

Dear Las Lomitas Families,

Las Lomitas has a legacy of exemplary programs in the arts. Music, visual arts and dance instruction have been part of the school curriculum for many years. Our district is committed to providing students a rich arts program from the day they enter school. Today's article is about the **visual arts program** here at Las Lomitas.

Our teachers bring a variety of depth or experience teaching the visual arts elements of line, color, shape/form, texture, value and space. They each provide students with multiple experiences to develop artistic expression, creative expression, historical and cultural understanding and authentic valuing.

For the past several years, we've been fortunate to have a way to provide ongoing staff development for teachers while enriching the visual arts program for students through the Artist-in-Residence program. Returning for her fourth year as our "Artist-in-Residence, Donine Ettinger provides lessons to enhance the classroom arts program. She schedules lessons with the teachers in drawing, painting, printmaking and clay sculpture. Lessons include experiences in screen printing, intaglio printing, relief printing, still life, and self-portraits. Clay lessons focus on pinch pots, plaques, picture frames, animals and glazing.

Donine is an experienced educator and professional artist. She meets with teachers prior to each session to plan the lesson. Teachers select lessons that best fit their students' needs and allow them to learn new strategies and techniques to incorporate into their classroom program. It is an ideal arrangement –students learn while teachers learn! The Artist-in-Residence program enhances the core art program at Las Lomitas and provides training for future years.

Until next time,

Sue Sartor
Principal