

# PEGGY HASEGAWA

## *Papermaking Workshops*

### MEET THE ARTIST:

**Peggy Hasegawa** has had a lifelong love and fascination for handmade paper. Since 1983 she has dedicated herself to the task of learning this ancient and beautiful art form, 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; hence, her technique is a combination of Japanese and Western-style papermaking, the result of years of experimentation and discovery.

Most of Ms. Hasegawa's paper begins with raw material. Once a plant is determined to be suitable for papermaking it is cooked for days, even weeks. It is then hand-beaten, pulped and screened into sheets of paper. Each plant has its own characteristics that produce a beautiful and distinctive work of art, with Ms. Hasegawa's contribution determined by her control of the process and the materials. Ms. Hasegawa's 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.

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.



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### ABOUT THE WORKSHOPS:

The Papermaking workshops will introduce students to the history, discipline and creativity of making paper by hand. During the first session the class will prepare equipment needed during the papermaking process. Subsequent lessons will focus on preparing different types of pulp and hand-screening individual sheets of paper. If time allows, workshops will include paper made from flax, paper made from cotton with decorative inclusions and paper made from recycled materials. The series will conclude with students completing an art project that incorporates their beautiful and unique handmade papers.



### **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?
- Review students' ideas about art, underscoring the idea that art is both personal and universal, and that everyone's ideas will be both different and related. Discuss the importance of paper and the many ways it can be used in art projects. What types of arts or crafts do they know of that use paper.
- Ask if they know how paper is made and what materials can be used to make it.
- 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 learned in the classes and find ways to incorporate them into other areas of the curriculum.