Dear Parent/Guardian:

The Simsbury Arts Academy (SAA) and the SEED Program are excited as the second semester of our "Global Art" curriculum begins! This part of the curriculum was developed in an effort to expand the SEED curriculum to include activities that promote global awareness. Studies show that knowledge of other countries and languages is essential as part of every child's preparation for successful citizenship.

The program is presented initially to students in grades K-3 and occurs once a week. This program is completely voluntary and is at no cost to you. The activities will be incorporated in the Activity Stations period. Children will be engaged in projects such as making maori masks, mandala patterns, and star weavings.

Your children's art teacher is Mrs. Kathy Godiksen. Kathy is an artist and an art teacher. She likes to paint and use pastels to create still life and landscape paintings. Weaving is also something she likes to do. She loves to design on her computer and enjoys using her digital camera, too.

In summary, we believe that creating these learning opportunities for the students of Simsbury will meet the developmental goals that are important to the daily lives of students. These qoals include:

- *enhancing the importance of knowing before judging
- *building on awareness and understanding
- *increasing tolerance for diversity1

If you have any questions or would like additional information, please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,

Nikki Mahan Cynthia Rehm Director of SEED Director of Visual Art

860-408-6144 860-658-0451 ext. 620

¹ Asia Society: Afterschool for the Global Age