

FROM THE DESK OF
CARMEN LOPEZ

March 2013

Dear citizens of St. Anthony,

My son, Fabian, (6th grade) and myself were the first students at the Idaho Art Lab in Saint Anthony. We started taking lessons in February 2011. I had been dreaming of developing my skills for years and it finally started here in our small town. A small town which, before, offered little opportunity. Nothing seemed to happen here but suicides and drugs. But now the opportunity is here, the Idaho Art Lab has so much to offer. I see it as giving our community a great advantage and giving us just what we needed. The art classes helped me with my depression and anxiety which these long winters bring. We definitely need more activities here for our community and especially the teenagers that are turning to drugs.

I am asking you for your help in supporting the Idaho Art Lab. Daniel and Kara Hidalgo have worked so hard remodeling the Lab for months but so much more is needed. I know there is money somewhere, for programs that help teenagers, or to better our community. The opportunity is here, don't let it end because we were not involved. The Idaho Art Lab has so much to offer our community, and that is exactly what we need.

The community has been very supportive in donating art supplies and equipment. The Lab offers a ceramic studio and pottery studio, screen printing shop, a metal sign shop, lapidary, animation studio, wood shop, a computer lab and photography darkroom. The building they are in is perfect for their needs. The Art Lab and the building's owner are working together to find a buyer for the building, able to offer them a low cost, long-term lease so they can settle in, make needed improvements and be the best art center in Idaho. I know we can find a way to help fund or support the Idaho Art Lab.

Sincerely,

Carmen Lopez