

# Living Masterpiece Enlivens Spanish Culture



## GRANT RECIPIENTS

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## NYS STANDARD

NYS Art Standard 2  
NYS Art Standard 4  
NYS Foreign Language Standard 2  
NYS Art/Music Standard 4

## GRADE LEVEL

Grades 7-8

## STUDENTS SERVED

400 students

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

This unique interdisciplinary grant project explored the society and culture of the artist Diego Velázquez and the Baroque Period through art, music and the Spanish language. Students researched the painting “Las Meninas” and the society of the 17<sup>th</sup> Century. The school-wide Foreign Language Culture Fair featured the Living Masterpiece “Las Meninas” as its focal point. Using acrylic paint students created background sets of “Las Meninas.” Students dressed in costumes and portrayed the characters in the painting. Spanish language students helped to create Spanish dialogs which related to the artwork. Students portrayed subjects in the painting and performed a short Spanish and English skit. Music students performed Baroque music as background music for the Living Masterpiece. A helpful Spanish - English vocabulary list was included in the program guide and distributed at the Culture Fair. Student work and programs were evaluated using rubrics.

## STUDENT OUTCOMES

Upon implementation of the grant, students were able to:

- state cultural attributes as represented in the culture’s artwork
- become involved in the process of creation in the arts
- gather and organize information
- describe historic events vicariously through role-playing of historical figures
- draw comparisons between today’s society and the society of Diego Velázquez
- become acquainted with and perform music in the Baroque style