

# Fact Sheet 2016

## 1976

- Founded by Phyllis Brody and Evelyn Greenwald in 1976 after volunteering at a children's school.
  - Noticed a "turkey syndrome" pattern: where all children drew the same turkey by tracing hands; leaving no room for creativity.
  - Knew the importance of creativity (and its lifelong benefits) so they started combining loose but interesting materials (feathers, clothespins, etc.) together into "creative art bags"
  - o The Creative Art bags (aka Burlap Bags) were packaged in Phyllis' basement and/or Evelyn's living room.
  - Soon they begin calling on local retailers to sell their product.

## <u>1978</u>

- First exhibition at The North American International Toy Fair in NYC.
- Playthings Magazine creates a NEW CATEGORY "creative activities" based on this brand alone.
- Creativity for Kids<sup>™</sup> was the only brand listed under this category.

#### 1999

• Faber-Castell® in Stein, Germany acquires Creativity for Kids® and moved its US office from New Jersey to Cleveland where Creativity for Kids® was based.

### 2003

Jamie Gallagher becomes CEO of Faber-Castell USA

### 2004

 It's My Life Scrapbook receives the 2003 Toy of the Year award from Toy Industry Association

## 2009

Create Your Own Pop-Up Books receives the Best Toy for Kids Award from ASTRA,
The American Specialty Toy Retailer Association and also a Specialty TOTY - Toy of the
Year award from the Toy Industry Association, Inc.

## 2010

 Phyllis Brody, Co-founder of Creativity for Kids receives the Lifetime Achievement Award from ASTRA - The American Specialty Toy Retailer Association

## 2016

- Celebrating the brand's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, with a celebration at Toy Fair NYC.
- Phyllis Brody maintains a role within the company and works on many special projects, ensuring the legacy of the brand remains intact.
- New Trends this year:
  - Water globes/ Snow globes
  - Light-Up (with technology)
  - o Innovation within the craft category
  - Preparing children for lifelong success with learning 21<sup>st</sup> Century skills with new brand, Spark!Lab. Website: www.creativityforkids.com

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