

Growing
Rising
Exploring
Loving
Sailing
Soaring!



six stories of tile and clay mosaics
by artist Dit Wah Deng and patients
at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

part of the Healing Art Project of COSACOSA art at large, Inc.

Growing, 20' x 8' clay and tile mosaic on wood, located at the entrance of The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia 3 South.



Rising, 20' x 8' clay and tile mosaic on wood, located at the entrance of The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia 4 South.



A child's life is like a garden, ever changing and growing.

COSACOSA art at large, Inc. celebrates the wonder of childhood and the art of healing with *Growing, Rising, Exploring, Loving, Sailing, Soaring!* The project creates a six story high visual poem site-specific to each patient floor of The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia South Wing. COSACOSA veteran artist Dit Wah Deng worked with pediatric patients, their families, and hospital staff to create this series of giant clay and tile mosaics. Each image portrays one line of a rhyme by Deng and COSACOSA co-founder Kimberly Niemela highlighting the limitless potential and perceptivity of the young and the young-at-heart.

A child's spirit is like the sun, bright, rising and knowing.

Growing, Rising, Exploring, Loving, Sailing, Soaring! enabled participating youth to creatively express their struggles and successes while helping them to develop essential critical thinking, collaborative, and leadership skills. To design the project, Deng and the COSACOSA Youth Council initiated dialogues with young people in and out of the hospital on issues of change and growth - encompassing both youth development and the challenges we all face at one time or another. Created through a year-long cycle of workshops, the resulting images reflect the joys and hopes of a shared journey of healing.

Exploring, 20' x 8' clay and tile mosaic on wood, located at the entrance of The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia 5 South.



Loving, 20' x 8' clay and tile mosaic on wood, located at the entrance of The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia 6 South.



A child's mind is always open, exploring worlds anew.

Each mosaic of *Growing, Rising, Exploring, Loving, Sailing, Soaring!* also incorporates the central wayfinding symbol of its designated floor. Wayfinding basic shapes are designed to help patients and families navigate the hospital, one of the largest pediatric facilities in the country. In *Growing*, mosaic squares come together to form the patchwork quilt of a garden. In *Rising*, triangles appear as evergreens and as a cascading waterfall. In *Loving*, hearts hang like flowers from a rainbow-lit tree. In *Exploring, Sailing*, and *Soaring*, moon, star and Saturn shapes guide travelers on journeys across the seas and through the heavens.

A child's heart is eternally loving and true.

Growing, Rising, Exploring, Loving, Sailing, Soaring! is part of COSACOSA's Healing Art Project, an ongoing initiative exploring relationships among art, health and community. Founded in 1990, COSACOSA art at large, Inc. incites civic engagement through active participation in the creative process. In collaborative art workshops, neighborhood-based artist residencies, and new media projects, COSACOSA unites Philadelphia residents of diverse backgrounds and differing abilities to build their participation in local communities, as well as in society at large. To learn more about COSACOSA, please visit www.cosacosa.org.

Sailing, 20' x 8' clay and tile mosaic on wood, located at the entrance of The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia 8 South.



Soaring, 20' x 8' clay and tile mosaic on wood, located at the entrance of The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia 7 South.



A child's dreams are high-reaching, sailing with a star.

COSACOSA's Healing Art Project is supported by The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia; the Connelly Foundation; the Douty Foundation; Grasshopper, Inc.; the National Endowment for the Arts; the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts; the Philadelphia Cultural Fund; the Philadelphia Foundation; the St. Christopher's Foundation for Children; The Seybert Institution; the Support Community Outreach Program of the Department of Community-Based Prevention Services, part of the City of Philadelphia Department of Human Services; VSA, an international, non-profit organization dedicated to providing educational opportunities through the arts for children and adults with disabilities; and the Henrietta Tower Wurts Memorial Fund.

A child's hopes are unbounded, soaring wide and far.

COSACOSA PROJECT STAFF

- Dit Wah Deng, Artist in Residence
- Kimberly Niemela, Director
- Sharnae Mask, Program Manager
- Vickie Fenton, Operations Manager
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Art creates cultural change.

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