

Arts, The Neighborhood Files

## At Farmers' Market, Artisan Food and Art Projects

Pelham Art Center artist returns to Mamaroneck farmers' market to prove that anyone can be an artist with a spring equinox flower project.

By [Ted Cooke](#) | March 13, 2011



One table at the Indoor Mamaroneck Indoor Farmers' Market stood out from the rest this weekend. Instead of fresh local food ripe for purchase, the table was covered in art supplies. Behind the heap of pipe cleaners, scissors, and bright pastel tissue paper sat Pelham Art Center artist Zafiro Acevedo, waiting to help anyone become an artist.

The Pelham Art Center stall is located within the Mamaroneck

Indoor Farmers' Market. One Saturday each month, Acevedo comes to the farmer's market with a new simple, easy, and free project for children and adult shoppers alike to enjoy while they peruse the local artisan cheeses, meats, fish, breads, and fresh produce.

For her last project, Acevedo had shoppers create Valentine's Day cards for loved ones.

Acevedo has been artistically involved in the community for some time now. Her traditional Mexican heritage plays a huge role in her artistic creations. For example, this week's project was about spring equinox. The project involved creating paper flowers that are part of a traditional Mexican celebration of springtime. Her goal is to spread the message that art can be made simply and still be very beautiful.

"The parents come and then they see how simple and easy it is," Acevedo said.

Her hope is to have ideas like these become more common and have art become a mainstay in children's everyday activities.

“They are very focused on what they are doing, they love it, and the outcome of it. They just adore,” she said.

Her next project will take place next month in time for Mother’s Day. She will be showing how to make another type of Mexican flower, this time more complicated but also more realistic.

When not becoming amateur artists, visitors to the farmers’ market can sample everything from crisp delicious apples from Tivoli to fresh nut-free pesto from Kingston.

The coordinator of the event, Grace Poulsen of Community Markets, said functions like the farmers' market can promote a sense of community and opportunities to get to know people from the area that otherwise you might not meet.

“On one hand you get the local produce which is awesome,” Poulsen said. “Then you have getting together with your neighbors and seeing each other Saturday morning.”

*The Mamaroneck Indoor Farmers’ Market is held every Saturday morning from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the St. Thomas Episcopal Church on Boston Post Rd., Mamaroneck.*