

## INTO THE STREETS: COMMUNITY ART PROJECT UPDATES

### Planting Hope Project with artists Peg Gignoux and Susie Wilde

During the winter 2016, writer Susie Wilde developed a short story: PLANTING HOPE (see attached draft). Wilde's collaborative creative writing process included working with middle school youth and Smith Middle ESL students at the Rogers Road Community Center (RRCC). Textile artist, Peg Gignoux sat in on some of the writing sessions with the middle school youth. In late March, Gignoux began developing materials for illustrating the PLANTING HOPE story, working with elementary and middle school youth at RRCC. Together they dyed fabrics, printed patterns, collaged, and layered cotton and silks together creating vibrant color families from which to create pictures. The children have been busy building sky, dirt, leaves, vegetable and flower imagery. Over the course of this project Wilde and Gignoux have collaborated with graphic designer, Steve Godwin to develop a strategic plan for merging words with pictures. The project is in direct support of PORCH, a grass roots hunger relief organization.

A community show and tell of the project has been scheduled for June 4, 2016 at the Chapel Hill Library from 3-4 P.M.

### Karen Book Project with Naris Levy and Mary Lamb

The exhibition of the FRANK Karen Youth Art Group opened May 10 at FRANK Gallery. This show includes a big display about their book on Transplanting Traditions Community Farm. An opening reception for the youth and instructors was held on May 13<sup>th</sup>. The exhibition runs until July 3 in the Michael and Laura Brader-Araje Gallery.

On June 2 From 6-8 P.M. FRANK will host a presentation about how the book was made and the book launch followed on June 5 by Kidzu's afternoon celebration of Karen Culture and celebration of the book with readings.