

## Identifying the Artistic Assets in a Neighborhood

After the Chicago School system cut back on music and art teachers, a neighborhood organization decided to identify neighborhood people with artistic talents. They interviewed neighbors in eight blocks around a neighborhood school that had lost their art and music teacher.

They found residents with over 50 different artistic abilities in this lower income neighborhood with a significant Hispanic population. As a result, the group was able to provide the school with many “teachers” with a wide range of talents.

The following is the neighborhood organizations list of artistic neighbors.

# Artists You Can Find in Your Community

## **Musicians**

- Singers
- Instrumentalists
- Composers

## **Theater Artists**

- Dancers
- Actors
- Mime artists
- Puppeteers
- Doll makers
- Mask makers
- Cosmetologists, face painters
- Jugglers
- Acrobats
- Magicians

## **Visual Artists**

- Painters
- Silkscreeners
- Muralists, spray paint artists
- Sculptors
  - Ice sculptors
  - Garbage sculptors
- Woodworkers
- Ceramics doers, potters
- Mosaics makers
- Calligraphers
- Illustrators
- Cartoonists, caricature artists
- Glassblowers
- Metalsmiths

## **Film/Photo**

- Photographers
- Film makers
- Video makers

## **Writers**

- Story-tellers (a strong Puerto Rican oral tradition)
- Poets
- Comic strip writers

## **Needle Workers** (a strong Mexican tradition)

- Knitters
- Needlepointers
- Crochet doers
- Embroidery makers
- Macrame doers
- Doily-makers
- Lace makers

## **Fabric Workers**

- Sewers
- Rug makers
- Quilters
- Weavers

## **Miscellaneous Craftspeople**

- Dressmakers, tailors
- Cooks, cake decorators
- Gardeners
- Jewelry makers
- Model builders
- Party favor makers
- Doll house/miniature makers
- Flower arrangers

## **Historians**

- On murals
- On their countries of origin
- On local neighborhood history