

# PRESS RELEASE



## Sara Curry Preschool Announces Kids Art Show “Beautiful Little Nightmares”

*Art show to take place on June 4, 2014, at East Village haunt La Lucha, where all proceeds from the restaurant that day will be donated to benefit the preschool*

NEW YORK, NY, June 4, 2014 –New York’s oldest continually operating non-sectarian preschool, Sara Curry Preschool, also known as Little Missionary’s Day Nursery, announces a special art show and fundraiser today, Wednesday, June 4, at delectable Mexican taqueria and East Village gem La Lucha.

The exhibit, “Beautiful Little Nightmares,” showcases a unique and charming display of paintings and drawings from the school’s two to four-year-old artists portraying their innermost thoughts, fears and nightmares. The art will be available for purchase, with proceeds to benefit Sara Curry Preschool’s ongoing efforts to grow its school to serve more working class East Village families.

Throughout the day on Wednesday, June 4, the East Village taqueria, La Lucha, will serve up its scrumptious Mexico City-inspired food for a cause. The mom and pop owned restaurant on Avenue A between 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> streets will donate 100% of its receipts on June 4 to benefit its neighbor, Sara Curry Preschool.

“We’re excited to offer this unique exhibit from our very talented preschoolers. This art reflects the different and holistic approach Sara Curry Preschool takes to learning, with our focus on growing the emotional intelligence of our students,” said Sara Curry Preschool Director Eileen Johnson. “We’re grateful to La Lucha for their generosity and invite everyone to come enjoy the great food and art for a good cause! With your help, we’ll be able to meet the demand for our services and educate even more little New Yorkers.”

The special offering at La Lucha is part of a larger effort for the school’s growth that has included an [Indiegogo campaign](#) with a video featuring actress and school mom Rachel Weisz; the annual [Sara Curry Awards dinner](#) with school dad and host, *House of Cards* actor Michael Kelly, which took place on May 10 at the Manny Cantor Center; and a suite of Charity Buzz auction items that just launched at: [charitybuzz.com/support/2474](http://charitybuzz.com/support/2474).

In addition to growing the school to fully utilize the building they currently inhabit, resources raised will go towards scholarships to offset the cost of tuition for working families in the neighborhood. Many nurseries in the area have closed and there is great demand for the school’s services. Sara Curry Preschool has big plans to open up the entire building this year which will enable them to double the capacity and serve 100 children and not turn families away due to a lack of space. The historic building at 93 St. Marks will be restored to founder Sara

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Curry's intended purpose – to fill the lovely building with beautiful children. More about the school's plans for growth at: [lmdn.org/helpusgrow](http://lmdn.org/helpusgrow)

Native New Yorker and orphan Sara dubbed "the little missionary," set up a nursery in her apartment on Avenue C where she fed and nurtured children in 1896. In 1901, a generous patron donated the building at 93 St. Marks Place, the current location of Little Missionary Day Nursery. The school has safe-guarded thousands of children of working families over the past hundred years. Since 2001, Little Missionary's has been on a path of consistent growth, and plans to restore its institution to full capacity. On October 5, 2013, St. Marks Place between Avenue A and First Avenue was co-named Sara Curry Way in honor of the school's founder.

Currently, Little Missionary's Day Nursery provides an education for 50 preschoolers aged two to four with a focus on developing a child's emotional intelligence. The approach the school takes is the ART: Accept, Reflect, Teach. Classroom philosophy is focused on nurturing and emotionally aware programs that includes art, music and dance enrichment.

Additional information about the awards and to reserve tickets: [lmdn.org/saracurryawards](http://lmdn.org/saracurryawards).

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## **About Little Missionary's Day Nursery**

*Little Missionary's Day Nursery is the oldest continually operating non-sectarian school in New York City. The school serves 50 working families and children ages two through four with daily, after school and summer programs. Most importantly, Little Missionary's provides emotional education so that children can learn to manage their feelings and become responsible and generous community members. The school's nurturing and emotionally aware program includes art, music and dance enrichment, and we distribute tens of thousands of dollars a year in tuition assistance. [lmdn.org](http://lmdn.org)*

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