

A CELEBRATION OF WORKING PARENTS AND THEIR CHILDREN



A Mural by Lilli Ann Killen Rosenberg for

THE ISI
CARING CENTER
for CHILDREN & PARENTS



Lilli Ann Killen Rosenberg's mural, "A Celebration of Working Parents and Their Children" is installed on the west wall of the ISI-Caring Center for Children and Parents. The 35' x 18' (10.8 m x 5.4 m) bas-relief mural consists of 72 concrete panels embedded with thousands of such brightly colored objects as coins, seashells, marbles, glass, and leaves.

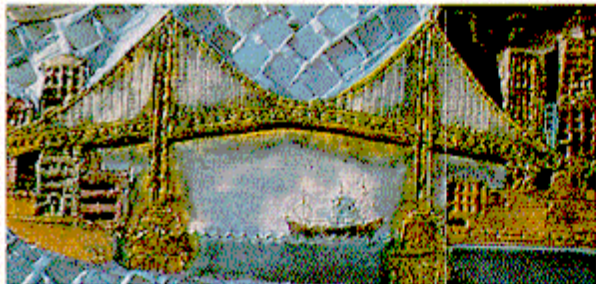
Rosenberg has designed her mural to engage the curiosity of children, and to encourage them to explore objects and themes which they find meaningful. These provide a variety of textures and shapes that appeal to children, who enjoy touching the individual objects. Rosenberg's mural incorporates her feeling that "play leads to discovery". For example, young children can recognize the alphabet blocks in the lower right of the mural, while older children learn from the collage depicting Philadelphia's history and tradition on the left side of the mural.

The theme of the mural is growth and change. The left side depicts the big dipper to represent a starry winter night. Centrally, trees green with spring and summer foliage are filled with a variety of birds. On the right, brightly colored leaves of fall are abundant. Moving from left to right there is also a transition from night into day. The focus of Rosenberg's mural is the figure of a father and child who appear to be moving through the seasons and sharing the process of growth and change.

Handprints of various sizes serve as a template for children at the Caring Center measuring their own growth.



Above, Artist Lilli Ann Killen Rosenberg adds a layer of sealant to the mural to protect it from the elements.



A view of the Delaware River, separating Philadelphia from Camden, New Jersey, forms a part of the Philadelphia collage.



The figure of Benjamin Franklin in part of a collage within the mural depicting the traditions and stability of historical Philadelphia.



Close inspection of the mural reveals "found" objects such as the grills from the top of a gas stove used in turtle shells.



The figure of a man with a child on his shoulders is a prominent part of the mural.

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***"A Celebration of
Working Parents
and Their Children"***

*A bas-relief mural at
the ISI Caring Center.*

Right, Real leaves are used to form impressions in clay. The leaves are rolled into a clay matrix and removed. The remaining clay impression is fired and glazed, and then embedded in the concrete mural.

*Below, Full view of "A Celebration of Working Parents
and Their Children" shows a progression from right to left:
winter to fall.*

