Art & Healthy Hearts in the Gardens

Ann Norton Sculpture Gardens (ANSG) is pleased to announce it has received a grant for its educational initiative, Art & Healthy Hearts in the Gardens, thanks to the generosity of the Max M. and Marjorie S. Fisher Foundation Arts & Culture Fund of the Community Foundation for Palm Beach and Martin Counties.

The educational programming is designed to embrace the philosophy that the arts can significantly enrich the lives of disadvantaged children and the belief that the more students are actively engaged in their learning, the more lasting knowledge they will gain.

"Art & Healthy Hearts in the Gardens provides an opportunity for Title 1 students to use their creativity and imagination in the beautiful surrounding of the Ann Norton Sculpture Gardens," said Cynthia Kanai, CEO for ANSG. "Just like Ann Norton sculpted her monumental masterpieces, this type of programming allows us to sculpt the minds of the children who participate, and to introduce them to Ann's own vision for art and gardens in a two-acre urban preserve which is accessible to everyone. This program is also part of the Gardens' growing STEAM initiative to introduce science, technology, engineering, arts and math to Title 1 students with other nonprofit organizations in Palm Beach County. Without the grant from the Max M. and Marjorie S. Fisher Foundation Arts & Culture Fund of the Community Foundation for Palm Beach and Martin Counties, these children may not have had the opportunity to visit the Gardens."

During the most recent Art & Healthy Hearts in the Gardens, students enjoyed interactive experiences learning about how a garden grows and the creation of monumental sculptures by Ann Norton and Gino Miles, whose sculptures are currently displayed on the main lawn of the Gardens. In addition, they crafted their very own butterflies inspired by Morton Kaish's butterfly series, now on display in the Ann Norton historic home, with their works alongside Mr. Kaish's exhibit in the gallery. The program weaved in vocabulary, math and geography lessons. Students experienced both visual and auditory learning about Ann Norton's home state of Alabama, materials that could be used for art that they hadn't been exposed to in their classroom including granite, brick and metal, and the meaning of words such as "studio," "gallery," "sculpture," "collage," "kinetic," "symmetrical" and "asymmetrical."

In partnership with the American Heart Association, students attending Art & Healthy Hearts in the Gardens enjoy a wholesome and heart-healthy rainbow salad bar for lunch and lessons about the positive benefits of healthy and tasty food right from the garden.

For more information visit www.ansg.org or call 561.832.5328.