



## Perris Press Release

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### Pre-schoolers Create Holiday Art Display at Rob Reiner Center

More than 250 pre-schoolers at the Rob Reiner Children & Families Center in Perris combined art and academics to create masterpieces now on display at the A Street campus.

The campus prepares 2 to 5-year-olds for kindergarten and emphasizes academics to introduce students to school life.

As part of the art project, students combined their knowledge of sight, hearing, smell and touch, shapes and colors to craft gingerbread houses, paintings adorned with sand and salt and sculptures decorated with bottle caps, Popsicle sticks, pencils and other common household items.

Perris Mayor Daryl Busch spent part of an afternoon at Rob Reiner, taking in the creations and coming away most impressed.

"I am totally amazed at what these pre-schoolers are able to accomplish," Busch said. "It's great to see the school combining learning with art projects and that the students are having fun with it."

The Mayor also received a star-shaped Christmas ornament fashioned out of Popsicle sticks.

Rob Reiner director Carol Jimenez called the art projects "purposeful play," which fits into the school's overall mission. Real skills are taught and real learning takes place, she said.

"It's just about taking naps and eating snacks," she said. "The students enjoy and engage themselves in these projects."

They are able to express themselves."

Parents and staff frequently stop to peruse the student work.

Lourdes Tenorio says her daughter, Valentine Torres, loves coming to school each day. Valentine, 4, has learned the alphabet, shapes, colors and numbers. Since many of the art projects celebrated holiday themes, the paintings and sculptures and collages enhance the youngster's enjoyment of the Christmas season, Tenorio said.

"She's having so much fun," she said.

Matthew Hernandez, 4, said he enjoyed sprinkling glitter on his art work. He also enjoyed working with his teacher and classmates.

Geovana Galinda, 4, created a sculpture that included a spoon and a bottle cap. Making the artwork was a lot of fun, she said.



Perris City Clerk Judy Haughney administers the oath of office to newly elected City Councilman Julio Rodriguez.



Perris Mayor Daryl Busch with student artists at Rob Reiner Children & Families in Perris.



A close-up of a gingerbread house adorned with goodies that was part of the art festival.