



Santa Fe Art Institute



Alvord Elementary School, Santa Fe, NM The Fundred Dollar Bill Project

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Mayor Coss declares March 2nd Fundred Day in Santa Fe; Alvord Elementary and DeVargas Middle School contribute to nationwide "stimulus package".

Locals drawing \$300 million in art cash to support a solution to make safe lead-contaminated soil

Students at **Alvord Elementary School and DeVargas Middle School**, are making and collecting Fundred Dollar Bills- original, hand-drawn interpretations of U.S. \$100 bills to support a solution to the hidden lead problem in New Orleans and in cities across the country. The students hope to inspire **Santa Fe** schools, groups, and individuals to contribute to their Fundred Drive.

The Fundred Dollar Bill Project, conceptualized by artist Mel Chin, is raising nationwide awareness of the environmental threat of lead contamination and lead-poisoning by collection the funds necessary for a model remediation effort in New Orleans. New Orleans is the initial focus of this ambitious project as 30-50% of inner city children are affected by elevated blood lead levels and at risk for severe learning disabilities and behavioral problems.

The first Fundreds created in **Santa Fe** will be picked-up by a special armored truck on **Tuesday, March 2nd**, as part of the 18,000 mile pick-up event and presented to the U.S. Congress with a request for real funding to make safe lead-polluted soils in New Orleans. Once a lead-safe New Orleans is accomplished, this innovative environmental model will be available to other lead-polluted cities. The Fundred Dollar Bill Project is a way for citizens nationwide to engage in the creation of a safer environment for future generations.

WHO: Alvord Elementary School, Alvord PTC

WHERE: 551 Alarid Street, Santa Fe

WHAT: Fundred Drawing and Collection Drive

WHEN: Tuesday, March 2nd, 10:30am

Schools, groups and communities all across the country are participating. Events are happening nationwide on a regular basis. To get Fundred Templates and to track the armored truck and the number of Fundreds nationwide, visit www.fundred.org