

Susannah Young

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Textile Arts

Residency offered: Petroglyphs – Pictographs. This residency will explore the history and meaning of pre-historic rock art through the creation of painted and dyed textiles, stone, and wood. Students will learn to interpret rock art through story, pictures of ancient and modern pictographs and their own original works.

Preferred Ages/Grade Level: grades K through 12

Supplies, Equipment, Space and Time Considerations: Fabric – should be natural fiber, i.e., cotton, linen – in dark colors. Bleach, bleach pens, Cascade dishwasher soap, foam brushes, newsprint, acrylic paints, brushes, vinegar, tubs for water/vinegar mix to neutralize bleach, flat rocks and pieces of wood. Space needs to be large enough to lay out projects to dry. Fabric can be dried in clothes dryer. Time would vary depending on age group. K to 3 – 1 1/2hr. 4to 6 – 2 1 ½ hr blocks. Projects could also be done in hour or 45 min. blocks to be completed within the week started.

This residency could be complimented by including a storyteller who is versed in Native American and/or other ethnic myths.

Some assistance from teachers and parent volunteers would be of great assistance throughout the project.

Teaching Experience:

- 1975-76 Art Instructor – Federal Way School Dist. Grades K to 6 and Resource
1976 Art- in- Residence – Heritage Arts Specialist Marymoor Park, King
County Arts Commission
1977-80 Art Instructor – King County Parks Department
1983-93 Art Instructor – Wenatchee Valley College. Taught Art
History, Survey of Ethnic Art, Printmaking, Watercolor, Weaving
1984-87 Tonasket School District – Developed and produced Annual Children’s
Arts Festival
2004-2006 Artist In Residence, Pateros and Virginia Grainger Elementary Schools,
Grades 3,4,5, Petroglyphs
2005-2006 Artist-in-Residence, Virginia Granger, Grade 4, Stories and pictures of the
Kuna Indians and Paper Mola making.

Artist’s Statement:

Rock art of the Okanagon and Columbia Rivers mirrors the art of pre-historic groups throughout the world. Similarities between our regional rock art and that of Africa and Europe abound. I have been drawn to these simple yet sophisticated images for many years and am fascinated by the stories they could tell. So much of what we know of our ancestors comes from our observation and interpretation of these forms. Throughout my travels I seek out those places that give me a glimpse through the shadows of time.