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About Inspired Art

Inspired Art is a collaboration between Cleveland artists and youth enrolled in America SCORES’ health and literacy programming. Renowned and emerging artists have created and donated original pieces inspired by the poetry of America SCORES Cleveland poet-athletes. Through Inspired Art, students witness their creativity brought to life, artists connect with their community and supporters see the profound impact these youth’s words can have on others.

The Inspired Art Project began in 2009 at America SCORES Bay Area, growing to an event that spans both coasts, moving artists, youth and community members in several America SCORES cities across the country today.

We at America SCORES Cleveland are proud to celebrate Cleveland’s creativity with you and to provide a space where everyone can find out: what moves you?

About America SCORES Cleveland

America SCORES Cleveland is a nonprofit organization providing after-school soccer, creative writing, and service-learning programming. The America SCORES curriculum inspires urban youth to lead healthy lives, be engaged students, and have the confidence and character to make a difference in the world.

Nationally, America SCORES was started in 1994 in Washington, D.C. by a public school teacher named Julie Kennedy. Her concern that her students were lacking constructive options after school led her to combine her two passions, poetry and soccer. Julie noticed that after teaching her students the game of soccer and how to write and perform poetry, they were becoming more engaged in the classroom, performing better academically and spending more time being physically active. Now her passions have transformed into an international organization, impacting more than 13,500 youth in 11 major cities across the U.S. and one city in Canada.

America SCORES Cleveland began in 2004 with programming in four west-side schools for 120 students. Over the past 17 years, America SCORES Cleveland has grown to serve over 1,000 annually students through partnerships with Cleveland public schools and summer program collaborations. The combination of creative writing, service-learning and soccer teaches kids how creativity, teamwork and physical activity nurture a strong mind, body and character.

Learn more about America SCORES Cleveland and how you can get involved at AmericaSCORESCleveland.org.
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Courtney Barker
Up2Us AmeriCorps Coach

Ariel Jordan
NCA AmeriCorps Member
I am a rainbow
So bright and blue
when you see me
I see you.
I am a rose so
pretty as can be
like a swan so
elegant and pretty
Never dark like a cloud
Always light as the sun
Bright pink like the stars
but never dark as black
I’m a Lamborghini fast and cool
I’m not a slugbug
Slow and junky
People don’t understand
I like me for me
You can’t change me
into who you want me to be.

Jeralyis, 6th Grade
Artemus Ward School

Chavers is a lover of all arts and a creative marketing professional in the Cleveland, Ohio area with her husband and daughter. Her studio is based in her 1950’s home and it is filled with different mediums to bring art to life. She received her B.A. in Studio Art. Chaver’s entrepreneurial journey of creating A.C. Creativity began in 2020 for a few reasons: finding a balance between family time, ‘me’ time and work despite being a wife, mother and professional. She and her husband are now homeowners and have studio space to create. If 2020 has taught us one thing, it is that you should do what you love now because tomorrow is not guaranteed. “Art brings me peace. It restores my soul.”
Neptune the Seahorse

I’m going to tell you
A story about a seahorse in the sea
About the cutest one there can ever be
A yellow stomach and blue skin
Two small horns
and a very weird chin
This horse was named Neptune
Her younger brothers were little goons
Her mother was pink
Her dad was tan
and the ocean they lived far from land
The seahorses were out at a party one day
The Neptune was about to say
But something grabbed and took her far away
From her family and where she stayed
Her mother was crying super hard
Far away and out of the water
The seahorses did not know how to save her
So her mom became a savior.
She swam out of the water really fast
like a cannon from the past
She found Neptune in a cage
which really raised her rage
The monster was going to eat them
which wasn’t fair
But suddenly the monster got whacked by a chair
It was the brothers and the dad
who had gotten very mad
The boys freed the girls and they were fine
They went back to the water in a straight line
“Oh dear Neptune what were you going to say before
the monster got you?”
I wanted to say “I love you.”

Colton, 4th Grade
Holy Family Catholic School

Meet the Artist:

Barbara Bachtell is a Cleveland Heights-based artist. Inspired by her artistically inclined family: her mother was an artist and writer, her great-uncle hand-lettered movie posters for Morgan Lithograph, and one brother is a cartoonist whose work has appeared in The New Yorker. She has a B.A. in Visual Art from Wesleyan University (CT), and a B.F.A. in Painting from Cleveland Institute of Art. She has incorporated both text elements and organic forms into her work for many years, and is a published poet and writer as well as a visual artist. Her drawings and small sculptures have been exhibited throughout Ohio and at several locations in Wisconsin. She also created a site-specific, time-based sculpture for the University School Centennial Outdoor Sculpture Exhibition. She was a curator for Slavic Village Development’s first Rooms to Let event (artists’ installations in vacant houses), and an Ohio Arts Council Artist-in-Residence.

Photo is a draft of the piece, full piece found on auction website.
Cleveland

CLE-VE-LAND
O-H-I-O
Art, History, Kids Museum
Severance Hall
Lit-tle Italy
CLE-VE-LAND
Science Center – Rock Hall
Playhouse Square – Public Square
Aquarium – Carriage Rides
LO-LLY the trolly
Cavs, Indians, Browns and Monsters
CLE-VE-LAND
Westside Market- Gordon Square
Jefferson Park- Steelyard Commons
Christmas Story House “you’ll shoot your eye out!”
CLE-VE-LAND
Metroparks sledding - Edgewater swimming
Front porch sitting - Back yard fires
CLE-VE-LAND
It’s where we live!

Core Girls Team
Newton D. Baker School of Arts

Meet the Artist:

Betsy Banks currently works in civic engagement at Case Western Reserve University, coordinating community-based educational programs that promote awareness, connection, action, and learning. Before working at CWRU, Betsy worked in conservation land management in Maine, California, and Kentucky and taught environmental education in Michigan, Nevada, The Everglades and Yellowstone National Parks. She enjoys sharing the connection she feels to place through photography and serves on the Steering Committee of the Cuyahoga Valley Photographic Society, promoting Cuyahoga Valley National Park and the photographic arts through education.
My Beautiful Tree

Roots, air, water and the beginning of life
The necessity of life.
Something that keeps us together and alive, a tree
You as the tree, could be the leaves, wood, branches, roots, but most of all love.
Everyone has a family tree with many layers
Like us, some people may try to cut you down.
DON’T LET THEM!
For we live for eternity in the land of God,
Remember don’t fall,
My STRONG, BRAVE, BEAUTIFUL TREE.

Kiera, 4th Grade
Holy Family Catholic School

Meet the Artist:

Jim Baron has spent over 30 years as a commercial photographer in Cleveland. He has photographed many of the people and places that make Northeast Ohio a great location to live in.
Halloween

Halloween Halloween
oh how I love Halloween
it is my
Favorite holiday
the reason because
I love to be scared,
oh how I have fun
being scared.
I love ghost and
zombies
I love skeleton and gargoyle
Oh I am the king of Halloween
and the king of being scared
And of scaring people while being quiet
and scaring
Oh how it is fun
I love Halloween
You can be anything or person
The best thing about Halloween is
when you can dress up
and get candy that is why
I love when it is October and Halloween.

Grant, 3rd Grade
Wade Park School

Meet the Artist:

Quinn Bilson is a student at College for Creative Studies in Detroit, Michigan. She draws a little bit of everything but is fond of figure studies and portraits.
Virtual Reality

The levels of video games
are like the levels of our lives
try your best and you might succeed
do it right and you get high fives

I’m so brave I can finally go
slay the dragon, save the princess
focus and determination
you achieve big dreams, pass the tests

if I pick a random portal
it might be deadly it might be safe
we learned you have to think before you
act,
that’s a fact!
in video games and in every day.

Core Boys Team
Newton D. Baker School of Arts
Working Together

When you are in space
There’s no air to be found.
When you are on Earth there’s a lot of
air to go around.
We will make this through air or not.
We make big risks to the point,
We are not scared.
When I reach for the stars
I know we will make it.
A sign will lead us to freedom.
Nothing can stop us.
We will not give up.

Ja’niyah, 4th Grade
Wade Park School

Meet the Artist:

Storms, weather and infinite connections fascinate and
inspire Judith. The geometry of a hurricane is the same spiral
as a conch shell or sunflower. Galaxies look like our brain
neurons. Through visual elements, spiritual practice, and
intuitive visualization Brandon explores that connection. The
cotton paper base has strength and resilience; the
qualities she requires to incise geometry, text and tiny cities
into, without tearing or shredding. These elements are
sometimes visible and sometimes fade away when ink
washes fill the tiny channels and dry. Ink washes provide an
abstract guide to the final composition. Layers of color build
up depth and provide luminance. Brandon draws the final
images with charcoal, pastel, and colored pencil to create
storm clouds, ocean swells, and landscapes. Ultimately, the
work is a visual representation of plunging into the unknown.
Turning seemingly, lifeless materials into a vibrational current
of imagery that moves people is the greatest experience.
When I Walk Outside

I want to walk outside and see bright, clean houses
But all I see are abandoned, dirty houses with broken windows

I want to see bright green, living grass,
But all I see is brown, dying grass and litter
Messy as my classroom at the end of the day

I want to smell fresh air when I walk outside
But all I smell is garbage
Stinky as a dead animal

When I go to Lake Erie
I see dark brown water,
But I want to see water as blue as my mom’s eyes

I feel disappointed because people don’t care.
The earth is as fragile as glass
It’s everyone’s job to take care of our earth.

Katie, 4th Grade
Mound STEM School

Meet the Artist:

Brickman has been an art student and artist since the first grade when she started to take art lessons at the Cleveland Museum of Art. She was an art major all through school and college, experimenting in drawing, sculpture and photography. Art was put aside while raising two children as a single mom, but now retired, Brickman has pursued her love of art once more. Brickman’s art has been accepted at many juried shows at numerous locations such as, Artist Archives of the Western Reserve, BayArts Spring Show, Lakeland May Show, Fairmont Art, Valley Art, Stella’s Art Gallery, Ashtabula center of the Arts and her art has won many awards. She is a member of the Euclid Art Association and Artist Archives of the Western Reserve.
Cleveland

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Metroparks sledding - Edgewater swimming
Front porch sitting - Back yard fires
CLE-VE-LAND
It’s where we live!

Core Girls Team
Newton D. Baker School of Arts

Meet the Artist:
Elizabeth Carney is currently a junior at Bay Village High School. She has always been creative, but her interest in art really took off with photography when she was 11 years old. She has taken many art classes and explored art on her own using different mediums. She enjoys painting, color pencil, charcoal/graphite, sculpture/ceramics, and photography. She has received awards for her work at various art shows. This past March she started working digitally, and this is the first time she has shared her digital artwork. After graduation in 2022 she plans to attend college majoring in art and/or art education.
She is London

She is strong
She is brave
She is unapologetic
Her skin is smooth and beautiful
like deep dark chocolate
Her hair is thick like wool
Her smile is calm
like the first sun
Love is within her
Love protects her
Love is her
She is London.

London, 4th Grade
Willson School

Meet the Artist:

Katherine Check is an artist and licensed art educator in the State of Ohio. Formally trained in visual arts, with a concentration in sculpture at Cleveland State University. She has taught art in several Northeastern Ohio schools for 13 plus years. She is the founder of Flourishing Flamingo Arts, a production and education company that works with people to develop their own artistic skills in a non-judgmental environment that allows ALL people to feel successful and accomplished.
Winter

Winter is cold
You can hold the snow
Look outside
You think the snow went away
But no,
The snow will be there for as long as you can think

It's night, then day
The snow still here
I see people walking their dogs on the snow
The snow is white
Sometimes brown
I always wonder why the sun just takes the snow away
Be happy because summer is coming soon

Jolianis, 7th Grade
Buhrer Dual Language Academy

Meet the Artist:

Julie Cook is a self-taught artist who mainly works in acrylics and mixed media. Recently she has done some altering of papers and collages with them for some of her smaller artwork pieces. Cook and her husband raised their family in Madison and still reside there. Cook loves to experiment with paint and products and see what new textures or techniques she can learn or develop. Although she uses a brush, she also uses sponges, scraps of wood, plastic, trowels, recycled packaging material and a variety of other items. She is inspired by God’s creation and realizes that He has given her creative ability. Through the sale of her art Cook helps support a school in Thailand where her daughter and son-in-law work that help at risk children on the Thailand/Myanmar (Burma) border. https://www.globaladvanceprojects.
Rising Above

Don’t try to be like your friends
They won’t teach you right from wrong
Be someone you can depend on
and not just following trends

I come to school to be taught
And to make big dreams
I want to be something that beems
And I need to give everything my best shot.

My mom always taught me to stay true
And to never stray from the route
People thinking they know what I’m about
I know who I am, but do you know you?

I want to be something great
And do great things as I get older
Brushing off the shoulder
When people try to hate

I don’t care what other people say
This is my life not yours
I’m here to kick down doors
While you just want to play

Never getting misled
by people that aren’t worth it
With these people I’m not trying to fit
Cause a winner I was born and bred

Brooklyn, 5th Grade
Albert Bushnell Hart School
When I Walk Outside

I want to walk outside and see bright, clean houses
But all I see are abandoned, dirty houses with broken windows

I want to see bright green, living grass,
But all I see is brown, dying grass and litter
Messy as my classroom at the end of the day

I want to smell fresh air when I walk outside
But all I smell is garbage
Stinky as a dead animal

When I go to Lake Erie
I see dark brown water,
But I want to see water as blue as my mom’s eyes

I feel disappointed because people don’t care.
The earth is as fragile as glass
It’s everyone’s job to take care of our earth.

Katie, 4th Grade
Mound STEM School

Meet the Artist:

Barb Everett is a relatively new artist, but certainly not a young artist. She never painted or drew until she retired. She is inspired by her grandchildren, architecture, fashion and anything that she finds worthy of celebration. Her goal is to bring the viewer up close and cause a reaction. She feels successful when she completes a piece and feels that she captured her heart and soul on canvas. She mostly uses oil because she loves the colors and textures. She loves to exaggerate proportions and color to convey a mood.
I Am a Girl

I am lipstick, earrings, dresses too
I am jeans, crop tops, high hee shoes

I am a girl!
I am brave, I am kind, I am smart
I am beautiful, I am a work of art

I am a girl!
I work hard, I play tough
I am gentle, I am rough

I am a girl!
I am unique, I am one of a kind
I have a big heart, I have a sharp mind

I am a girl!
I am not perfect, but I try
I am honest, I will not lie

I am a girl!
I am the vote, I am the choice
I am the fight, I am the voice

I am a girl!
I am under estimated, but it’s not true
The power of girl is all inside you
I am a girl!

Meet the Artist:

Diane Fleisch Hughes is a nationally board certified Art Therapist and contemporary working artist based in the Cleveland, Ohio area. Her work is primarily mixed media figurative painting but she likes to experiment with all media. The work is intuitive and loose, often combining realistic images with areas of emotional color. Her mixing of mediums and painterly mark making creates visual excitement on paper and canvas. Her work has been shown nationally and internationally and is in many private collections around the country. Diane maintains her artist studio in Willoughby, Ohio as part of Stella’s Gallery, she is the Art Therapist at Julie Billiart School in Lyndhurst, Ohio and Adjunct Faculty in the graduate program at Ursuline College with which she participates in service learning trips around the world.

Core Girls Team
Artemus Ward School
We Need to Change

We need to change
Whether it’s short or long
Everyday people commit crimes
and they know that they are wrong
This is where it begins
We need to stop these criminals
It is becoming very pivotal
We need to make crime minimal
It’s gotten so bad
It’s getting political
Social injustice happens everyday and
it is just not fair
People are missing their families
so don’t you dare
Do a crime without thinking of the punishment
Putting random people who are innocent
in harm’s way
We really really need to change
Do you really see through their eyes?
Watching news everyday is a surprise
Kids watch the news every day and
they’re too young to know
But I know and they can’t silence me
Think one day it will happen to me
Seeing through the eyes of people
this has happened to
They see terror
They see it on the TV and don’t know
if it’s going to happen to them one day
Seeing through the eyes of a cop
not caring
Taking innocent lives like it’s nothing
I speak out about injustice
It’s bad
We need to call the police on the police
We need to understand
that human society should be treated the same
No matter the color of their skin
But by the content of their character.

Gregory, 6th Grade
Newton D. Baker School of Arts

Meet the Artist:

Gwendolyn Garth is a native Clevelander, whose lived experiences are derived from being reared in four of Cleveland’s Eastside neighborhoods. Garth is also an African American multimedia artist, graduate of Cleveland Municipal School District, graduate of Women in Transition Program (TRI-C), a certified Creative Arts Therapy Specialist (TRI-C), Neighborhood Leadership Development Program graduate (NLDP), founder and CEO of Kings & Queens of Art and a 501(c) Arts Organization. Garth is also a founding member of the Neighbor Up Network amongst others, former trustee on the Board of Cuyahoga Arts & Culture, Precinct Committeewoman Ward 5 Precinct L, elected executive committee member of Cuyahoga County Democratic Party, a 23-year recovering alcoholic and addict and alumni of Ohio Women’s Reformatory. Garth’s real work will always be about reinventing communities & perceptions about the people in those communities. Garth will continuously do so by employing the therapeutic value of art and by thinking and working holistically to engage with others through collaboration and transparency.
**My World**

In my world
I see colors
Purple, blue, gold and yellow
In my world
there is many smells
flowers, sweetness and
freshness all around.

In my world
there are many sounds
birds, rain, waves and nature
In my world
the way I feel
free, open and calm.

**Meet the Artist:**

Paul Giglia is an amateur, but devoted, photographer who enjoys producing images of nature, landscapes, and also of Cleveland and the surrounding suburbs. While he practices this avocation for his own enjoyment, he also sells his work to stock photo houses as well as on various products (see his website). The fact that he can use his camera to help a worthy cause such as Inspired Art gives him the most joy, though.

**Zallie, 7th Grade**
**Buhrer Dual Language Academy**
“Our City, Our Home”

Cleveland is a shining star. When you are here, you’ll hear jets rawr. Our football team, the Cleveland Browns, Will always score a great touchdown. Cleveland --- Our city, our home! We celebrate our great diversity, Through our amazing schools and universities, If you spend the day downtown, You’ll never come home with a frown. We have the Indians and the Erie Lake. There is no way this city’s a mistake. Cleveland – Our city our home! Cleveland has the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. No other city can say the same. We are warriors that’s a fact, We’re sure to make a great impact. Cleveland – Our city, our home!

Core Boys Team
Marion C. Seltzer School
Meet the Artist:

Ellen Giglia is a crafter who enjoys the creative process using a variety of techniques and materials.

My Bike

My bike is special
it matches my clothes
black and red
Over and under
My tires soak up the bumps
and come crashing down
and down to rest
and I feel free.

Christian, 5th Grade
Mary M. Bethune School

ELLEN GIGLIA
Blossoms and Spokes
Applique Quilt
32” x 36”
**Power**

Not ordinary, but extraordinary
We are powerful, we are strong

A superhero in disguise
Reaching amazing heights
Today I am better than yesterday
I believe I am flying high

Telekinesis is my power
It gives me control
To move things with my mind
Save lives and score goals

I have the power of invisibility
Sneaking in silence I can do anything

With the chocolate touch
I can encase my enemies

With my super power
I’ll teleport friends to their families

With speed like lightning
I flash through buildings
Defeating monsters, ninjas and villains

Not ordinary, but extraordinary
We are indestructible
We are unbeatable
These are our powers
We are strong.

**Meet the Artist:**

Dan Gorman is a trained Medical Illustrator with his BFA in Medical Illustration from the Cleveland Institute of Art (1999). Dan began working as a Sketch Card Artist in 2010 and has since worked on over 150 Licensed Trading Card sets featuring properties that include but are not limited to Marvel, DC, Star Wars, Star Trek, Game of Thrones, Alien, The Lord of the Rings, Vampirella, Bettie Page, KISS, Rick & Morty, Steven Universe and AMC’s The Walking Dead. In 2012, Dan began his career as a Comic Book penciler and has been published by Dark Horse (Grindhouse), AC Comics (FemForce), Empire Comics La (Cemetery Plots) and Source Point Press (The Rejected, Kringle). Dan is a member in good standing of the National Cartoonists Society and creates a weekly webcomic for The Akron RubberDucks (Cleveland Indians Affiliate) Baseball team called RubberDucks Tales which posts weekly to their Instagram Stories. You can see more of Dan’s work at dan-gormanart.com and be sure to follow him @GDan-Artist on Twitter and Instagram!
Colors

Purple is bright as a light
Pink is light but not as bright
Brown is dark
But not like bark
I like Green
But I don’t like mean
Black is nice
Just like my bike
I like yellow
And things that are mellow
Colors!

Haley, 5th Grade
Artemus Ward School

Meet the Artist:

Allison Hennie, AIA, NCARB, MA, has a passion for people, places and the arts. Hennie currently serves as the City Architect and public art coordinator for the City of Lakewood, helping facilitate diverse solutions with a positive social impact. A Cleveland native, she has lived in two countries and 12 cities.
TikTok

Dance with your family
TikTok
TikTok

Dance with your friends

I watch people dance
Because they have great moves.
Sometime I wish I can
be in their shoes.
TikTok
TikTok

I follow my cousin
TikTok

TikTok because it’s fun.

Ahna’liece, 6th Grade
Clara E. Westropp School

Laurel Herbold is a Cleveland, Ohio based freelance artist exhibiting in Northeast Ohio and the surrounding area since 1994. She maintains a studio/gallery space at the popular West 78th St. Studios, often in collaboration with interior designers, engineers and architects to develop site-specific artwork, her process begins with conceptual design and results in skillfully customized artwork, mural and faux/specialty finishes for residential and commercial spaces. She is also the creator of The Wee People. Her stylized paintings and ink drawings of tiny silhouetted figures have expanded into a wide range of fine art as well as a growing line of merchandise and collectables. Due to the varied nature of her custom work, over the years Herbol has found herself becoming educated in the applications of ceramics, jewelry fabrication, stained glass, gold leaf application, oil, acrylic, watercolor painting and some 3D work. Herbol’s personal work usually comes through experimentation with many of these different materials. “There is a strong abstract or surreal quality to my work, but I am almost always inspired by the unparalleled design and elements of nature.”
Pollution

Land, air, water, noise
All this pollution, it got us mad!
We’re just kids and WE think it’s bad!
Lead pollution it’s in the ocean.
In drinking water it cause commotion.
Kids get sick parents cry.
Our water shouldn’t make us die!
I don’t like trash cause it give me a rash.
At the scrapyard I see all that cash, when I recycle all your trash.
I wanna go outside but there’s all this smoke.
I need my inhaler the smoke gonna make me choke.
This air pollution I can’t give it a pass,
Some of it’s from all that gas.
I’m about to choke on this smoke.
We not joking, we really choking!
While I’m shopping at the store.
I see trash on the floor.
I don’t like trash on the floor,
Please put it in the can, by the door.
People throw stuff in the ocean,
All this stuff makes the ocean have no motion.
Pick up your trash and be a boss,
Because if the police see you it’s going to cost.
I’m sick of all this noise man it need to stop,
Every time I’m doing my work all I hear is cops.
Land, air, water, noise
All this pollution, it got us mad!
We’re just kids and WE think it’s bad!

Core Boys Team
Mound STEM School

Meet the Artist:

Jaeger holds a Bachelor of Arts in Visual Arts from Albion College as well as several non-art-related degrees. She has always found nature in general and animals in particular to be restorative and inspirational and this is reflected in most of her pieces. Jaeger’s current work concentrates primarily on torn paper collage, oil painting and 3D mixed media pieces. Her working style, which has been a mainstay throughout her career, tends to focus on combining numerous small fragments into a larger whole. This style currently appears most prominently in her torn paper collage pieces. Through this process, the ephemeral becomes permanent; the worthless becomes valuable. In a way, this transformation can be seen as mirroring a person’s personal journey through life: each small experience builds on previous experiences, eventually resulting in the depth and richness of a fully-formed individual.
Our City, Our Home

Cleveland is a shining star. When you are here, you’ll hear jets rawr. Our football team, the Cleveland Browns, will always score a great touchdown. Cleveland --- Our city, our home! We celebrate our great diversity, through our amazing schools and universities.

If you spend the day downtown, you’ll never come home with a frown. We have the Indians and the Erie Lake. There is no way this city’s a mistake. Cleveland – Our city our home! Cleveland has the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

No other city can say the same. We are warriors that’s a fact, we’re sure to make a great impact. Cleveland – Our city, our home!

Meet the Artist:

Born in Cleveland, Don Jeffrey grew up in Summit County, graduated from Stow High School and the University Of Akron. He enjoys doing watercolor/pen and ink illustrations of local points of interest, buildings and street scenes that remind people of their hometowns.

Core Boys Team
Marion C. Seltzer School
“My World”

In my world
I see colors
Purple, blue, gold and yellow
In my world
there is many smells
flowers, sweetness and
freshness all around.

In my world
there are many sounds
birds, rain, waves and nature
In my world
the way I feel
free, open and calm.

Zallie, 7th Grade
Buhrer Dual Language Academy

Meet the Artist:

Enhancing the lives of others through inspiring, creative and fun use of art to heal and give hope to our community. Sharing her love and passion for the arts with the hopes of enriching the lives of others through inspired self expression. Place keeping and placemaking art tell our stories. Art inspires, art encourages and art empowers.
“My World”

In my world
I see colors
Purple, blue, gold and yellow
In my world
there is many smells
flowers, sweetness and
freshness all around.

In my world
there are many sounds
birds, rain, waves and nature
In my world
the way I feel
free, open and calm.

Zallie, 7th Grade
Buhrer Dual Language Academy
“Speak Your Pain”

All of these innocent kids
Hurting on the inside.
We hurt them for no reason,
We always make them cry.
They deny their pain,
But we all know the truth.
We ignore that they’re hurting,
We ignore, we are foolish.
Tell someone, come out and speak the truth.
If you don’t talk,
No one is able to hear you.
We encourage you to speak,
What you’re saying is important.
Tell someone.
Keep on talking.
I make my promise to you,
Things are going to get better.
Keep on talking
until your story is heard.
Someone is going to listen,
Someone is going to help.
Keep on talking!
These kids are dying,
What can you do
To help?

Leeanna, 8th Grade
Artemus Ward School

Meet the Artist:

Born and raised in Cleveland, Mark Krieger earned his Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from the Cleveland Institute of Art and his Masters from Tyler School of Art, Temple University. His first year of graduate school was spent in Rome and he returned twice to Italy to spend time painting from 1973-74. In 1976 he moved to Newport, RI while there he traveled frequently to New York where he developed the gallery connections at Allan Stone and Touchstone galleries. That year he accepted a teaching position at The University of Texas at Austin and in 1980 returned to Cleveland where he took the position at University School that he held until 2012. His studio is at the 78th Street Studios, Cleveland Ohio, where he works on abstract paintings and portraits of children whose lives are compromised by forces beyond their control.
Meet the Artist:

Matt Labyk is a graphic designer and artist currently living in Lakewood, Ohio. He is inspired by skateboarding, motorcycling, and cartoons, not in any particular order.

“My Bike”

My bike is special
it matches my clothes
black and red
Over and under
My tires soak up the bumps
and come crashing down
and down to rest
and I feel free.

Christian, 5th Grade
Mary M. Bethune School
Black Lives Matter

Black Lives Matter
We need to stop all this foolish stuff
I'm done, we need a change
We have the right to protest about our skin
Because you know nothing
Stops without a war or a fight
So we need to change and these people are dying
Because of their skin color
This needs to stop
If you have no noticed
But people are suffering
Because they die
Because of the color of their skin
People are people
And other kinds have shed their blood for us
And we know we have the right to protest
go out there and protest
Because you have the right
So let's raise our hands and protest
Black Lives Matter, Protest of the People!!

Naomi, 4th Grade
Campbell Elementary School

Meet the Artist:

Gabrielle Alicia Lawrence did not start within the art field but instead pursued experiences to provide depth and new meanings. Now, Lawrence is focusing on art to create meaningful images. The medium changes according to what works best to portray the image. Thus, Lawrence's paintbrush may be loaded with watercolor, gouache or acrylic paint. Training hasn’t been limited to one specific school or instructor but rather taking advantage of instruction through various schools and workshops. This includes European Summer School, Cuyahoga Community College, and Case Western Reserve University. Lawrence was accepted to be part of this year’s Art in Rome program with a scholarship but Covid changed those plans.
Meet the Artist:

Todd Leech is a full-time studio artist working in Cleveland. He has participated in more than 150 exhibitions. Career highlights include, residencies at Red Lodge Clay Center, Montana (2018), Medalta International Artists-in-Residence, Alberta (2014, 2008, 2005), Watershed Center for the Ceramic Arts, Maine (2013), and Guldagergaard Ceramic Research Center, Denmark (2011). Most recently Leech has been accepted into the permanent collection of The Canton Art Museum (2019).

Dark Dreams

Surrounded by water, deep in the ocean
Closed in with thoughts, getting deeper into the ocean
I feel a sudden Heat and Fear in my body
I slowly open my eyes to see nothing
I try to move but I’m stunned
I stay there still for a few moments
Then look again
To see a Big Grey and White cold blooded fish
with large sharp scary teeth
I was confused on what it was
until I realized it was a SHARK!
I suddenly started Panicking
when I realized it hasn’t tried to eat me
I got very confused and closed my eyes to think
I attempt to move again
But Swim upwards and it works
I swim up to the surface when I see someone in the distance
but it was my Great-Grandmother
which is weird because she isn’t here anymore
She comes up to me
I get Confused, Happy, Sad then start crying
then we hug
and that’s when I wake up from this Scary, Sad Amazing Dream.

Nyla, 6th Grade
Warner Girls Leadership Academy
Through Sickness and Health

Through sickness and health
We have started a really brave movement, people. In the world we are either blaming someone or taming someone. Shootouts and protests we are starting to look like we only have anger in us, and not potential.

Through sickness and health.
Police beat on us, when half the time we were just trying to walk down the street. People have not been given the credit they deserve all because of the complexion of their skin.

Through sickness and health
2020 has made us weak at times but strong at others. From Mothers crying, because their sons are dying, we will still rise up. For women’s rights, we have made protest, and gotten through to those who did give up hope. Cops who once argued against us are now standing with us.

But THROUGH SICKNESS AND HEALTH
We have overcome any obstacles in front of us, and we did it together.

Through sickness and health
We have started something great and we won’t and we can’t lose hope.

Savannah, 6th Grade
Warner Girls Leadership Academy
Our City’s Hot

Our City’s hot
Your city’s not
Our City’s hot
Your city’s not
Our City’s hot
Your city’s not

Westside, Eastside
Parma, Beachwood
Come through, Bike life
We Wheely through our hoods

Yeah this is our city,
We comin’ in poppin’
Yeah this is Cleveland
And you know how we rockin’

Indians at the Jake,
OBJ joined the pound
I’m not old enough to drive
The Rapid’s how I get around.

Public Square is where it’s at
People comin’ in deep
When I’m hangin’ with my friends
Tower City’s where we meet.

Lebron left Cleveland,
Just to join the LA Lakers
He moved to LA
To be amongst the fakers.

Hangin’ with the fans,
Chillin’ at the Rock Hall
Come check our city and
You’ll see we have it all.

When you come to Cleveland
You’ll see why it’s hot
When you go back home
You’ll see your city’s not

Our City’s hot
Your city’s not
Our City’s hot
Your city’s not
Our City’s hot
Your city’s not

Meet the Artist:

Daniel Gerard Likar grew up in a very average suburb of the greatest city in the world, Cleveland. He grew up loving art and began drawing at an early age. He got his start in crafts at Garfield Heights High School, under the leadership of Artist Jeanne Tiefenbach. Likar has a Bachelors of Fine Arts with a concentration in Jewelry and Metalsmithing from Kent State. His main body of work consists of jewelry that focuses on the ideas of bold playful colors and iconic shapes. In every piece of his work Likar wants to bring out the inner child in the wearer and create a feeling of childlike whimsy. He strives to make usable art that appeals to anyone who encounters it. He wants his work to be worn often and loved well.

Core Boys Team
Albert Bushnell Hart Elementary School
My Blue World of Lapis

Lapis makes me feel happy
happy like the ocean
Blue animals all around
Blue berries, blue raspberries
Blue diamonds in the blue skies
The grass is blue
all around my blue house
where me and my blue
friend live
I wear my blue hat and walk with my blue cat
In my blue hand
I’m holding a blue wand
My bed is blue
My whole life is blue
because blue makes me feel
Happy.

Alexander, 4th Grade
Merrick House

Meet the Artist:

Barbara Lockhart is a handmade jewelry artist. Lockhart handmakes jewelry that empowers visionary women to go after their dreams, live a positive lifestyle, and overcome mental obstacles. She does this by using color psychology, inspirational wording, and symbolism from nature in her designs.
**Aliens**

Have you ever felt like you don’t belong?
An alien straight out of Area 51
Always being watched and tested
Wanting to escape

The feeling that someone is going to find out
Find out what we really are someday.
The truth.
Someday, somehow they will.

We feel lonely and different every day.
Not sure of what’s on the inside of us,
Adults assume we don’t belong here.

It is said we are scary
But,
They judge us before they know us
Fear of the unknown

They kill them
They kill us
They steal us
Away from our homes and families
Abuse us and mistreat us.

Always being watched and tested
Wanting to escape
Where would we go?
Where do we belong?
Feeling powerless and hopeless

**Meet the Artist:**

Thomas Masaveg’s began his art career as a pencil artist who blended plants and people into portraits. From there, he started to meet fellow artists and network with the local art community. Thomas quickly gained an interest in public art that has led to consistent projects in partnerships with nonprofits for community development. As a public artist, Thomas seeks to portray identities of places and communities as he relates to them. You can find his mural work at Cedar-Lee Theater and he’s currently preparing an augmented reality tour in collaboration with Campus district featuring sites along E.22 st. like the former juvenile court building and CSU.

Scan QR code to launch Instagram camera. Wait for the AR effect to load, then point phone at the image to bring it to life!

**Middle School Team**

**Robinson G. Jones School**
Earth is Changing Around Us

Roses are red,
Violets are not.
The Earth is a sunflower,
Because it’s getting very hot.

Our air is full of sewerage,
Our water is turning green,
Our fish are eating garbage,
Why aren’t we doing anything?

Our oceans have oil,
And plastic, too.
Our trash is in the soil,
What are we supposed to do?

Animal cruelty is changing our Earth,
Killing all the lions and tigers and bears,
Too many animals in a death trap since birth,
But we can’t find anyone who cares.

Save the animals, save the turtles please,
So all the animals can be at ease,

And save us, your children, too,
So we can grow up in a world where flowers can bloom,
Because if the bumblebees go extinct, We will, too.

Meet the Artist:

Mary’s love of botanicals began early in life. Her family owned a garden center/flower shop. As a child she was always in the greenhouse. After design school she was a floral designer there until her recent retirement. She now uses botanicals and natural materials in a new way. Instead of a vased design, she uses many of the same materials such as branches, moss, seed pods etc. but as a framed piece of art. Her pieces are made on slate, driftwood or repurposed frames. She believes a piece of art centered on nature can produce a calming effect on the viewer especially in a hectic office environment as well as a home.
I Am a Girl

I am lipstick, earrings, dresses too
I am jeans, crop tops, high heel shoes
I am a girl!

I am brave, I am kind, I am smart
I am beautiful, I am a work of art
I am a girl!

I work hard, I play tough
I am gentle, I am rough
I am a girl!

I am unique, I am one of a kind
I have a big heart, I have a sharp mind
I am a girl!

I am not perfect, but I try
I am honest, I will not lie
I am a girl!

I am the vote, I am the choice
I am the fight, I am the voice
I am a girl!

I am under estimated, but it’s not true
The power of girl is all inside you
I am a girl!

Meet the Artist:

Young females are dually confident about their gifts and uncertain about their awesomeness. Joyce thinks this poem, “I Am a Girl” expresses both aspects of growing up and celebrating being female. “I am A Girl and so much more” is expressed in this multicultural representation of young ladies. Different hair types and clothes and even body build are featured. Some are glamorously dressed while others are just fashionable. While physical features are being enhanced, it is the motivational words and affirmations which I hope will inspire the viewer.

Core Girls Team
Artemus Ward School
Colors

Purple is bright as a light
Pink is light but not as bright
Brown is dark
But not like bark
 I like Green
But I don’t like mean
Black is nice
Just like my bike
I like yellow
And things that are mellow
Colors!

Haley, 5th Grade
Artemus Ward School

Meet the Artist:

Novak is an award winning acrylics abstract artist from Berea, Ohio. Novak is currently enrolled at Cuyahoga Community College for liberal arts and art therapy.
Working Together

When you are in space
There’s no air to be found.
When you are on Earth there’s a lot of air to go around.
We will make this through air or not.
We make big risks to the point,
We are not scared.
When I reach for the stars
I know we will make it.
A sign will lead us to freedom.
Nothing can stop us.
We will not give up.

Ja’niyah, 4th Grade
Wade Park School

Meet the Artist:

Chris Oatey’s practice has been consistently informed by a cartographic sensibility. He produces a wide range of works from the intricately hand drawn to the raw, immediate recording of his everyday surroundings. Oatey skillfully documents surface textures in and out of the studio. His work highlights the unexpected and overlooked aspects of both materials and ordinary sites.
Coming to America

We came to America from: Uganda, Puerto Rico, Peru!
I got on a plane! How did you feel?
I was nervous! The take-off! The landing! So exciting!
Happy to be on a plane!

What did you see?
Big house, Tall buildings, colorful flags, and people dancing!
We saw the city! Cleveland!

What did you eat?
Burger king, MMMMM, Mcdonalds (yummy)
Doritos, chucky cheese !!! Smells so good!

Where did you go? To the zoo! To school!
We love the monkeys, lions and tigers and to learn and do homework too!

And what do you think?
That things you take for granted, you see every day
Is fun and exciting to new Americans.
We have come to America to stay!

Core Boys Team
Thomas Jefferson Newcomers Academy

Meet the Artist:

Lauren Pacini is an architectural photographer and local history author He strives to tell the story of Cleveland through his photography.
All About Hair

I like lemonade braids that are red and black
I like ponytails but not when they go to the back
I like buns that are not too messy
I use elastic bands that are really stretchy
I like box braids in purple and blue
The purple and blue matches my shoe
I need my soft brush, my edge control, my mirror, that’s shiny and clean
If you’re a girl like me, then you know what I mean.

Katie, 4th Grade
Mound STEM School

Meet the Artist:
Ilenia Pezzaniti is a visual storyteller + multidisciplinary artist living in Akron, OH.
Power

Not ordinary, but extraordinary
We are powerful, we are strong

A superhero in disguise
Reaching amazing heights
Today I am better than yesterday
I believe I am flying high

Telekinesis is my power
It gives me control
To move things with my mind
Save lives and score goals

I have the power of invisibility
Sneaking in silence I can do anything

With the chocolate touch
I can encase my enemies

With my super power
I’ll teleport friends to their families

With speed like lightning
I flash through buildings
Defeating monsters, ninjas and villains

Not ordinary, but extraordinary
We are indestructible
We are unbeatable
These are our powers
We are strong.

Meet the Artist:

James Quarles is a Local Cleveland artist who attended Shaker Hts. high school taking art classes from both Keaf Holiday and Dan Whitely. After graduating in 2005, he then went to CCAD (Columbus College of Art and Design) where he majored in Fine Arts and Graphic Design. After graduating in 2009, he returned home to Cleveland to pursue his passion of art through painting, screen printing, drawing, and writing, working in multiple mediums, but primarily acrylic paint. He also focuses on color, illustration, and cultural icons whose work he has found influential, adding to the collective landscape and lore that is both familiar and new.

Middle School Team
Buhrer Dual Language Academy
**Earth is Changing Around Us**

Roses are red,
Violets are not.
The Earth is a sunflower,
Because it’s getting very hot.

Our air is full of sewerage,
Our water is turning green,
Our fish are eating garbage,
Why aren’t we doing anything?

Our oceans have oil,
And plastic, too.
Our trash is in the soil,
What are we supposed to do?

Animal cruelty is changing our Earth,
Killing all the lions and tigers and bears,
Too many animals in a death trap since birth,
But we can’t find anyone who cares.

Save the animals, save the turtles please,
So all the animals can be at ease,
And save us, your children, too,
So we can grow up in a world where flowers can bloom,
Because if the bumblebees go extinct,
We will, too.

**Meet the Artist:**

Susan Riha Parsley went to Cuyahoga Community College and received her Associates in Liberal Arts in 2002. Her main study in art at the time was ceramics and the pottery wheel. She had so many ceramic bowls, vases, and sculptures that she went on a quest to see if her art could help someone in need. She was looking around on her quest and came across an advertisement on Craigslist of this wonderful woman who was having an art auction to help people in South Africa. She decided to try painting to be able to help more. She painted abstract representational images on Yupo paper and alcohol inks in December 2010. This turn of events lead her to painting more and more. One day she was going to make note tags for her artwork and thought she could use a torch to curl up the ends. The result of this led her to create abstract shapes that she later used as pendants for necklaces. The use of alcohol painting was self-taught due to her high level of interest with that medium. She also wrote a book called *Art Ink It! Paint with Ink and Make Jewelry from Your Clippings* in 2014. The book is about creating jewelry with Yupo paper and Alcohol inks, it provides steps, images of the process, as well as finished products. She has received a BFA in Studio Art from Bowling Green State University May of 2019.

**SUSAN RIHA PARSLEY**
**Anthropocene**
mixed medium with
seal resin top
17”x 23”
Jeralyis’s Rainbow Sky

I am a rainbow
So bright and blue
when you see me
I see you.
I am a rose so
pretty as can be
like a swan so
elegant and pretty
Never dark like a cloud
Always light as the sun
Bright pink like the stars
but never dark as black
I’m a Lamborghini fast and cool
I’m not a slugbug
Slow and junky
People don’t understand
I like me for me
You can’t change me
into who you want me to be.

Jeralyis, 6th Grade
Artemus Ward School

Meet the Artist:

LaSaundra Robinson is an artist that paints women. She works mostly in oil and acrylic on wood panels or canvas. The process starts with finding a face that calls to her. LaSaundra’s work is about finding yourself and being comfortable in your own skin. She feels a lot of people hide their true selves and stereotypes keep us from reaching our true potential. LaSaundra uses portraits of women and flowers, along with line, color, and pattern to help express her ideas. If you make it through the maze of fears and doubts we all have, you can transform into whatever you want. LaSaundra’s more recent abstract portraits are about the strength and beauty of black women, letting their inner light come through. She wants to make paintings that allow you to feel the person you want to be.
Annoying Pets

Pets bug you when you sleep
When you want them to be quiet and not make a peep
They eat like a big storm
But they play in a different form
They smell gross from the rain
But feel soggy like wet lion’s mane
They roll around in the grass
But sometimes they’re a sassafras
They get slobber all over you
And scare you like barking Boo!
They make messes all over the house
And they are never quiet like a mouse
They bark when someone is at the door
When they don’t know who or what it’s for
they beg you when they want a treat
Like their proud of their stinky paw feet
Now you know what it’s like to have a pet
Do you still want one?

Meet the Artist:

Danielle Rueger-Miroewski is a Cleveland-based illustrator/designer who specializes in the cute, fun, and colorful. When she’s not working, she’s out in nature, traveling somewhere new with her husband, or playing with her pets.

Mia, 4th Grade
Holy Family Catholic School
American girls are picky, we are grown. 
We rock so you better watch out because we are coming out!
We rise like a butterfly because we are queens.
If we rise like a butterfly, you cannot lose cause we rise that’s why.
We are not afraid we believe in who we are, we have faith.
American girls are brave
American girls are royal and loyal.
American girls go hard every day.
We are not afraid cause we are brave.
Some American girls get picked and bullied on. We still stand up with them even though we are afraid.

Core Girls Team
Albert Bushnell Hart Elementary School

Meet the Artist:

Kinsey Sandford always loved art since a child, as she honed her craft she really started to enjoy drawing portraits of people and from there, animals and then nature. Kinsey thinks our world provides enough unique beauty to create from and that’s what really inspires her when she sits down to draw. She loves color and will use as much as possible. She keeps things simple and true to form because every imperfection in this world is complete perfection in her eyes.

KINDSEY SANDFORD
Queen Digital Illustration 18” x 12”
Meet the Artist:

Justin Seeker is a local woodworker. He loves turning wood that would normally be discarded into something beautiful and/or functional. Recently he’s begun turning wood into bowls and other rounded shapes which has been a really therapeutic and rewarding addition to his craft!

Untitled

American girls are picky, we are grown.
We rock so you better watch out
cause we are coming out!
We rise like a butterfly because we are queens.
If we rise like a butterfly, you cannot lose cause
we rise that’s why.
We are not afraid we believe in who we are,
we have faith.
American girls are brave!
American girls are royal and loyal.
American girls go hard every day.
We are not afraid cause we are brave.
Some American girls get picked and bullied on.
We still stand up with them even though we are afraid.

Core Girls Team
Albert Bushnell Hart Elementary School
**My World**

My world is a good place
My world is a magical place
My world is everything you ever wanted

You can have anything you want
As long as you are in my world!

This a place where you can be anything
This is a world where nobody
And I mean nobody
Nobody can tell you who you are gonna be
Or will be

Come be in my world!
Try it out...
... and you’ll see!
That my world is
A great
Place!

Mary, 4th Grade
Marion C. Seltzer School

**Meet the Artist:**

Jordan Serpentini loves to inspire and help others get in tune with that endless world of inner creativity. “Sky's the limit this lifetime around, and a more beautiful world is here for us all to enjoy when we work together and ask how we can serve.” She most gratefully does her best to put fun first and see where the wind takes her. Jordan Serpentini, aka Stella Lumina has been into art since the beginning of her life and has since only expanded art off the canvas and into the ethers. She paints her life one affirmation at a time. “I am so grateful for Mary and Inspired Art for this beautiful opportunity.”
Dark Dreams

Surrounded by water, deep in the ocean
Closed in with thoughts, getting deeper into the ocean
I feel a sudden Heat and Fear in my body
I slowly open my eyes to see nothing
I try to move but I’m stunned
I stay there still for a few moments
Then look again
To see a Big Grey and White cold blooded fish
with large sharp scary teeth
I was confused on what it was
until I realized it was a SHARK!
I suddenly started Panicking
when I realized it hasn’t tried to eat me
I got very confused and closed my eyes to think
I attempt to move again
But Swim upwards and it works
I swim up to the surface when I see someone in the distance
but it was my Great-Grandmother
which is weird because she isn’t here anymore
She comes up to me
I get Confused, Happy, Sad then start crying
then we hug
and that’s when I wake up from this Scary, Sad Amazing Dream.

Meet the Artist:

Emily Splain is inspired by the world around her whether it be plants, animals or the human race. She uses a lot of mythology, fantasy and folk stories in her work.
My Beautiful Tree

Roots, air, water and the beginning of life
The necessity of life.
Something that keeps us together and alive, a tree.
You as the tree, could be the leaves, wood, branches, roots, but most of all love.
Everyone has a family tree with many layers.
Like us, some people may try to cut you down.
DON’T LET THEM!
For we live for eternity in the land of God,
Remember don’t fall,
My STRONG, BRAVE, BEAUTIFUL TREE.

Kiera, 4th Grade
Holy Family Catholic School

Meet the Artist:

Dawn Tekler earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from The Cleveland Institute of Art with a major in Photography and a minor in Video and Film History. She currently resides in Cleveland, Ohio and you can visit her gallery at 78th Street Studios. Dawn Tekler is drawn to the idea of encasing the subject, so it can be studied at a later date. This is a theme that is carried over from her voyeuristic approach to photography. Dawn Tekler was initially drawn to document the scene or subject matter, but did not find the final presentation in traditional photographic form satisfactory. Wanting more out of the work, she started investigating the deconstruction of the photograph adding various collage material and encaustic wax. Her more recent work is devoid of the photo and focuses on pushing the limits of the wax while exploring color and texture to convey the story.
Dark Dreams

Surrounded by water, deep in the ocean
Closed in with thoughts, getting deeper into the ocean
I feel a sudden Heat and Fear in my body
I slowly open my eyes to see nothing
I try to move but I’m stunned
I stay there still for a few moments
Then look again
To see a Big Grey and White cold blooded fish
with large sharp scary teeth
I was confused on what it was until I realized it was a SHARK!
I suddenly started Panicking when I realized it hasn’t tried to eat me
I got very confused and closed my eyes to think
I attempt to move again
But Swim upwards and it works
I swim up to the surface when I see someone in the distance
but it was my Great-Grandmother
which is weird because she isn’t here anymore
She comes up to me
I get Confused, Happy, Sad then start crying
then we hug
and that’s when I woke up from this Scary, Sad, Amazing Dream.

Meet the Artist:

Christina Turner is an artist and writer living and working in Ohio. Her abstract paintings explore color, structure, and relationships between forms. When Christina isn’t drawing, she’s reading. She works at a public library because there’s no place else she’d rather be, except maybe out on a trail or home with her cats.

Nyla, 6th Grade
Warner Girls Leadership Academy
Photo Will be Available on Auction Site: InspiredArt2021.givesmart.com

Meet the Artist:

Shawny Walthaw is an illustrator from Cleveland that specializes in traditional and digital art.

Girls that Rule!

Flipping turning round and round
Twisting turning hear that sound

Cartwheels jumps, splits in the sky
that’s the way to hurt your thighs

We push through as girls that rule
Gymnastics, gymnastics is what we do

Not being flexible is not our way
Like rubber bands we stretch and spring into place
Being number one is our motto, that’s the way we roll!

Las ninas de buhrer son mumero!
The Buhrer girls are number one!

Core Girls Team
Buhrer Dual Language Academy
**Aliens**

Have you ever felt like you don’t belong?  
An alien straight out of Area 51  
Always being watched and tested  
Wanting to escape

Aliens

The feeling that someone is going to  
Find out what we really are someday.  
The truth.  
Someday, somehow they will.

Aliens

We feel lonely and different every day.  
Not sure of what’s on the inside of us,  
Adults assume we don’t belong here.

Aliens

It is said we are scary  
But,  
They judge us before they know us  
Fear of the unknown

Aliens

They kill them  
They kill us  
They steal us  
Away from our homes and families  
Abuse us and mistreat us.

Aliens

Always being watched and tested  
Wanting to escape  
Where would we go?  
Where do we belong?  
Feeling powerless and hopeless  
Aliens aka us.

Meet the Artist:

David Whiteman’s work is about allowing chance and organic origins to inspire more controlled and planned actions. Color and line are meant to bring a meeting of both abstract marks and potentially recognizable imagery.
Earth is Changing Around Us

Roses are red,
Violets are not.
The Earth is a sunflower,
Because it’s getting very hot.

Our air is full of sewerage,
Our water is turning green,
Our fish are eating garbage,
Why aren’t we doing anything?

Our oceans have oil,
And plastic, too.
Our trash is in the soil,
What are we supposed to do?

Animal cruelty is changing our Earth,
Killing all the lions and tigers and bears,
Too many animals in a death trap since birth,
But we can’t find anyone who cares.

Save the animals, save the turtles please,
So all the animals can be at ease,

And save us, your children, too,
So we can grow up in a world where flowers
can bloom,
Because if the bumblebees go extinct,
We will, too.

Meet the Artist:

Mark Yasenchack thinks of the glazed tesserae as
gemstones, their color bright and shiny against the flat
muted surface of the unglazed field clay tiles. Often
tight ordered patterns in the stamped texture are
disrupted with the addition of the random glazed
details and dots. Experimentation with this process
yields unique batches of tiles, their individuality
unrepeatable. Currently, Yasenchack concentrates
on shape as much as surface embellishment of the
tiles, each batch or collection a shape to find a spe-
cial place for in a mosaic. The clay tesserae and tiles
are combined with glass, stone, metal and other
found elements. He uses the direct method to piece
together these mosaics.

Middle School Team
Artemus Ward School
A Feis Day with Maeve

I am a Irish Dancer
It’s time for me to compete
As I enter into the ballroom
I hear the bangs of my hard shoes on my feet
I smell grape hairspray Mom put in my hair
I see shimmering bright dresses
I see my friends over there
I taste sweat on my lips
From practicing so hard
I feel nervous and excited
I hope I earn an award.

Maeve, 4th Grade
Holy Family Catholic School

Meet the Artist:

Stephen Yusko’s studio is located in Cleveland, OH, where he creates forged, machined and fabricated steel vessels, furniture and sculpture. Yusko has taught at several schools and universities, including Haystack School of Crafts (ME), Penland School of Crafts (NC), and SUNY Purchase, where he was a Windgate Artist-in-Residence; and served on the Board of Trustees for the Haystack School. He has exhibited his work widely including the Metal Museum (TN) and the Ruthin Craft Centre (Wales, UK) and has received three Ohio Arts Council Individual Artist Excellence Awards and a Cuyahoga County Creative Workforce Fellowship Award.
Black Lives Matter

We need to stop all this foolish stuff
I’m done, we need a change
We have the right to protest about our skin
Because you know nothing
Stops without a war or a fight
So we need to change and these people are dying
Because of their skin color
This needs to stop
If you have no noticed
But people are suffering
Because they die
Because of the color of their skin
People are people
And other kinds have shed their blood for us
And we know we have the right to protest
go out there and protest
Because you have the right
So let’s raise our hands and protest
Black Lives Matter, Protest of the People!!

Naomi, 4th Grade
Campbell Elementary School

Meet the Artist:

Brooke Zelwin is a freelance graphic designer and illustrator living in Northeast Ohio. After earning a BFA from Rhode Island School of Design in 2001 she worked as an in-house designer for Hallmark, Bonne Bell Cosmetics and Limited Too/Justice. Today her clients run the gamut from political campaign art for State Representative Phil Robinson to marketing and event invitations for the National Council of Jewish Women. This is the third time she has participated in Inspired Art and she enjoys the opportunity to create original artwork to compliment the poetry written by gifted poet-athletes.
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