

Pacific Power Foundation grant supports local arts program

YREKA, Calif. — The Pacific Power Foundation has awarded a \$1,500 grant to Liberty Arts to help support the *Explorations* program for local schools. *Explorations* offers elementary and junior high students guided gallery tours of exhibitions, including description of content, techniques and art elements. Following the tour, all students participate in a hands-on art project related to the exhibition theme. Projects this past fall have included abstract work with pastels, creating forms while blindfolded, and soap carving.

“Liberty Arts is a great asset for Yreka, and they are a great resource for our students and teachers. Getting an opportunity to help kids get excited about art is really gratifying,” said Toby Freeman, Pacific Power regional community manager.

Through the continued support from Pacific Power Foundation, the gallery education program hosted classes from Gold Street, Grenada, Montague, Jackson Street and 7th Day Adventist schools during 2010. Other educational outreach included working with Yreka High School photography students as they learned installation and exhibition organizing skills through producing their own show, *Our High School Life* this past December.

“Visiting Liberty Arts is one of the highlights of the school year for my students and myself,” said Sue Blessing, a third-grade teacher at Gold Street School. “The gallery opens the eyes of my students to something new and exciting. The art projects are wonderful, and have given me ideas to try in my classroom as follow up.”

Liberty Arts invites participation of all interested schools in *Exploration* Tuesdays. Scheduling for mid-February is available by contacting the gallery at 541-842-0222 or e-mailing libertyartsgallery@gmail.com

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About the Pacific Power Foundation

The Pacific Power Foundation is part of the PacifiCorp Foundation, one of the largest utility-endowed foundations in the United States. The foundation was created in 1988 by PacifiCorp, an electric utility serving 1.7 million customers in six Western states as Pacific Power (Oregon, Washington and California) and Rocky Mountain Power (Utah, Wyoming and Idaho). The foundation’s mission, through charitable investments, is to support the growth and vitality of the communities served by Pacific Power and Rocky Mountain Power. For more information, visit www.pacificpower.net/ppfoundation.



Photo caption: *Teacher Michael Quinn and specialist Debra Plaza pose with third-grade students from Gold Street School who have enjoyed Explorations at Liberty Arts throughout the school year.*