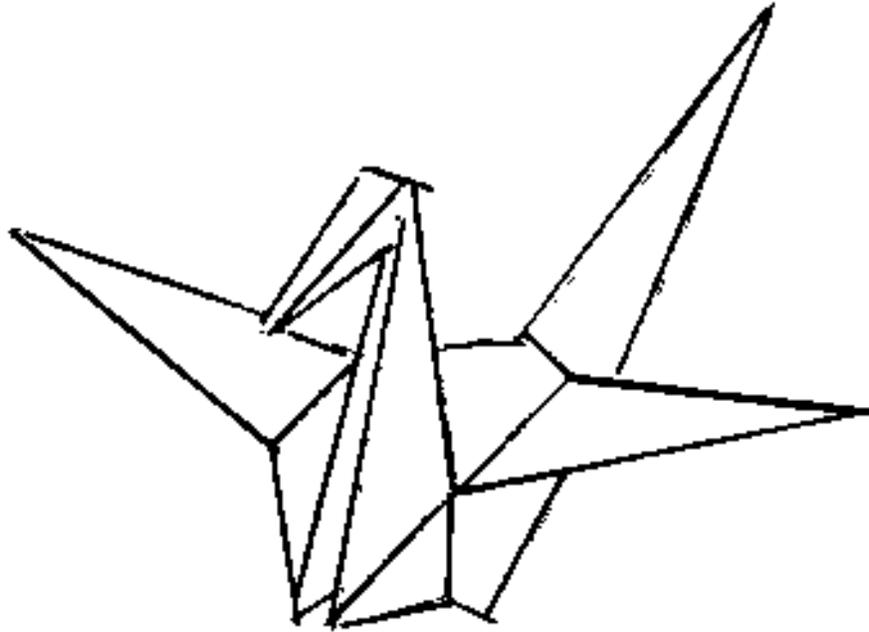


A Thousand



PAPER CRANES

Presented by Hackett Middle School

WAG Gallery

Lark Street, Albany, New York

Viewing Hours:

Thursday & Friday, 5:30-8, Saturday 2-8, Sunday 2-6

A Thousand Paper Cranes

Background

In Japan, a crane is a symbol of good luck and long life. Folding a thousand paper cranes (Senbazuru) is an old Japanese legend that promises anyone who accomplishes this, one wish.

The thousand paper cranes legend was popularized through the story of Sadako Sasaki, a young Japanese girl who was two years old when the atomic bomb of World War II hit Hiroshima. Sadako, like many others, was exposed to the radiation emitted from the bomb. Sadako's friend Chizuko introduced her to the legend of Senbazuru; she began to fold them feverishly in hopes she could get to a thousand so her health would be saved. Sadako folded only 644 cranes before her body succumbed to the illness. Her friends and family finished folding the 356 cranes in her honor.

Installation

Students in Ms. Cubello's Art Classes and Mrs. Knudsen's English Class read the story of Sadako Sasaki, Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes by Eleanor Coerr. While we read, we folded cranes in honor of Sadako with the hope of reaching 1,000. We began this project by making sheets of origami paper creating patterns and washes with watercolor and tempera paint. The paper was then cut into sizes of eight, six, five and three inch squares. We have folded 747 paper cranes and are now asking for your help in finishing our goal of 1,000.

Our wish after reaching our goal is for the future of our education. In this time of unsteady health of the education system, we wish its strength to be restored and for students to take responsibility and show respect for their academics. Please help us in accomplishing our goal and supporting the future of our students by folding a crane to add to our installation.

Thank You