

Students 'travel' the world with their artwork

NORWALK

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Hour Staff Writer

The students at Kendall Elementary School are looking into another world through their art projects.

They recently sent drawings of them looking through a window into a scene of something like they like to do, playing a sport or celebrating a favorite holiday, to students in Cambodia and Mexico, and they received some back in the same theme from students in those countries as well as the Philippines.

On Monday, fourth-grade students shared letters they're writing back to the students as part of the Art Links program through Norwalk's cultural exchange nonprofit: Creative Connection.

Nine-year-old Aaron Mckeithan received a drawing from a Mexican student looking through a window into his living room where he was helping his mother with chores.

"Your picture was rad!" wrote Aaron in response. "I like helping my mom with chores, too."

Fellow 9-year-old classmate Alex Oliveras had equally complimentary comments: "I think when you grow up you are going to be an artist," he wrote to his exchange student.

The program is more than a show-and-tell; it's an opportunity for the students to learn firsthand about the cultural diversity and art from around the world they've been studying in the classroom.

"It's cool 'cause they kind of talk about what their country's all about and what they do," said 9-year-old Alex Oliveras. [see LINKED, A5](#)



Hour photos/ ALEX VON KLEYDORFF

Above, art teacher Elsa Hungaski looks over some of the letters written by fourth-graders during the Art Links program at Kendall Elementary School. At right, Kendall Elementary four-grade pupils Alyanna Mendoza and

Aaliyah Celestin talk about the artwork that will be sent to the Philippines.

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