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Bulletin no. 2 December 10th, 2009

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Set to launch in 2010, the Neighbourhood Arts Network is Toronto's first network dedicated to supporting art-making in neighbourhoods throughout the city. The Neighbourhood Arts Network will provide support and connect artists, arts organizations and community groups creating art at a local level.



Art Starts, Red Pepper Spectacle Arts, and local youth creating neighbourhood changing mosaics at Oakwood/Vaughan

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Dear friends of the Neighbourhood Arts Network,

We are pleased to announce that membership in the Neighbourhood Arts Network is free for 2010!

We welcome groups and individuals working in any arts discipline, from any area of the city, whose interests or mandates embrace the idea of community engagement and accessibility of the arts.

Member benefits include:

- access to members-only section of the website, including information, resources, and tools
- e-bulletins alerting members to special events and news
- priority sign-up for Network sponsored events and training opportunities
- discounts on Network special events, professional development workshops and symposiums
- special offers or discounts from Network sponsors

As members, you will create your own profiles with contact details, information about your community-engaged art-making and examples of your work.

The network launch date has been set for January 27th, 2010. Our doors will be open very soon!

For more information, please visit www.torontoartsfoundation.org

Highlight: Update from Barefoot Artists and Lily Yeh

Lily Yeh, who entranced so many people when she spoke at the [Toronto Arts Foundation's 2008 Symposium Art At The Hub](#), has sent us an update on Barefoot Artists' recent accomplishments in Rwanda and China. Highlights include:

- teaching villagers in Rwanda to design, fabricate, install and maintain solar electric home systems
- providing tandem healthcare services and on-the-job health education and training at the Rugerero Health Centre in Rwanda, while the hospital artists offered arts services to patients, family members and caregivers

- Rugerero Elementary School Renovations and Sculpture Garden
- A two-day conference for 300 art teachers in Mianyang, a city near the epicenter of the Great Sichuan Earthquake in China. Yeh presented her work on healing and rebuilding communities through art with the hope that it would help the art teachers to understand their own power and potential

For more information on Barefoot Artists, please visit www.barefootartists.org

Save the date!

The Launch of the Neighbourhood Arts Network is fast approaching! Save January 27th from 5 pm to 9 pm on your calendars. More information will follow in the next bulletin.

For more information on the Neighbourhood Arts Network, or on the Toronto Arts Foundation's Block By Block initiative, please visit: www.torontoartsfoundation.org



The Neighbourhood Arts Network, a project of the [Toronto Arts Foundation](http://www.torontoartsfoundation.org) in partnership with [Art Starts](http://www.artstarts.net), has been made possible by support from the Government of Ontario, Ontario Trillium Foundation, City of Toronto through the [Toronto Arts Council](http://www.torontoartsfoundation.org), and by the many Friends of the Foundation.

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Toronto Arts Council
141 Bathurst Street
Toronto, Ontario M5V 2R2
CA

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