

## TWO CITIES, ONE HEART

(View all children's art below)

The Rosemere Neighborhood Association Children's Public Art was shown alongside the children's art of Joyo City, Japan, Vancouver's Sister City, at the first annual Asian Pacific Islander Heritage Celebration on Saturday May 24, 2003. The colorful table, displaying a brilliant array of the children's art, was a major attraction at the first annual celebration. Washington Elementary children's happy illustrations of Rosemere Pride, with children playing, bright suns and multi-colored 'Gardens of Diversity', were mirrored in the Japanese children's vivid depictions of intricate temples, flowering trees, smiling faces, Buddhas, and brilliantly colored fish.

The theme of our display, jointly staffed by the Rosemere Neighborhood Association and the Vancouver Cultural Commission, was *Two Cities, One Heart*, exemplifying the harmony of the two cultures of Vancouver and Joyo City coming together through their children. To many attendees this was the first introduction to Vancouver's Sister City program. The children of Joyo City had generously sent back their vibrant paintings after the Washington Elementary School art was sent to Joyo City in the fall of 2002 as part of a children's art exchange.

The event, sponsored by the Asian Pacific Islander Coalition of Southwest Washington and the New Americans Social and Cultural Assistance Center, involved immigrants from many countries. Families and friends came together remembering and sharing their culture, art, language, and heritage. Participants included the Nattasin Lao of Oregon Dance Team, a Lion Dance by the Viet Hung Youth, a Vietnamese Fan Dance as well as arts and crafts from China, Laos, Taiwan, and Vietnam.



















