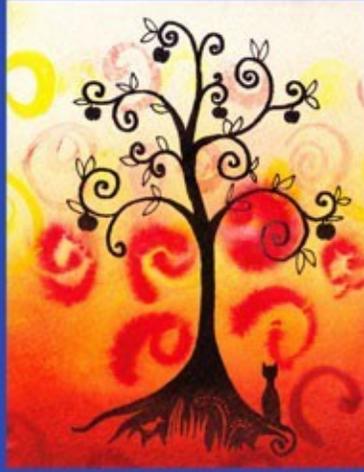


CWA Outreach



December 2013

Illustrating A Book – Outreach Workshop In Danville, California

Danville, California



Book Club

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On October 24, Irina Sztukowski shared her love of watercolor and her experience with members of the Book Club at the Danville library. Twelve young readers, grade 4 and 5, met to read a book *Planting The Trees Of Kenya: The Story Of Wangari Maathai* by Claire A. Nivola. It delivers a true story about a winner of the 2004 Nobel Peace Prize Wangari Maathai who returned to her home country of Kenya and helped to save the farmland by planting the trees.

Irina was presenting an hour workshop: How To “Plant” The Trees On The Paper. For this lesson, she had chosen several techniques to show to the kids. At first, the group painted a background using the wet-on-wet technique and later on (when paper was bone-dry) they “planted” a Whimsical Tree, full of happy branches, swirls, and birds. Each tree was telling its own story.

During the second part of the lesson, children learned how to paint fall trees using the dabbing technique and a sponge. In one short session there were around one hundred trees “growing” on the paper. The fall landscapes filled the room with the bright colors. And even though, not all the trees in Danville were yellow, orange and red in October; the trees on the paper were surely indicating a beautiful Fall in its full glory!