearts and minds that will change the world.*



*Rachel Druten  
Founder*



***Be yourself - but be your best self.  
Dare to different and to follow you own star.***  
S.H. Payer





*Only those who risk going too far can possibly find out how far one can go.  
T.S. Eliot*





ARTIST: Lesley, age 8

This Retrospective was designed, edited and published inhouse  
by staff and volunteers.



75-105 Merle Drive #600, Palm Desert, CA 92211  
Phone: 760.601.3954 Fax: 760.674.9923  
[www.afterschooltools.org](http://www.afterschooltools.org)





This Retrospective is underwritten by the Houston family,  
in memory of Jackie Lee Houston.



75-105 Merle Drive #600, Palm Desert, CA 92211  
Phone: 760.601.3954 Fax: 760.674.9923  
[www.afterschooltools.org](http://www.afterschooltools.org)