

PORT DISCOVERY Children's Museum

Community Mosaics with Gilda Oliver



Left: *Rainbows of Love - Over Our Community* (2011)
Right: *Rainbows of Love- Beneath the Ocean* (2012)



These vibrant mosaic murals were created by visiting families of Port Discovery Children's museum, and BCPSS School 177 students and families, under the artistic direction of internationally acclaimed artist and art instructor, Gilda Oliver. These large-scale community art projects are part of a series community service outreach projects coordinated by Port Discovery Children's Museum.

For the last six years volunteers of all ages have helped to create beautiful ceramic tiles to contribute to the pieces. Children and their families made hundreds of colorful people, animals and plants that were fired, glazed, and then placed within the mosaic. To complete the City and Underwater scenes, small square tiles and glass beads were cemented down and then colored grout was used to fill in the gaps.

In addition to workshops at the museum, volunteer sessions were conducted with community members from the larger Baltimore area and beyond at the school site.

This project was made possible through support from the Champions for the Challenged, the Courage Unlimited Corporation, Dal-Tile and Pierce Steel Fabricators.

The murals have been donated and were permanently installed in 2011 and 2012. There is a third mural in progress which will first be displayed at Port Discovery Children's Museum before traveling to other museums across the country.