

The Museum-School Partnership program fulfills **six of the D.C. Public Schools' Standards of Learning for Fine Arts** and **four for Social Studies**.

While the 2nd and 4th grade classes participating this year will use the project to learn about art, history and visual connections, the 5th/6th grade class will use the project to learn about math and geometry connections. The students will learn by looking closely at textiles in the Museum's exhibitions, by trying hands-on activities in the Museum's Textile Learning Center and by creating art within their classrooms.

The students' artwork will be unveiled at the Museum's 31st annual Celebration of Textiles festival on Saturday, June 6, and the students will be publicly recognized during a ceremony that day. Their textile art will remain on view at The Textile Museum through June 2009.

Comments from local government officials demonstrate the importance of this program within the local community. Washington, D.C. Councilmember Jack Evans (Ward 2) says, "I commend The Textile Museum for its commitment to the Kalorama neighborhood and the city as a whole – in particular, at a time when D.C. public

schools are facing such economic challenges."

"The Textile Museum's program with local students provides a great opportunity for children to learn about art and culture and how to express themselves creatively through fun and practical experiences," comments Councilmember Tommy Wells (Ward 6). "I am very excited about the project and look forward to seeing what the youth create."

History of the Project

For more than 20 years, The Textile Museum has displayed large banners made by local students during the Museum's Celebration of Textiles festival, held the first weekend in June each year. In 2004, this tradition evolved into a more in-depth Museum-School Partnership program designed to enrich the

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One of the completed 2008 student artworks, *Abstract in Blue*, which was on view at The Textile Museum at the annual Celebration of Textiles festival and throughout the month of June.

lives of local students by creating connections between textile art and their own lives and by educating the students about other cultures.

In addition to the annual Museum-School Partnership program, The Textile Museum offers interactive tours for students of all ages, teacher workshops and hands-on learning opportunities in the Museum's permanent Activity Gallery. Through its ongoing participation in the D.C. Arts and Humanities Education Collaborative, a grassroots community-based organization, The Textile Museum strengthens and promotes the arts and humanities as an essential part of high quality education. The Collaborative's "Arts for Every Student" program builds on school curriculum through free, interactive museum experiences and offers free transportation to and from the schools.

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About The Textile Museum

Founded in 1925 by George Hewitt Myers, The Textile Museum is an international center for the exhibition, study, collection and preservation of the textile arts. The Museum explores the role that textiles play in the daily and ceremonial life of individuals the world over. Special attention is given to textiles of the Near East, Asia, Africa and the indigenous cultures of the Americas. The Museum also presents exhibitions of historical and contemporary quilts, and fiber art. With a collection of more than 18,000 textiles and rugs and an unparalleled library, The Textile Museum is a unique and valuable resource for people locally, nationally and internationally.

The Textile Museum is located at 2320 'S' Street, NW in Washington, D.C. The Museum is open Tuesday through Saturday 10 am – 5 pm and Sunday 1-5 pm. Admission is free with a \$5 suggested donation for non-members. For further information, call 202-667-0441 or visit www.textilemuseum.org.

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