

"Help inspire the minds of young Hispanic artists!

I teach art to students in grade 5-8 in a small, rural town in Florida. The population at my school is very unique in that over 75% of the students are Hispanic, with over 98% coming from economically disadvantaged homes. The vast majority of my students do not have access to art outside of school, so it has been my goal to make every art experience memorable for my classes. In a school where over 55% of the students have limited English proficiency; art is an important tool for overcoming language barriers. I know that by including the additional resources requested in this grant I will have the tools to inspire my students beyond all expectations.

A major obstacle that my students face is that they do not have access to materials that promote the art of their native cultures. It is important for my students to have exposure to art made by Spanish speaking artists. I know that this will help the students connect to the world of art, and to empower them to create their own artwork and to reflect on the art of others. My school and community have limited funds for art resources, which is why I am seeking outside help.

For this project I will need books and prints featuring Spanish speaking artists. We need books about artists such as Diego Rivera, Frida Kahlo and Pablo Picasso to help me connect with my Hispanic students by giving them a resource for learning more about Spanish speaking artists. In addition, large prints by Mexican Muralists will allow me to show large-scale examples of artwork to my classes, enhancing their experience in class. It is important that my students see people just like them that have made a name in the art world.

You can help me connect the world of the visual arts with that of my Spanish speaking students. In a world where language can be a barrier, you can help me reach my students through the visual arts. Contributing to my project will help to empower my students with knowledge about art history and with artists from their own culture.

**My Hispanic Art** project needs 17 books with prints about artists such as Diego Rivera, Frida Kahlo and Pablo Picasso, with a set of Mexican Muralists unmounted prints.