

Dancing Drum Project

Cooperative Artists Institute

Boston, MA

Susan Porter, project director

Grade level: Teens

June 2009

We recently finished a “banner” in our after-school teen program that is, in part, an homage to Aminah’s work. The teens created prints on paper and cloth during the year, then we assembled the cloth prints into a set of “Dancing Drums” complete with stitches, buttons, and beads.

Our “Dancing Drums” banner was created by participants in The Peace Drum Project in collaboration with artists Susan Porter, Susan Thompson, and Natalie Chudacoff.

I have always loved Aminah’s work since the book *Symphonic Poem* (Columbus Museum of Art, 2002) came out a few years back. I am so glad that our students had a chance to build something from the inspiration contained within its covers. I also attended the exhibition in Akron, Ohio, this year and had a chance to speak briefly with Aminah. She is just as inspiring as her work!

Our project is currently on view as part of *Community Creations* at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in Boston.

For more information about the Collaborative Artists Institute,
visit www.tribal-rhythms.org







