

# PEGGY HASEGAWA

## *Book-Making Workshops*

### MEET THE ARTIST:

**Peggy Hasegawa** has had a lifelong love for paper. She is a professional papermaker who has dedicated herself to the task of learning this ancient and beautiful art, visiting Japan on several occasions to study the methods of master papermakers. Many of the traditional tools and plant materials native to Japan are difficult to acquire in the United States. Her personal technique, therefore, was developed through years of experimentation and discovery and is a combination of Japanese and Western-style papermaking.

Ms. Hasegawa first learned origami from her grandmother and has been fascinated by the possibilities in a piece of paper ever since. From her perspective, origami is not just folded paper. Rather, it is an art form in which the folds are pushed, pulled and lifted until animals, plants and other fantastic shapes leap forth. In her hands, an origami project is a creative and imaginative endeavor that also involves spatial relationships and precision folding.

Ms. Hasegawa enjoys teaching students of every age. Her classes have been sponsored by museums and institutions throughout southern California, among them the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Skirball Cultural Center and Museum, Fisher Gallery at USC, UCLA at the Armand Hammer Museum, Bowers Museum and Japanese American National Museum.

Ms. Hasegawa's handmade paper is available in notecards through museum shops and galleries, including those of the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Japanese American National Museum and Honolulu Academy of Art.



## MUSIC·CENTER

### ABOUT THE WORKSHOPS:

Workshops will focus on different styles of book-making and incorporate a wide variety of art techniques. These workshops can vary from a one-day experience to a series of 25 classes. Most of the books can be adapted to the skills of students in the lower grades as well as challenging the imagination and skills of middle and high school students. In the process of making the books there will be strong connections to historical and cultural background on how people have transferred their thoughts and creativity onto paper which they bound into books. Ms. Hasagawa will introduce traditional methods of binding as well as encouraging students to invent their own ways to bind. The art of hand-made books touches on many curricular areas, such as writing, math, geography, history, cultures and visual art mediums. In the first session students will be given a short history of book-making and learn the importance of books in people's lives throughout history. The students will begin by learning and practicing basic origami skills which will lead to the creation of their own bookmark. The second session will feature book-making that

uses the origami skills they learned in the first session. Following sessions can cover a broad spectrum of book styles including accordion, sewn, shaped, recycled-item, pop-up, stab binding, paper bag and traveling books. Students can also learn to make their own hand-made paper (grades 3 and up) and incorporate them into the book-making projects. This takes a minimum of three sessions. Ms. Hasegawa works in partnership with the classroom teacher to guide students in writing their own haiku, stories, poems and letters. Emphasis will also be placed on the importance of good listening skills, following directions carefully and improving manual dexterity and coordination.

### **BEFORE THE WORKSHOP:**

- Please have the students wear nametags for the workshop. It saves time if they are made beforehand!
- Review the importance of listening and observing. Ask the students what it means to be a good listener. What does it mean to be a good observer? Why is it important in daily life? Why is it important when the artist is here?
- Discuss the importance of books and the many ways they can be used in art projects.
- Have the requested supplies ready before the artist arrives.
- Have student desks or work surfaces cleared.

### **AFTER THE WORKSHOP:**

- Review the major points presented in the workshops. What were the most important ideas? What parts of the workshop did the students like best? What did they learn about art? What did they learn about themselves?
- Practice the skills of book-making learned in the classes and find ways to incorporate them into other areas of the curriculum.