Frida Kahlo was born on July 6, 1907 in Mexico City, the capital of Mexico. Khalo had polio when she was 6 years old and lived through a bus accident when she was 18 years old, but it left her in pain the rest of her life. She began to paint after the bus accident and often painted pictures of herself in pain. Despite not being able to walk well and having to wear a back brace, Khalo embraced painting and continued to paint as a way to express herself. She quickly became famous for being a female painter at a time when women did not paint professionally in Mexico.
When she was 21, she met and married another famous Mexican painter, Diego Rivera. The couple traveled around the United States as Rivera was asked to paint large murals in many American cities. Khalo continued her artwork, often painting objects differently than they looked in real life, a type of art known as surrealism. Over time, Khalo’s health also grew worse. She had to have her right leg amputated and spent many months in the hospital. Eventually, painters in Europe noticed Khalo’s work and invited her to show her paintings in the famous Louvre art museum in Paris, France. Khalo was determined to go to Paris even though her doctors made her stay in bed. So she had a hospital bed brought into the Louvre so she could attend her art show. Eventually, her poor health became too much, and Khalo died when she was 47 years old.

Since her death, she has inspired Mexican and female artists around the world. Her passion for painting and persistence to continue painting even though she was sick...
encourages other artists to never give up. She has become a symbol of Mexico, feminism, personal strength, and believing in yourself. The United States put one of her paintings on a postage stamp in 2001, and she was declared a saint in Texas. Her house in Mexico (called La Casa Azul, which means the Blue House in Spanish) was transformed into an art museum where people from around the world travel to see Kalo’s paintings and feel her spirit.