

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ELM Founder and Director WINS RECOGNITION Jane Kramer Selected for Pamela Levine Arts Education Leadership Award

SAN RAFAEL, CA –Jane Kramer, founder and Executive Director of Enriching Lives Through Music (ELM) received the ninth annual Pamela Levine Arts Education Leadership Award. In memory of the dedication and commitment of Youth in Arts' former Executive Director Pamela Levine, the Pamela Levine Arts Education Leadership Award recognizes exceptional accomplishments in arts education in Marin County,

On behalf of the board and staff, current Executive Director Miko Lee will present the \$1,000 award to Jane at the ELM Winter Performance at The Throckmorton Theatre in Mill Valley on December 18th.

"We are thrilled to recognize the talent and dedication of Jane Kramer. ELM's work of providing intensive music training to youth in the Canal have allowed hundreds of young artists to grow and thrive. She exemplifies the passion and spirit of the Pamela Levine Arts Education Leadership Award," stated Lee.

"Jane introduced me to the world of music and brought the passion of music to me." Said 17-year-old student Willy Santos has studied music with Jane since the third grade. "Thanks to her I'm applying to colleges to major in music performance. I couldn't have found my passion without her."

ELM Board member Monica Bonny, "Jane has created a program that provides exceptional musical training, but more importantly teaches its students to reach for the stars. Her dedication to the students and families in the program is inspiring: she has accompanied students to medical appointments, attended school conferences, and advocated relentlessly on behalf of her students. Thanks to Jane's leadership, the ELM program is changing lives for the better."

The Pamela Levine Arts Education Leadership Award is awarded to an individual or organization demonstrating exceptional achievement in arts education program design and implementation, and ongoing support for learning in and through the arts in Marin County. Other important criteria include the integration of arts into the life of a school or district, effective collaborations, and success in building links between the program and the community. Awardees are selected by the staff and Board of Directors of Youth in Arts in consultation with the family of Pam Levine.

Youth in Arts is a nonprofit organization founded in 1970 that provides visual and performing arts programs for PreK-Grade 12 students in and out of school. Through artist residencies, professional performances, school and community events and intensive out-of-school programs for teens, Youth in Arts helps young people of all abilities develop skills and confidence to share their unique creative voices at school and community events and at YIA Gallery, the only art gallery in the North Bay dedicated to showcasing student artists. More information is available on the web at youthinarts.org.