

# PLUGGED IN

FUN FOR KIDS

A COOPERATIVE PROJECT OF THE SANTA BARBARA NEWS-PRESS AND THE MUSEUM EDUCATORS' ROUNDTABLE TO PROMOTE LEARNING AMONG YOUNG READERS IN NATURAL SCIENCE, HISTORY, TECHNOLOGY AND ART

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## This Month's Theme: Boxes

### Good Things Come in Small Packages

By Niki Dewart, University Art Museum, UCSB

Have you ever received a surprise box? Were you excited to see what was inside? Maybe you have a special box where you hide your treasures. No matter how big or small, boxes can hold wonderful and mysterious things. A gift. A secret. A jack-in-the-box.



Cirenaica Moreira Diaz (Cuba)/ Untitled. From the collection of WOMEN beyond borders.

*WOMEN beyond borders* is a box art project that has traveled around the globe. The founders, Santa Barbara artists Lorraine Serena and Elena Siff, have invited over 1000 women and children from around the world to transform small wooden boxes to express their thoughts and feelings. Why a box? A box is common. A box can hold everything. A box can be made into anything. A box can mean many things to different people. A box can feel like a safe place. A box can feel like a trap. And miniature boxes can be easily shipped around the world offering artists everywhere a way to share their creativity.

Through *WOMEN beyond borders*, artists in 36 countries have altered simple wooden boxes using paint, objects, photographs, words, and other materials. The transformed boxes reveal the hopes, joys and sorrows experienced by people around the world.

You can see over 200 boxes that carry special messages from all corners of the earth by visiting the University Art Museum at UCSB through December 15. Visit [www.womenbeyondborders.org](http://www.womenbeyondborders.org) to learn more about the *WOMEN beyond borders* project.



Haruko Okano (Canada)/ Kitsune/Inari. From the collection of WOMEN beyond borders.

### Every Box Tells a Story!

"The Maasai are a pastoral people who live in Kenya and Tanzania in the Great Rift Valley of East Africa. The Maasai believe all the cattle on earth were given to them by God. The Maasai way of life is spent in moving from one place to another in search of grass and water for their herds. Today, the unique customs and traditions of the Maasai still exist and are treasured by them. Great effort must be made by all to see that this treasured culture is preserved for the future. By revealing this beauty of the Maasai people, I hope my box in some way helps in the preservation of this priceless culture. The small portrait is of a Maasai woman painted on a fragment of a special and very useful "Oleleishwa" tree. The tree is used by the Maasai to clean calabashes for milk, as perfume, for making clubs and thatching beds." — G. Kabura Simpiri



G. Kabura Simpiri, Kenya (Kenya)/My Culture My Pride. From the collection of WOMEN beyond borders.

### WHAT COMES IN A BOX ?

By Casey Copland, University Art Museum, UCSB

Find and circle the hidden words:

A	G	N	Y	T	S	H	I	S	N	T	G	S	D	C	<b>CARDS</b>
A	N	A	C	O	C	U	T	M	E	E	H	I	O	N	<b>CRAYONS</b>
A	B	O	M	A	X	N	R	L	W	O	H	A	O	T	<b>EGGS</b>
T	W	O	R	E	E	U	E	P	E	L	D	Y	F	O	<b>FASTFOOD</b>
R	U	D	P	S	S	P	U	S	R	T	I	N	T	Y	<b>GAMES</b>
E	S	O	E	U	H	R	B	O	X	I	H	E	S	L	<b>KLEENEX</b>
A	K	R	Y	O	E	S	M	M	F	Y	S	D	A	U	<b>MOVIES</b>
S	P	U	N	Y	E	G	R	F	K	S	T	E	F	J	<b>PRESENTS</b>
U	E	E	C	P	M	Y	G	H	L	W	R	Z	S	A	<b>SHOES</b>
R	S	K	I	D	F	O	A	S	I	Z	M	Z	H	W	<b>SURPRISES</b>
E	V	E	C	M	H	K	V	B	E	T	S	J	S	A	<b>TELEPHONES</b>
S	K	L	E	E	N	E	X	I	K	U	T	B	H	X	<b>TOYS</b>
R	O	N	A	B	K	K	O	E	E	O	B	K	Y	G	<b>TREASURES</b>
S	N	O	Y	A	R	C	K	A	Y	S	K	G	S	M	
B	G	B	O	P	U	D	M	S	Y	S	U	M	H	Y	

Next, start at the top left searching each row for leftover letters to fill in the blanks below and reveal a SECRET MESSAGE:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

### Boxes Tell Us About...

By Casey Copland, University Art Museum, UCSB

Step 1: Unscramble the six clue words, below.

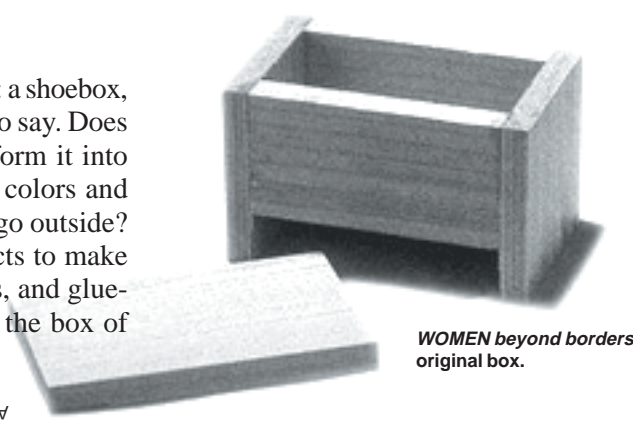
LIAMYF	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
RAT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
LEOV	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FSLE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
TURTH	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
NISGELFE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Step 2: Unscramble the letters that appear in the  boxes to find out WHAT'S IN THIS BOX?! Write your answer in the empty boxes below.

### Create Outside of the Box (Inside Too!)

By Niki Dewart, University Art Museum, UCSB

Now it's time to make a box of your own! Find a box, any box: a shoebox, a cigar box or a gift box. Think about what you want your box to say. Does it tell a story about you? Is it joyful or sad? Will you transform it into something new? A boat? A house? An animal? What shapes, colors and materials do you want to use? What will be inside? What will go outside? Look around the house for fun materials and interesting objects to make your box come alive. You can use paint, photographs, scissors, and glue-anything. But most importantly, use your creativity to create the box of your dreams...and don't forget the lid!



WOMEN beyond borders original box.

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Next Issue: Dec. 29

ANSWERS: Word Jumble/Step 1: FAMILY; ART; LOVE; SELF; TRUTH; FEELINGS; Step 2: TREASURES; Word Search/Secret Message: Anything can come in a box. What would you put in your box?