

Youth in Arts®

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Cathy Bowman
(415) 457-4878 x120
cathy@youthinarts.org

SAN RAFAEL, CA – Architect Shirl Buss, who helped develop a groundbreaking art and architecture program for elementary school children in San Rafael CA, is this year’s recipient of the Pamela Levine Arts Education Leadership Award.

Buss was honored at an event held at the YIA Gallery to celebrate the opening of *Inspire*, a show exploring the connection between teaching artists’ own work and the ideas they share with their students.

Visual Arts Director Suzanne Joyal presented the Pamela Levine award on behalf of the Youth in Arts board and staff.

“Shirl clearly embodies Youth in Arts’ goals for learners: creativity, compassion and confidence through arts learning,” Joyal said. “Every day she inspires and encourages tomorrow’s leaders.”

The award is given to individuals for exceptional accomplishments in arts education in memory of Youth in Arts’ former Executive Director Pamela Levine.

Buss is the heart of Youth in Arts’ Architects in Schools program, now in its fourth year. At Laurel Dell Elementary School in San Rafael, she is a key member of a team of Youth in Arts mentor artists teaching design and build skills to 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders.

Buss is a designer, planner and educator whose work focuses on children, youth and the built environment. She holds a Masters in Early Childhood Development and an M.Arch and Ph.D from the UCLA Graduate School of Architecture and Urban Planning. Buss is the Y-PLAN Elementary Director at the Center for Cities + Schools, UC Berkeley.

The YIA Gallery at 917 C St. is in the Downtown San Rafael Arts District. *Inspire* is the only annual show that focuses on work by adults at the gallery, which is one of a handful in the nation dedicated to showcasing student work. Regular gallery hours are Monday through Friday, 11 am. to 4 p.m. Admission is free.

###