

# goggleWorks

Center for the Arts

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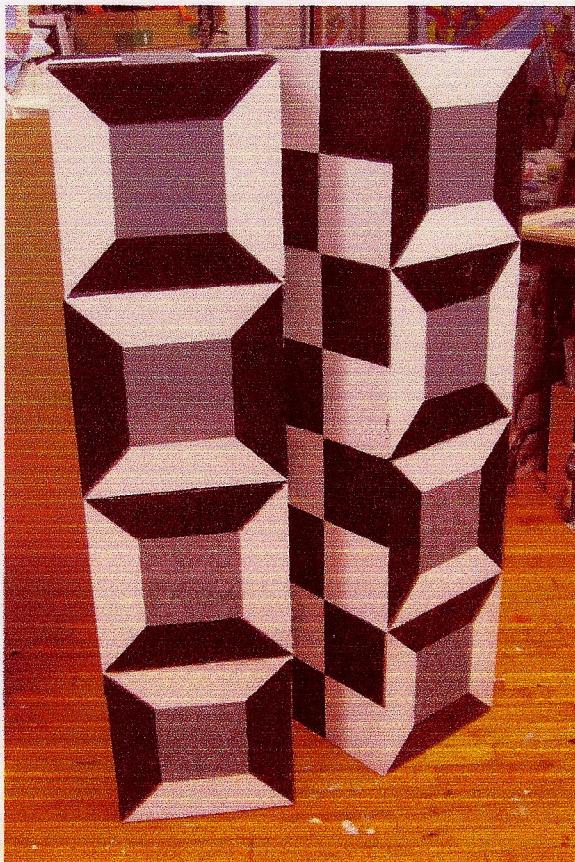
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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Reading, Pa. – GoggleWorks Center for the Arts' studio artist Alan Cernak has been chosen to partake in a Japanese residency in the rural community of Kura, outside the city of Fukuoka. During his month long stay from July 5<sup>th</sup> to August 5th, Alan will be initiating an art project alongside the local community and students from Kyushu University.

Alan plans to construct a larger scaled version of a black and white sculptural piece that is currently displayed in his studio. The artwork represents the Japanese culture through traditional origami forms, which is very important in Japanese artwork.

Artists in Residence–Japan is a very prestigious and competitive program. Typically, artists that are chosen are between the ages of 35-40, which Cernak jokes he is well over. “I was totally surprised,” says Cernak about having been chosen. He believes his work at GoggleWorks Center for the Arts has greatly contributed to this opportunity. “Structure, credentials, and identification are very important to the Japanese,” he says. Being able to create new pieces and teach students in the GoggleWorks environment has enabled Cernak to put value behind his name and artwork, which is highly respected in Japanese culture.

Cernak shares a studio at GoggleWorks with his daughter, Lily. They both share a passion for Japanese Anime, which allows them to work and collaborate with each other. Cernak describes working with his daughter as, “the absolute most fun thing I’ve ever done.”

Cernak will be posting a series of video blogs showing his experiences in Japan. It can be viewed on his website: [www.alancernak.com](http://www.alancernak.com)

*GoggleWorks Center for the Arts is a community art and cultural resource center for Berks County, Central and Southeastern Pennsylvania, and is the largest, most comprehensive interactive arts center of its kind in the country. The center is open daily, 11am-7pm, free of charge. The mission of GoggleWorks is "to nurture the arts, foster creativity, promote education and enrich the community." Free parking is available in the GoggleWorks parking lot, accessible from Second, Third or Walnut Streets. For more information, call the GoggleWorks at 610-374-4600 or visit [www.goggleworks.org](http://www.goggleworks.org). 201 Washington St., Reading, PA, 19601 | GPS Address: 140 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> St., Reading, PA, 19601*

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