

Artists Share Their “Vision” To Inspire Children in Seattle area



Toddler room: Brian Major painted a protective birch tree for the Meadow.



Bathroom: Carly Schmitt painted whales and squid swimming Under the Sea.



Entry/Reception: Jody Anderson painted the great outdoors of the Pacific Northwest with canoeing and bicycling represented.



The Infant room: Mozelle Spencer created a castle with secret rooms and magical characters.

Vision House provides what all mothers want for their children: a pleasant childhood filled with happy days and fond memories, in a safe and warm educational environment, surrounded by caring and nurturing adults.

Those at Vision House under-

stand a healthy imagination is important for child development. It happens during play with friends, when a toddler glimpses colors or simply is daydreaming.

Mozelle Spencer, one of the leading decorative painters in the greater Seattle area, wanted to take this environmental stimulation one step

further. She wanted every child that came through the door at Vision House to feel happy and calm, inspired by the paintings that confronted them at every turn. The hope was to encourage each to be motivated to experiment and create.

To achieve this dream, she sent out an “all-call” to artists from all over the



Play room: Jordan Swain & Mozelle Spencer painted tree, giraffes, lions elephants, monkeys—all the friends of the Jungle Room.

oped the ideas and created the layouts. (See photos for details.) Some of the artists stayed for a weekend working non-stop and sleeping on the floor. Some showed up after painting for clients all day and worked into the wee hours of the morning. The new

state asking them to contribute their time and talents. More than 30 artists came from far and wide to assemble on May 1 for lunch, meet the directors and learn of the “vision.” They divided into teams to strategize as to how they would transform plain walls into a playground of art. Jan Dressler of Dressler Stencils signed her new book at the kickoff, contributing 25 percent of sales to Vision House, as well as donating some stencils for use in the tropical room. Mozelle also called in favors from area retailers for contributions from drop cloths to stencils to paints of all forms.



friends that they made, both old and young, were as important as the art they were leaving behind for all to enjoy. It was wonderful to see the response of the children, and some insisted on picking up brushes and helping,



Play room: Rod and Donna Hennig created an animated collection of underwater faces and friends (Donna is pictured.)



Play room: Jennifer Carrasco and team painted gentle forest creatures, including a tree full of fairies in the Pacific Northwest Room.

The team that worked on the Vision House project included: front, from left, Tamara Taylor Clark and Mozelle Spencer, and back, from left, Jordan Swain, Jody Anderson, Donna Hennig, Anya Podowitz and Jennifer Carrasco.



Cafeteria: Tamara Taylor Clark (pictured) and Carla Morrison painted a full side of a barn with farm animals all around.

For three weeks straight, artists painted castles and fairytale figures, hidden passageways to playful nooks, jungles filled with trees, floating butterflies and smiling animals, blue waters rich with sea life, jumping whales and schools of fish, tromp l’oeil barns with life-size horses and farm animals, sleepy bears at nap time resting on soft clouds, dreaming in a lullaby land.

ple spent day and night to achieve the goal to open the doors on May 31. On Mother’s Day, many were on ladders putting on finishing touches and some were just starting their projects. The local ABC TV station came by with cameras to capture the beauty that was being created for the children. When interviewed, all the artists there indicated that their own mothers thought it a splendid way to spend the day, and some even showed up with cookies and treats.

which was great fun for the artists, many of whom teach.

Their efforts have made a path to brighter days and a happy childhood that will be felt for a lifetime. These artisans with heart are like artists everywhere...give them a blank wall or canvas, and they will fill it up with love. TPF

Tamara Taylor Clark is the proprietor of the Painted Pear and participated in the Vision House project with other artists in her area.

These humble and very special peo-

There were eight major room projects with team leaders who devel-