

# DIG ART!

## CULTIVATING CREATIVITY IN THE GARDEN

### WELCOME TO DIG ART!

Cornell Garden-Based Learning is delighted to introduce **Dig Art! Cultivating Creativity in the Garden**, an inspiring and innovative new project guide for youth that integrates gardening with the arts. The activities in this guide will help teach ecological literacy and inspire new enthusiasm for garden-based learning through the lens of visual art, music, and performance. Youth will creatively express themselves and their garden experiences through mosaics, printmaking, time-lapse photography, and many other creative horticultural endeavors. It's time to bring the "culture" back into horti-culture!



Why engage in garden arts? We believe that bringing the arts and the garden together provides youth with opportunities to:

- Hone observation skills
- Cultivate a sense of beauty and cooperation
- Develop greater respect for natural resources
- Create pleasant, beautiful outdoor spaces
- Learn about historical connections between art and nature
- Gain a sense of ownership over their garden
- Participate in interdisciplinary activities which hold increasing relevance in everyday life
- and so much more...

#### Your kit:

In this kit, we provide suggestions for garden arts activities both big and small. You'll find a beautiful inspirational poster featuring an **Art Garden** with community members young and old using the garden as a living studio, full of freshly harvested art materials and natural beauty to inspire! You'll also find a stack of 8 postcards in your kit, each one describing a specific garden art activity featured in the online *Dig Art!* project guide.



We invite you to visit the *Dig Art!* website: [www.hort.cornell.edu/gbl/digart](http://www.hort.cornell.edu/gbl/digart) to get ideas and resources for creating an art garden and engaging youth in garden arts activities. We hope that you will become as passionate about creating art in the garden as we are! Lastly, if you've done some form of garden art in your community or with children and youth, please send us your photos, artwork, or ideas so that we can feature them on our website in order to inspire others to get involved in garden arts too!



Thank you for your interest in *Dig Art!* and wishing you creative garden cultivations...  
Sincerely,

Cornell Garden-Based Learning



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