

ARTS OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE REPORT ON ARTS ED & ACCESS FUND

IF YOU WISH TO SPEAK TO CITY COUNCIL, PRINT YOUR NAME, ADDRESS, AND EMAIL.

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ADDRESS AND ZIP CODE

Email

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School Parent Letter to an Arts Teacher

4/23/15

It was a truly happy surprise when my child's painting was selected to be exhibited at Art is Elementary at City Hall in March 2015. This was an unexpected honor and this was the first time my child was recognized for his work at school. My child is dyslexic and has a hard time keeping up with his peers at school. He puts in a lot of effort and has made good gains, but is still lagging behind in important areas such as writing, so he has never felt he was good at anything in school and felt that his efforts never amounted to much. Being recognized by a teacher at his school for work well done there has really changed his attitude regarding himself and school. He is more optimistic and positive about school, and I see this reflected in his level of engagement in his schoolwork. He seems to now think that his efforts *can* have good outcomes.

I think that this belief that a child can produce good results over time, and having the patience and diligence to keep working hard, is learned through art. Creative thinking is fostered as children learn to set goals, formulate a plan to achieve their goals, and problem solve and improvise as they work to see their task through to completion, and I believe that this all translates directly to how academic schoolwork is approached and how academic goals are set and achieved.

Laura L.