

DMA Center for Creative Connections

Interactive Gallery Spotlight

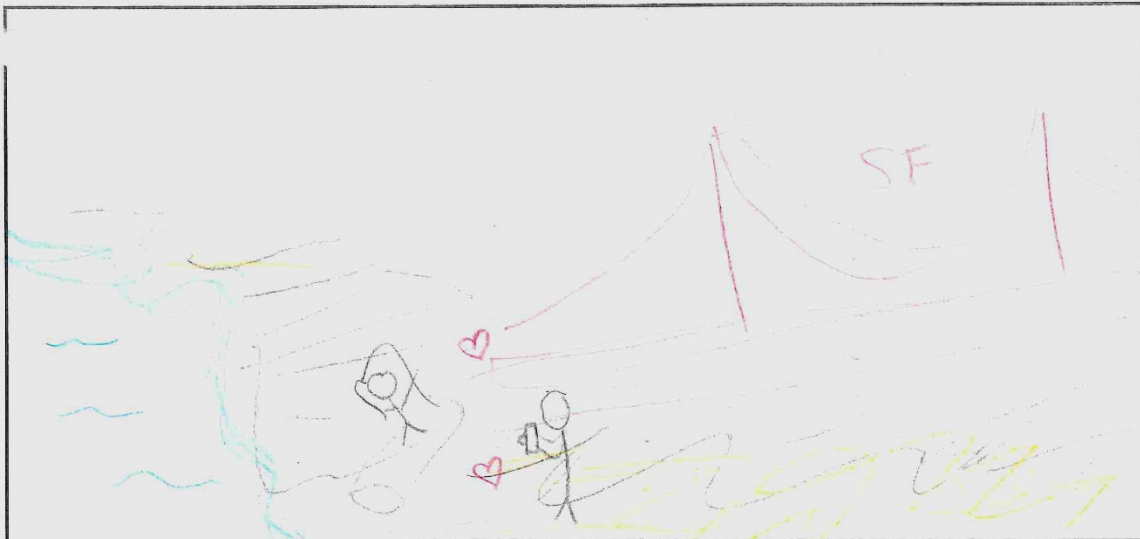
Artful Reflections



Currently, the Center for Creative Connections has nine retablos on view, chosen by Head of Community Engagement, Maria Teresa Garcia-Pedroche. Many of these paintings are also considered *exvotos*, or devotional paintings that serve as offerings of gratitude. The imagery often depicts a saint, people in prayer, and/or a scene illustrating the event for which the artist is expressing gratitude.

In the Center for Creative Connections, we often create prompts that offer visitors a chance to reflect on their own lives in relation to a work of art. These kinds of personal connections can create lasting memories of experiences in informal learning environments. In response to these retablos and *exvotos*, we asked visitors to reflect on past experiences for which they have felt blessed or to share about current situations in which they are hopeful or sending prayers. Visitors can illustrate the experience or situation, write a short description, and add it to our book of retablos for others to view.

Here are a few examples of the thousands of responses we have received.



The obvious, I am grateful for the chance to experience love, I know not everyone finds love in their lifetime. I am grateful for the good, and the bad that comes with the idea of love. I'm willing to risk heartbreak for love. I pray that it ~~will~~ will only make me a better person. All I really hope is I walk away able to love myself more than he does. ♡
To Be the Best Me I can be = the best US we can be.



Alicia Aguerrevere en compañía de su hijo Mateo dedica este retablo a la Virgen María de Guadalupe por agradecer a curar el brazo de Mateo, que se rompió, jugando en el changero del patio de la escuela.



I am grateful for the change of
the seasons.

— Jasmine Jones



I'm grateful for my beloved cat that
no longer here but will always be in my
HEART! 💕



Dear Lord,
Thank you for my children and grand-
children. I pray our family becomes a
stronger unit because of the trials. Amen



I hope that peace will come to earth

