

HEALING WATERS

AN ART FOR HEALING COLLABORATION
WITH SAN DIEGO YOUTH AND GERRIT GREVE



Exhibition and Auction Catalogue
L Street Gallery at the Omni Hotel, San Diego, California

Proceeds from the auction will go to Family Health Centers of San Diego
and (ARTS) A Reason To Survive

MAGIC?



Performance painting by one of the kids at (ARTS) A Reason To Survive

Do the paintings have the ability to somehow magically heal? Or do their colors somehow in perhaps some unknown way promote healing? Probably not, however, the art can make a difference that helps promote healing. Doctors have told me that they will go out of their way to walk through the corridors with the art so that they can for just a few moments have a reprieve from the life and death seriousness of their jobs; that makes their jobs more relaxed so that they have more energy to give to their patients. Nurses have told me that it lifts their spirits; encouraging them to be a better care-giver. Patients have told me that when they walk the halls with the art, they forget for a few moments their pain and feel better when they return to their rooms. One visitor told me that for two months, while his mother was dying in intensive care, he would spend time everyday looking at the art in the hallways of the hospital because it gave him a calm that he needed to walk back into his mother's room to be there for her during her painful last days. Do the paintings have a magical power? Maybe they do. Perhaps the art helps promote the magic of human touch and caring that seems to help all of us feel better... including the creator of the art.

—by Gerrit Greve



ARTS Information Sheet

Mission:

ARTS is dedicated to healing, inspiring, and empowering children facing life challenges by providing innovative arts-based programs, education, and opportunities.

Vision:

All children experience the power of the arts.

Values:

Creativity
Caring and Nurturing
Positive Energy
Inclusion
Responsibility
Trust & Honesty

History:

ARTS was founded on the philosophy that the artistic process can change and heal lives. In 2001, Matt D'Arrigo began volunteering at Ronald McDonald House bringing art projects to the children and families staying there. Since then, ARTS has been providing our signature outreach program "Expression Sessions" to more than 50,000 children and youth throughout the San Diego community, as well as facilitating numerous community art projects and events throughout the year.



In February of 2007, ARTS opened the Pat D'Arrigo ARTS Center at NTC Promenade in Point Loma and began offering a wide variety of in-house programs, workshops, trainings and day camps. ARTS partners with numerous organizations throughout the San Diego community, including hospitals, residential treatment facilities, shelters, rehabilitation centers, community groups, schools, the County of San Diego, and children and teens throughout the greater community facing adversity.

Although ARTS believes all children benefit from involvement in the arts, ARTS specifically serves children and families facing some of life's toughest challenges: terminal or chronic illness; abuse and neglect; parents in the military serving overseas; eating disorders; physical, mental, behavioral, or emotional disabilities; self-image and self-esteem issues; parental divorce; substance abuse and recovery; socio-economic challenges and homelessness among others.

