Crafts & DIY Reviews | November 15, 2013

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CRAFTS

NANETTE DONOHUE, Champaign P.L., IL

DeCristoforo, Jennifer (text & illus.). Lucky Bamboo Book of Crafts. Jennifer DeCristoforo. 2013. 136p. illus. ISBN 9780988464803. \$26.99. CRAFTS

This collection of projects for children and teens was inspired by the author's love of Chinese culture and her desire to keep her adopted daughter connected to her roots. The projects are grouped into themed sections, including traditional fine arts, festivals and holidays, performance and dance, Chinese folk toys and games, and simple Asian crafts, and each section begins with an introductory overview of the theme. Entries are assigned a skill level ranging from one (for children age three to six) to four (for tweens and teens). Most of the projects require basic arts and crafts supplies, plus some easily accessible craft materials such as calligraphy brushes, bamboo chopsticks or skewers, and rice fiber paper. The directions for each project are tailored toward the intended age group and are illustrated with line drawings and photographs. Facts about China and Chinese traditions are interspersed throughout. VERDICT Teachers, children's librarians, parents, and child-care providers with an interest in Chinese-inspired crafts projects will find a wealth of information and ideas in this collection.