

Kudrow helps bring an art attack to the inner city



ART FOR EDUCATION'S SAKE: *Lisa Kudrow joins Inner-City Arts students at last month's groundbreaking for organization's extension.*

Reading, Writing and 'rithmic. Now throw in a little Rembrandt. While nobody's expecting a third-grader to become the next world renowned artist, the goal of Inner-City Arts is to put brushes in kids' hands and let their imagination take it from there.

Founded in 1989, Inner-City Arts was formed as a way to give elementary school children from poor neighborhoods a sense of the artistic community. In the late 70's, many Los Angeles Unified schools dissolved their arts programs due to budget cuts.

It's not about developing an appreciation for art but about creativity," says actress **Lisa Kudrow** who dedicates much of her non-"Friends" time to either helping raise money or working with the kids. "What it does for you, when you are being taught art correctly, is that it gives you a way to express yourself.

"I don't think I had great teachers when I was younger. I grew up thinking 'I'm horrible at this.' I still do. I don't want this happening to these kids."



GOUNDBREAKING GATHERING: *On Oct. 1, ground was broken for the campus expansion at Inner-City Arts in Los Angeles. On hand for the ceremony were Inner-City Arts' Cynthia Harnisch, left, co-founder Bob Bates, board member Barbara Schreter, actress Lisa Kudrow, Klasky Csupo's Terry Thoren, Variety Publisher Charles Koonos and board members Joe Sanford and Michael Schreter.*

Students are bused to the Inner-City Arts facility during the school day twice a week, for up to 14-week sessions. Unfortunately, the downtown building has, frankly, become antiquated. On Oct. 1, ground was broken for a 24,000-foot expansion that will be able to accommodate 20,000 students, 8,000 more than it currently holds.

The new facility will include a state-of-the-art animation studio, visual arts center, outdoor teaching space, additional ceramics studio and library.