

# ART TO ART

## PGCPS Visual Arts Newsletter



### An Artist's Statement: Robert Wesley

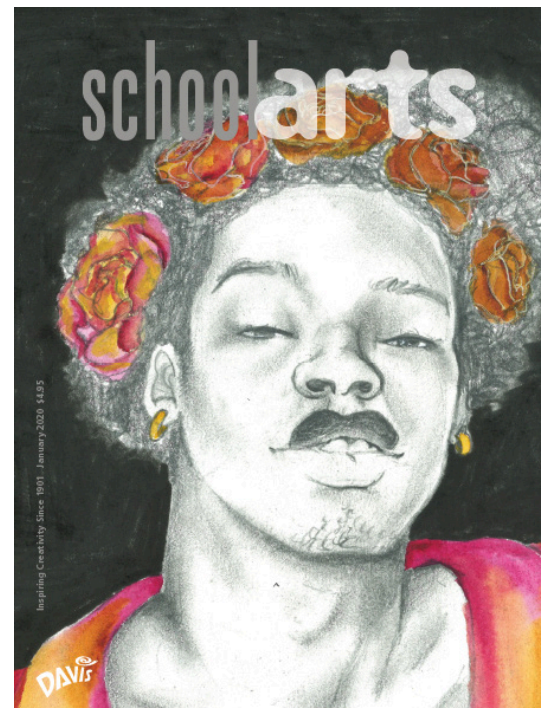
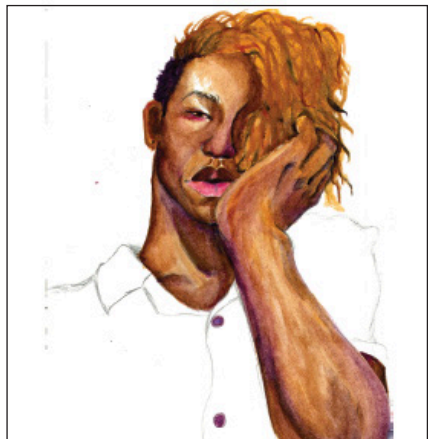
"I have always been captivated by the art of storytelling; whether that be through a good book, TV series, movie, music, etc. All art is about telling a story and I love a good story! I tend to be a shy, quiet, and reserved person, but I'm free to be whoever I want to be when I am creating my art. Picasso said something that rings so true for me: 'Art washes away from the soul the dust of everyday life.' Art is an escape for me. I'm not one of the 'cool kids,' but when I'm drawing I feel like I am ten feet tall—nothing can touch me! In the book, *No Man is an Island*, Thomas Merton spoke my very personal feelings when he said, 'Art enables us to find ourselves and lose ourselves at the same time.' When I create my art, I am telling my story. But what I create is such that, when viewed, it is interpreted and internalized as the viewers' story; to me that is what good art should be/do. Art is my therapy."

—Robert Wesley, student at Maryland Institute College of Art

Clockwise from top-left: StarBoi. Kings. Three of a Kind. Summer Self-Portrait 2. Summer Self-Portrait. Images courtesy of the artist.

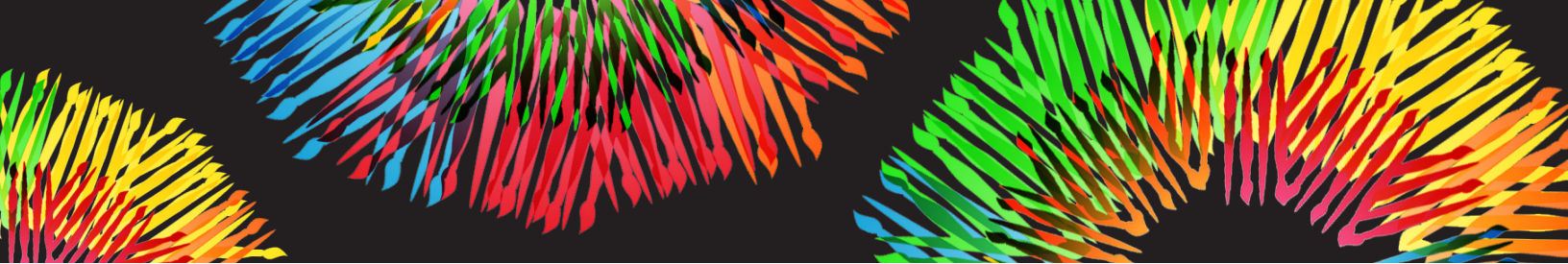
## Former Student Featured in *School Arts* Magazine

Robert Wesley, one of our former students from Oxon Hill High School will be on the cover of the January 2020 edition of the magazine, and will be featured in a Student Snapshot.



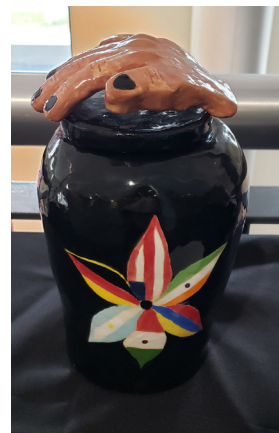
Inspiring Creativity Since 1901 | January 2020 | \$4.95

DAVIS



# 3D Art Show to Take Place at Bowie Center for the Performing Arts

The Reception is Wednesday, December 4, 2019, from 6:30 - 8 pm.



# PG 3D ARTS

SHOWCASE

## BOWIE CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

RECEPTION:  
DECEMBER 4, 2019

6:30PM  
TO

8PM

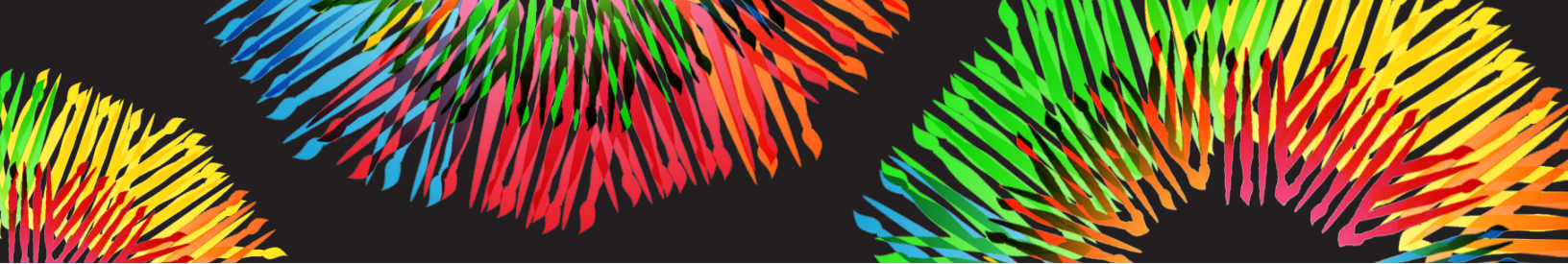
HOURS:  
MONDAY - THURSDAY  
DURING OFFICE HOURS  
OR 1 HOUR BEFORE ALL PUBLICIZED EVENTS.

15200 ANNAPOLIS RD.  
BOWIE, MD  
20715



FOR COMPLIMENTARY TICKETS TO THE RECEPTION VISIT  
[WWW.BOWIECENTER.ORG](http://WWW.BOWIECENTER.ORG)





## Arts Integration in Action Elizabeth Stuart Whitehead



*Sherly Euceda, grade ten. Using text to create an emotionally charged composition. Taught by Allison Richo, art department chair and art teacher at Oxon Hill High School in Oxon Hill, Maryland.*

The energizing sounds of jazz coming from a fifth-grade English Language Arts classroom pulls you in. Opening the door, you see that same energy buzzing as small groups of students engage in collaborative conversation, focusing on the task at hand. Suddenly, everyone falls silent as one student picks up a cardboard microphone to introduce the *Maniac Magee Poetry Radio Show Broadcast*.

A live “radio show” ensues, featuring theme songs curated by students, poetry and scripts written by students, and original songs composed and performed by students. The room breaks into applause as one young radio host raps about the theme of friendship in the assigned novel that is the focal point of all this creativity.

## The Arts Integrated Classroom

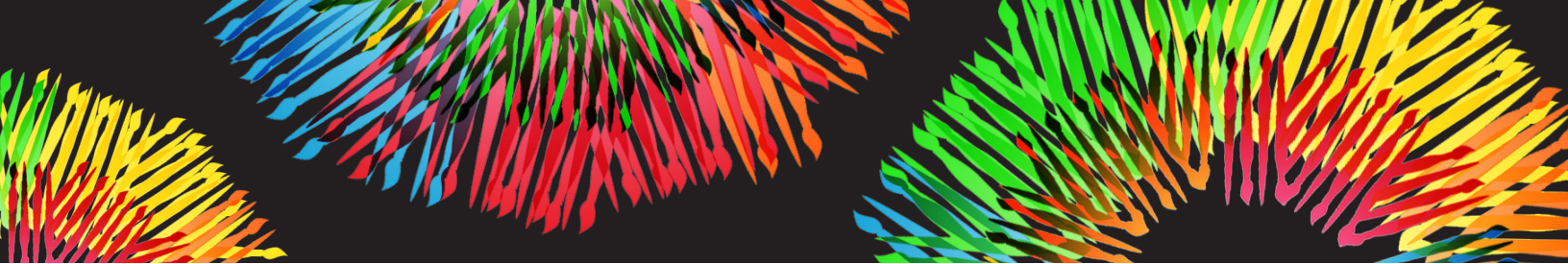
The high level of engagement and enthusiastic sense of accomplishment these fifth-graders display is an everyday occurrence in an Arts Integrated (AI) classroom. Imagine if every student in every school had access to this inspirational approach to learning. Prince George’s County Public Schools (PGCPS) in Maryland believes this is possible and is well on our way to making it a reality.

In PGCPS, arts integration does not replace the arts instructors. Arts skills and content are organically incorporated in other curriculum areas, including science, French and Spanish immersion, social studies, reading/English Language Arts, and math. Instruction is taught in and through the arts, based on clear instructional standards in both content areas. Assessments should demonstrate learning in both art and nonart concepts. Through professional development and support from arts supervisors and other artists, our schools are using AI in different ways: whole school, grade level, content level, and interdisciplinary.

## Prince George’s County

Located in Maryland, Prince George’s County is adjacent to Washington, DC. PGCPS is one of the nation’s 25 largest school districts and the second largest school system in Maryland. Currently, there are 132,000 students, 209 schools, and our demographics are

*Continued on page 4*



## Arts Integration

*Continued from page 3*

58 percent Black or African American, 33 percent Hispanic/Latino, 4 percent White, 3 percent Asian, 0.4 percent American Indian/Alaska Native, 0.2 percent Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, 16 percent ESOL, and 64 percent Free and Reduced Meal Students (FARMS).

In 2013, when Dr. Kevin Maxwell became CEO of PGC, he created a goal and vision to bring AI to the school system. The desire was for AI strategies to be used as an approach to teaching in all 209 schools. He appointed the nation's first-ever AI officer, John Ceschini. Supervisors from all five arts disciplines, instructional specialists, resource teachers, and teaching artists support the county's growing AI program.

Ceschini and his staff designed a systemic rollout plan, piloting fifteen schools in year one and increasing to eighty schools in year five. Not only is AI being used in these schools, but the number of arts teachers and various arts disciplines in the school system are increasing as well.

### Implementation

How was AI implemented on such a large scale? It was important to create a system of support with specific measurable steps for potential AI schools. The principals of these schools signed a letter of intent detailing the responsibilities of the AI office and the school's commitment to additional responsibilities.

In PGC, educators and students in the individual schools are using AI strategies. They share the belief that AI is an approach to teaching and learning that strengthens student achievement and motivation by encouraging teachers to explore new ideas, take risks, promote opportunity for student choice, and differentiate based on student needs.

AI training opportunities include extensive professional development sessions and lesson or unit planning support. Every school participating in the initiative designates an AI lead teacher who serves as the liaison between the school and central office, as well as heads the school's professional learning community and organizes school-wide events.

### A Model Program

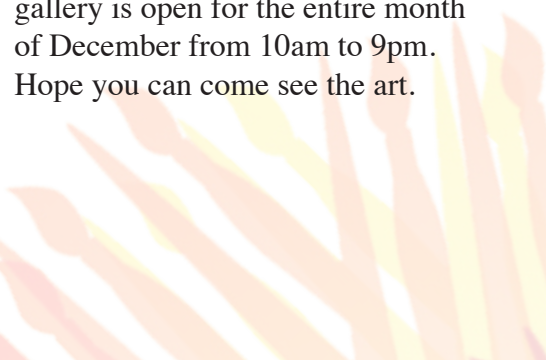
PGCPS recognizes that, for arts integration to succeed, arts experts in each school building are essential. We believe that this is the largest arts integration effort made nationwide. The PGCPS AI initiative serves as a showcase and roadmap for the large-scale systemic implementation of AI. Passion for the use of AI strategies systemically arose from the vision of creative, collaborative spaces where all children have access to teaching and learning in and through the arts, and all students have multiple pathways for success.

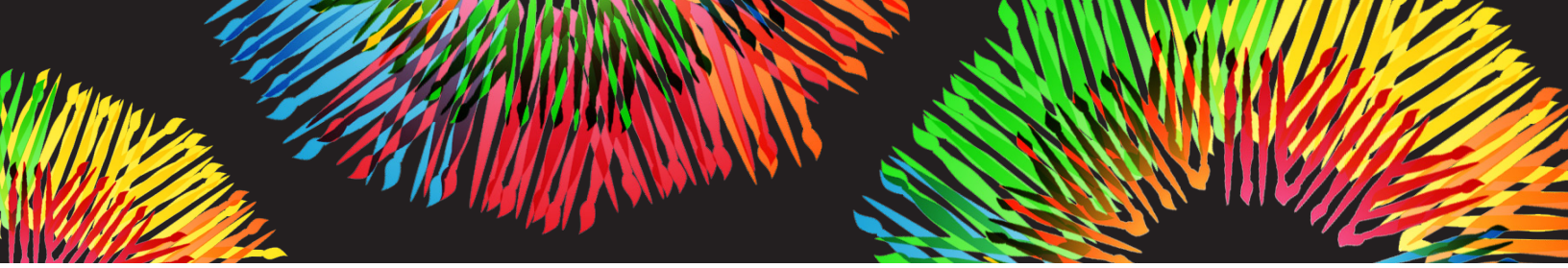
I'd like to thank the many contributors to this article: Dr. Kevin Maxwell, John Ceschini, Anita Lambert, Dr. Amy Rosenkrans, Marlo Castillo, and Erin Barnhart.



## Art opening at Union Station

Fylis Peckham art teacher at Chilum Elementary and Berwyn Heights Elementary Schools who teaches over 800 students is having an art exhibit exhibit at Union Station in DC. She will be exhibiting her hand dyed silk scarves and acrylic paintings. and Judaica. The grand opening party bash will be on Sunday December 1 from 10am to 9pm. Union Station 50 Mass Avenue NE. The gallery is called Love All Serve All. It is located on the second floor near the escalators. Other participating artists will have jewelry, sculptures, cutting boards, candles, vintage clothing, hip hop clothing, and more. She will be there and hope you and your friends and family can be there as well. The gallery is open for the entire month of December from 10am to 9pm. Hope you can come see the art.





## Woodstock Arts Integration Mural

Jennifer Acree

Dora Kennedy French Immersion middle school students created a hall collage mural of symbols, drawings, and paintings of Woodstock 50 (1969-2019) in October. Woodstock was a town in upstate New York where people came together for three days of art, peace, and music in August 1969. Students demonstrated an understanding of visual arts as an essential aspect of history and human experience (Visual Arts Standard 2.0). The presentation lesson, taught by art teacher, Jennifer Acree, integrated art with music, history, social studies, and English language arts.



## Maryland's Rethink Recycling Contest 2019

Heekyu Hong

Suitland High School Center for the Visual and Performing Arts students Tony Leal, Martina Barber, Casey Wehrman participated in the 2019 Maryland Rethinks Recycling Contest. Each of them placed and came home with half of the prizes out of all the schools participating in Maryland. They were amazing representatives for our school and CVPA is very proud to have such amazing hardworking students!



*Tony Leal won 2nd place craftsmanship and honorable mention from Maryland Recycling Network.*

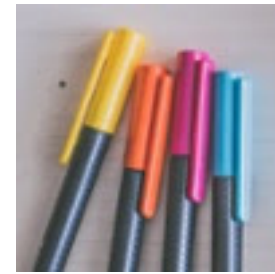


*Martina Barber won 1st place for creativity.*



*Casey Wehrman won 1st place craftsmanship.*

## Teachers Adopt Sketchnoting in Their Classrooms



Some educators are promoting a form of visual note-taking called sketchnoting, saying it can help

students better understand and process what they have learned in class. Fifth-grade teacher Rayna Freedman says most of her students continued sketchnoting in the year since introducing the idea as a one-month trial.

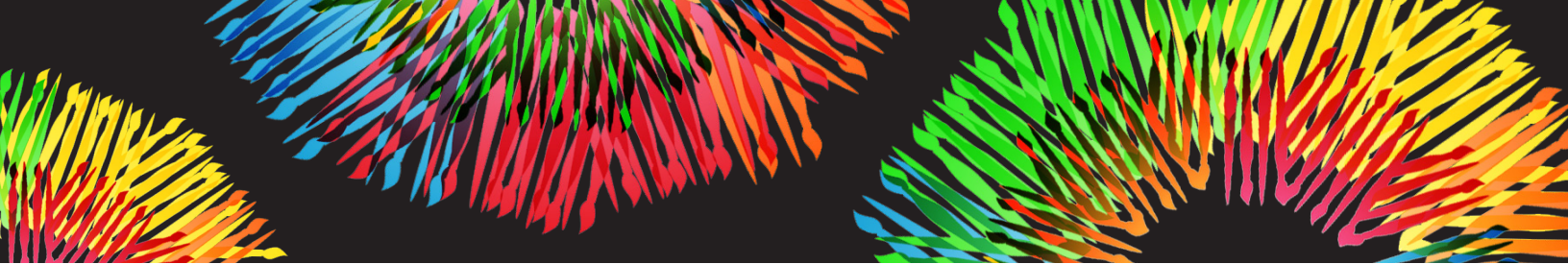
Read the full article <https://www.kqed.org/mindshift/54655/why-teachers-are-so-excited-about-the-power-of-sketchnoting>

## From the National Portrait Gallery: National Portrait Gallery Announces Teen Portrait Competition

Calling all artists ages 13 to 17 in the U.S. through Jan. 15, 2020!

The National Portrait Gallery's Teen Museum Council invites students to submit original portrait photographs to the Teen Portrait Competition. Two grand-prize winners will have their photos displayed in the museum

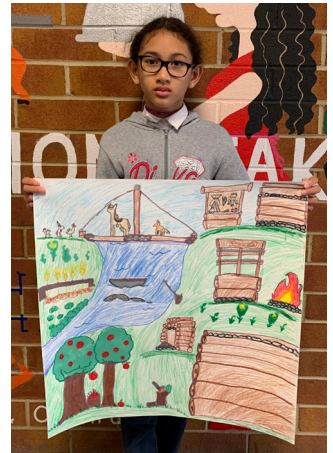
For complete details go to <https://npg.si.edu/learn/teens#PortraitCompetitionanchor>



## Museum Builders Program

**Joel R. Woodyear**

One of our esteemed art pupils at Frederick Douglass High School, Alexy-Alani Okie, grade 12, has been accepted into the National Gallery of Art’s Museum Builders Program. This program has approximately 12-15 students from area schools throughout the Washington/DC/Va metropolitan area, and serves as one of two representatives selected from Prince George’s and Montgomery County Public Schools.



## What Does “A Good Piece of Land” Look Like?

**By Barbara Joann Combs**

Gaywood Elementary’s 5th grade students, Jazmyn Aguielera, Jessica Goldsen, Estefania Resendiz, Jessica Romero, and Alfred Turay gave their visual interpretation to the theme, “A Good Piece of Land”. ‘A good piece of land means it needs to be preserved and not destroyed by other people. People feel free and can build things within nature. The land has many natural resources to be used by others.’ was the students’ collaborative artist statement for their individual works.



The call for artists came from the non-profit, The International Fiber Collaborative, that promotes global collaborative public art and working together. The students’ artwork will be displayed at George Washington Birthplace National Monument, VA, January 1 – May 31, 2020.



# Maryland Stem Festival Art Contest Winners

By Nyah Harkless

Two students from Oxon Hill Middle School participated and placed in the 2019 STEM Festival Art contest. The artwork was on display November 3rd-10th at the Goddard Space and Flight Center Visitors Center.



**Artist: Anatastacia San Antonio**  
**“Untitled” Stem Art Photo**  
**2nd Place Winner**  
**Grade: 8th**  
**School: Oxon Hill Middle School**  
**Category: Middle School Digital Art**



**Artist: Sofia A. Deang**  
**Title: “Homesick”**  
**3rd Place Winner**  
**Grade: 7th**  
**School: Oxon Hill Middle School**  
**Category: Middle School Traditional Art**  
Description: POV from Apollo 11 members, whilst staring at commander Neil Armstrong, looking back on earth, mesmerized by the view. This artwork is connected to the space And Flight since this is entirely dedicated to the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 landing on the moon.

## This is YOUR Newsletter

Share your art news with other PGCPs Art Teachers.

- Did your school do a special installation or mural?
- Do you have an exciting collaborative project to share?
- Did you attend an art exhibit on your own or with your students?
- Are you showing your own art anywhere?\*
- Are your students showing their art anywhere?\*
- Is there an art event that you think others might like to attend?\*
- Or any other Art Teacher related stories you would like to share?

Please submit stories in a Google Document using the button below. Include photos in the document if you wish.

Please keep stories to a half page, single spaced, 12pt type. (Exceptions may be made for length if needed).

\*Keep the date in mind if your news has a deadline or specific time frame that may have passed by the time we distribute. Email Monique Connealy (monique.king@pgcps.org) to confirm newsletter deadline.

**CLICK HERE TO UPLOAD STORIES**