

# **The Many Faces of Mona Lisa: A Multimedia Project**

## **Additional Background Information**

### **Leonardo da Vinci**

Leonardo da Vinci was born in the Italian town of Vinci in 1452. Leonardo lived during a time when people all over Europe were becoming interested in Art. This period of time was called the Renaissance.

Leonardo was a great artist, architect, inventor, scientist and mathematician. He kept a notebook of his drawings. All of his notes were written backwards. To read them you would have to hold them to a mirror.

Leonardo studied in Florence at the workshop of Andrea del Verrocchio.

Leonardo's most famous painting is the Mona Lisa. She was the wife of a Florentine merchant.

Leonardo da Vinci was one of the first artists to make his paintings seem real. He gave the people in his paintings a feeling of movement and of being alive.

Leonardo always tried to make his paintings as perfect and close to nature as possible.

He died in France in 1519.