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For Immediate Release

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GRANT BRINGS CERAMIC ARTIST TO HANCOCK ELEMENTARY

Hancock Elementary School is pleased to announce that it has received a matching grant of \$2000 from the Arizona Commission on the Arts (including funding from the National Endowment for the Arts) for an all-school Artist in Residence Program that began on April 1, 2013. Extra-Curricular Tax-Credit donations from parents and community members also provided funding.

Trish Hawkins, our artist, is an expert in ceramic clay sculptures. Mrs. Hawkins is working daily at Hancock Elementary School for four weeks to immerse our students in the art of clay sculpting and ceramics.

Mrs. Hawkins began her residency teaching students to shape and form individual clay projects from a block of clay. Students worked to create small ceramic hamburgers, flowers, lizards, and more. Mrs. Hawkins directed students as they used professional clay-sculpting tools to finalize their creations. The second phase of the project involves painting the projects and adding finishing touches. The students of Hancock are learning about ceramic sculpture history and important works, along with proper professional sculpting and painting techniques. These exciting sessions are hands-on, interactive, and engaging for every class in every grade.

Mrs. Hawkins and Hancock students will present a Ceramic Art Walk on Thursday, May 16, 2013 at 5:00-7:00 p.m. in the Hancock Multipurpose Room. This event will showcase our students by class as they share their ceramic sculptures and art work from Art Masterpiece lessons throughout the year. The final event is open and free of charge for parents, teachers, community leaders, and the general public to attend.

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To Print and Television Media:

The media is encouraged to photograph and/or video Artist in Residence Program sessions and final events at Hancock for any follow-up articles that may be desired. Contact Curt Landon at Hancock Elementary to schedule times to view Mrs. Hawkins' sessions in class from April 29 to May 16 or if any other information is required. Thank you for your time!