



# Chacocente Update *For Our Friends!*

A Look at What's Happening at Project Chacocente, Masaya, Nicaragua

February 2007



*Who's that worker helping Mom to mix cement?*

## Delegations Flood into Chacocente to Help Build Primary School

Six delegations in six weeks have joined the parents of Chacocente to create more space at the project's primary school. Soon we will have six classrooms and a multipurpose auditorium.

The work-team members, who have ranged from 14-to-80 years old, have worked side-by-side with our families, learning each other's language and construction methods.

The children attended their classes in the front three rooms while the work team laid blocks and installed wiring in back.

We'll show you their work in our Spring Chacocente News.

If you'd like to bring a group to Chacocente, contact us at [info@OutoftheDump.org](mailto:info@OutoftheDump.org).



*Why, it's Jonathan, our newest first grader!!*

Chacocente Update is distributed electronically 8 times a year, in the months that we don't print our quarterly newsletter.

Want to know more about Project Chacocente? Check out our website: [www.OutoftheDump.org](http://www.OutoftheDump.org)

## Fostering Creativity



In the United States, we would never accept a school curriculum for our children that excluded classes in the arts.

In Nicaragua, it has been just the opposite. Most state schools haven't had

real art classes since before 1990.

The hope of many Nicaraguans —

now that Daniel Ortega of the Sandinista party has been elected again as president — is that the arts will return to the schools and culture.

For us at Project Chacocente, the arts have been part of our curriculum since our school began. Requirements of the Ministry of Education make it a challenge to fit-in art classes, but not surprisingly, we have been seeing a direct correlation between classes in the arts and creativity in the children.

In the photo, Andrea — once afraid of masks — finds a new use for leaves

**2/12 = 20**

*This formula could change your life. Watch for it in March.*

after making Halloween masks last year. In 2007, the kids will study the history of African and indigenous Nicaraguan masks.