

ART TO ART

PGCPS Visual Arts Newsletter



Two student artists have been selected to represent PGCPS in The First Lady's Gallery.

Full story on page 5

NOT Everything Can Be About ME!

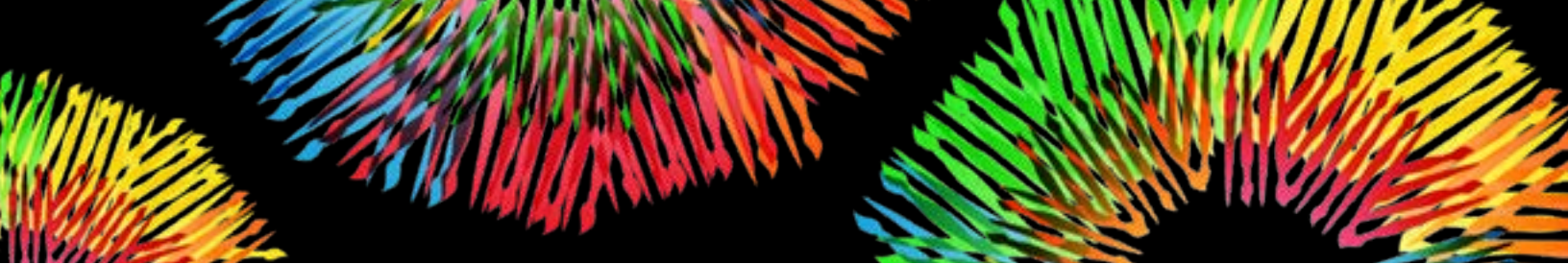
By Alicia K. Black

Crossland HS, Art 1

I walked into this school year with the same anxiety and concerns that most everyone had. How was this going to work? What would happen if I had a student who tested positive for COVID? What protocols and safety precautions has the county put in place to protect us all? How will my leave be charged if I myself become sick? You know ALL of the common adult concerns. I also had the added stress of sending my 3 children back to school as well. Having just lost my dad in April to COVID, the fear and anxiety of the unknown was gripping, yet I had no choice but to return. On top of all of this, I was also entering into a content area that I hadn't taught in 3 years, in a new building, without what had been my biggest support system.

Continued on page 2





On the first day that teachers returned, the excitement of seeing my new classroom was overwhelming. As I entered the door of what I would call my home for the next ten months and I looked around, I realized that the task of making this space my own would be anything but easy. I wanted to make sure that I preserved the integrity of what the teacher before me had done, while bringing my own signature and light to the space. I began to go through the materials and the student's work that had laid dormant since the beginning of the pandemic when I ran across a sketchbook. To this day, I am not sure what made me open the book, but I am so very glad I did. On the first page of the sketchbook the student had written the following,

"We HAVE A VOICE, Let US Be HEARD!" I couldn't imagine what the assignment was that evoked such emotion, yet even though it was just words on a piece of paper, It was SCREAMING, begging to be let out, understood, and validated. It was at this point that I decided, this year CANNOT be about my fears, it CANNOT be about my anxiety, or

my personal feelings on any topic that the county has mandated for us to tackle. "THIS YEAR", had to be about MY STUDENTS!

With that in mind, I began to mat and frame the amazing artwork that I found, secretly hoping that the artist wouldn't return to claim their works, yet ready to relinquish with grace my new found spoils of victory. The teacher before me, had led the students to do so many amazing things that I could not just let them sit on a shelf unviewed. This was the beginning of my journey to guide, support, and encourage my students this year to SPEAK LOUDLY, BOLDLY, AUDACIOUSLY, with conviction and BE who they are without concern for what the world or anyone else may think of them. I have decided to design each project

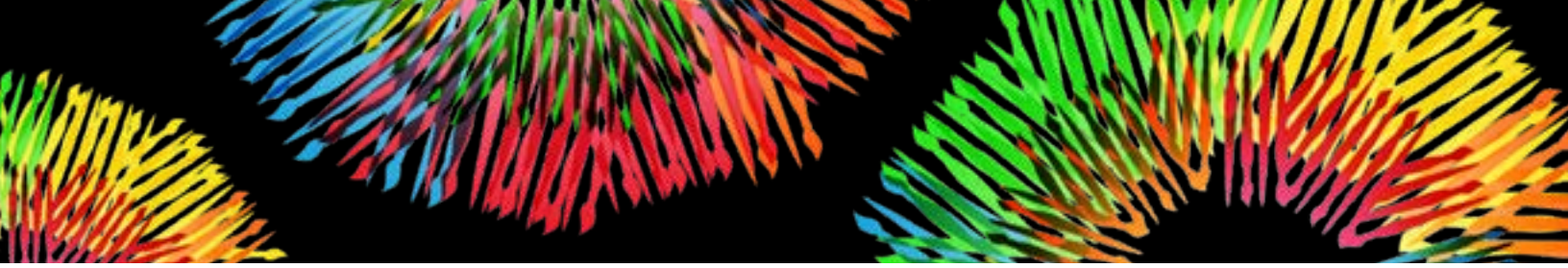


to give them a voice, to be able to express their views, their visions, their dreams, and their aspirations. If it is a landscape, it will be a place



that gives them peace. Their Self-Portrait Morphe will show the side of them that they show the world and the side that lives within. Their "Hand of Imagination" will hold those things that are most important to them. EVERYthing, even the skill lessons will be grounded in WHO they ARE! For me, my journey, my healing, my anxiety, my worries, this will be a year of "FIRST" seeking to understand, then respond. By truly listening to what my students have to say, I will then be able to help them navigate their fears, anxieties, and concerns. This is a "Safe Space" and who they are, who they really are MATTERS!

For the first day of school as my students and I embark upon a new adventure, a chapter yet to be written and a canvas yet to be adorned, I wrote the students quote on the board, "WE HAVE a VOICE, LET US Be HEARD!" Then I finalized it with, "This is YOUR YEAR, MAKE it AMAZING!"



Hispanic Heritage Month Projects

By Elena Gastón Nicolás

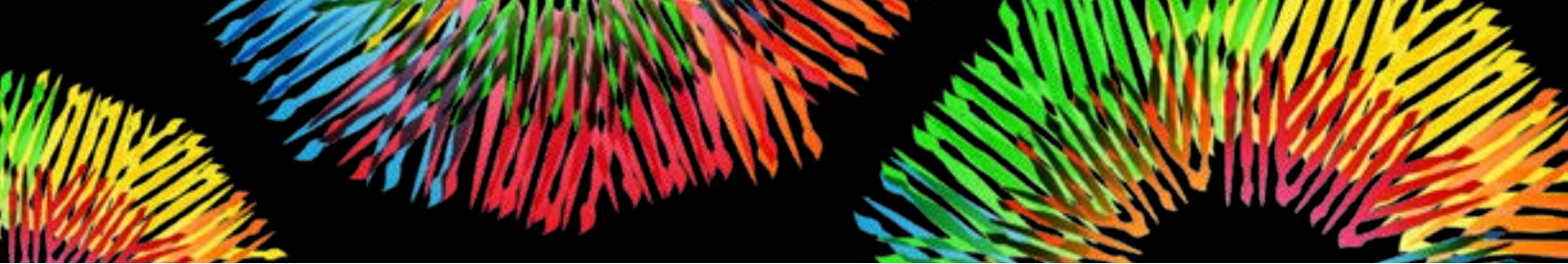
As usual in October, Phyllis E Williams SIES and Cesar Chavez DSIS have traveled all over the Spanish-speaking geography.

Some of the most striking works have been the experience we have had with the Kindergarten students making portraits of Frida Kahlo. The students have worked with skill and enthusiasm. It is impressive how the little ones can express their emotions with unusual freedom and creativity.

We have also been traveling along the “Camino de Santiago” in Spain. The idea comes from a course with Joan Ferrer, Technical Education Consultant at the Embassy of Spain. A Path open to cultural diversity, through the seven Major Arts: Architecture, Sculpture, Painting, Music, Dance, Literature and Cinema.

We have just started walking, but the final project is going to be part of an intercultural exchange experience with Spanish students.





CreateBAE

CreateBAE (Create Before Anything Else) Art Show

Join us for a creative experience featuring the DMV's leading artists and performers.

CreateBAE Art Show, in partnership with ArtBae, will feature over 15 art vendors, an open mic, notable poets, music, live painting and good vibes.

JUST ANNOUNCED: National Top-Ten ranked poet, Megan Rickman-Blackwood is the featured poet at CreateBAE Art Show!

Date: Saturday, November 13th 6-9:30PM

Tickets: \$15 in advance (advance ticket sales end Nov. 8; \$20 general admission)

Doors open at 6PM; Open Mic begins at 8PM.

Follow Creative Suitland and ArtBae on Instagram for updates!



One of Our Own! David Snipes is the elementary art teacher at Mt. Rainier Elementary. Congratulations David!

[Purchase Tickets!](#)

Gallery Underground in Arlington supports local artists

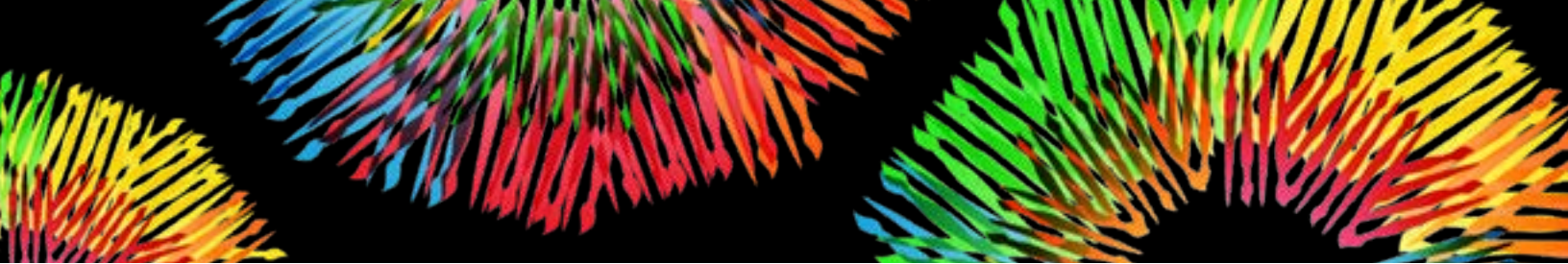


ABC News 7, Good Morning Washington's Kidd Around Town, featured Barry Barnett Keith's work in an article and video interview on October 15, 2021. Mr. Keith teaches art at both Mattaponi and Rose Valley elementary schools.

"ARLINGTON, Va. (7News) – Gallery Underground is a large light-filled art space that anchors the visual arts component of Crystal City's Art Underground.

For the month of October, artist [Barry Barnett Keith's art](#) will be on display. Please follow him on Facebook to see more of his work by [clicking here.](#)"

[Full Article and Video Available Here](#)



PGCPS in The First Lady's Gallery

We are pleased to highlight two student artists whose work has been selected to represent PGCPS in The First Lady's Gallery. This annual exhibition of student artwork from across the state of Maryland is sponsored by Yumi Hogan. First Lady Hogan herself is an artist and teaches at the Maryland Institute College of Art. She is an active supporter of the arts and strongly advocates for arts programs in schools across Maryland. The First Lady's Gallery is in collaboration with the Maryland State Arts Council and the Maryland State Department of Education, and located in the House of Delegates Office Building in Annapolis. The student art program features showcases every fall and spring.



Magly C.
11th Grade
DuVal High School



Daisy B.R.
Friendly High School
Teacher Patricia Ricks

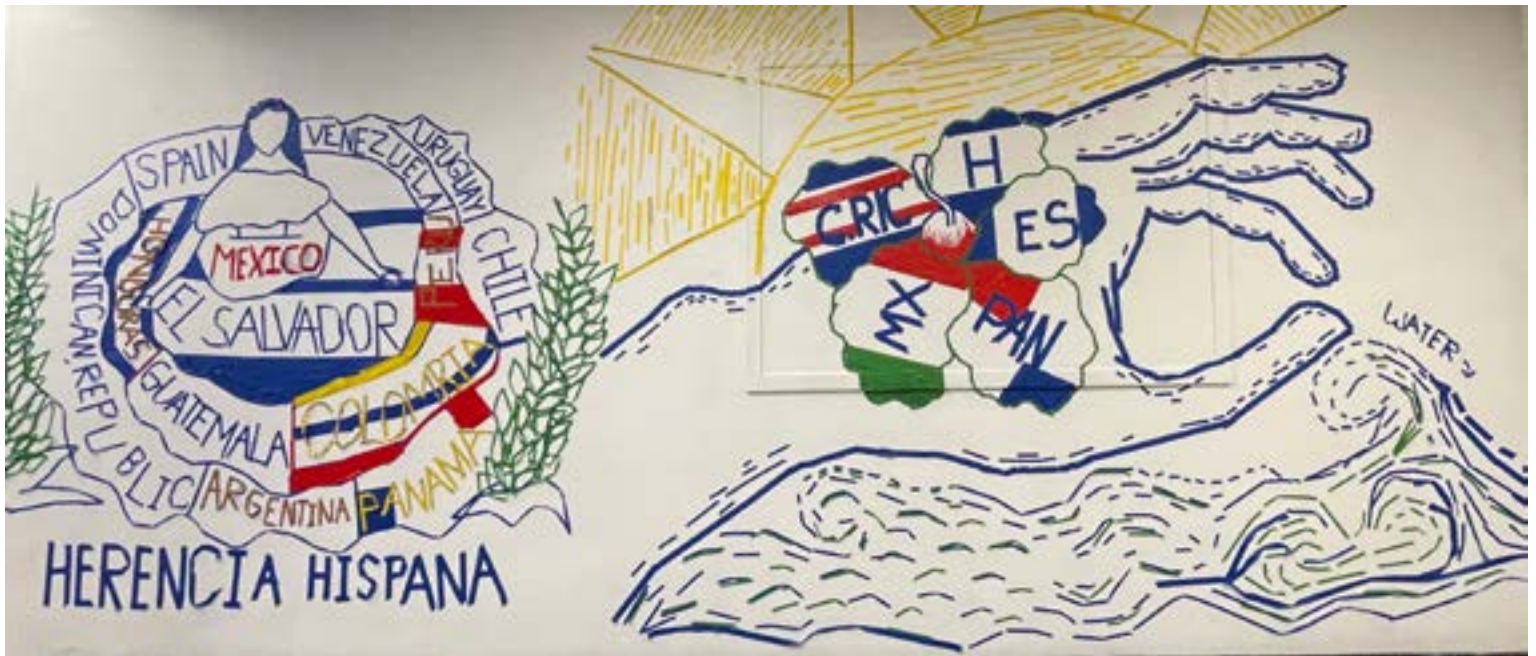
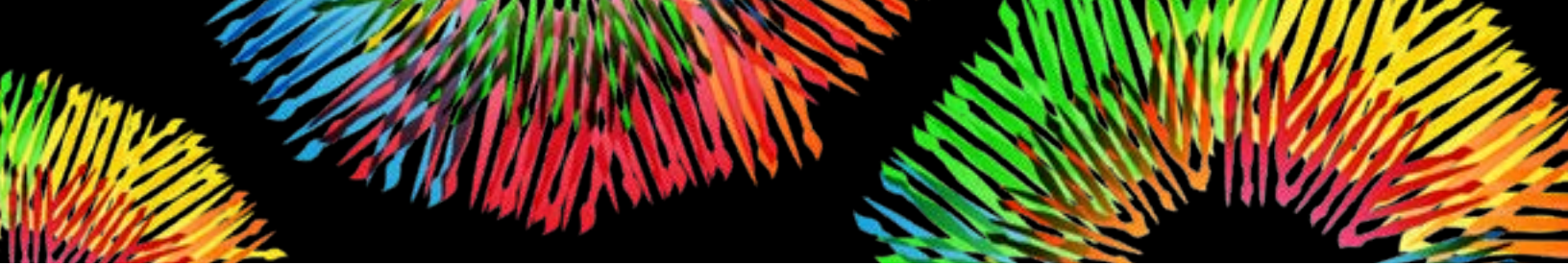


Esther U.
10th Grade
Laurel High School

Congratulations to Daisy B.R. from Friendly high school and her teacher Patricia Ricks. We would also like to congratulate Stephanie D.G. from Buck Lodge middle school and her teacher Allison Gragg.



Stephanie D.G.
Buck Lodge Middle School
Teacher Allison Gragg



Potomac Tape Mural

By Phaedra Byrd

After a year of distance learning Art, it is time to remind students, staff, and administration that ART HAPPENS HERE. I invested in PiktoTape from Davis Publication and duct tape in yellow, red, and brown for students to create a mural of their work.

The mural has been an overwhelming success. Students, Staff, and Administrators have a greater awareness of the process of creating artwork. Everyone was amazed that unexpected materials can be used to create art. Everyone has taken ownership of the space, wanting to remove items that block the view of the mural, preparing to protest its eventual removal but most satisfying is the connection that our Latino|X|E|@ students have.



Essay H.
Age 4
Glenarden Woods Elementary



Anahi B.
1st Grade
James McHenry Elementary

Youth Art For Healing

"Gifts of Gratitude"

By Erin Pond & Jessica Cone

Information included from: Jan Papirmeister
YAFH Executive Director

Charles Herbert Flowers High School had the opportunity to be a part of Youth Art For Healing's "Gifts of Gratitude" project that was introduced during the Pandemic. Flowers students created 24 paintings in the virtual environment and were able to have two students meet the healthcare workers that would receive their paintings. The video reveal was recently released and shows the impact students' art can have on the community.

Since the founding of Youth Art For Healing in 2012, they have partnered with over 50 schools in Montgomery County, Prince George's County, and Washington, D.C. Over 2100 talented student artists have created 1,664 healing works of art - 1,588 artworks for permanent installation in diverse healthcare environments and 76 Gifts of Gratitude paintings for frontline healthcare workers caring for patients during the Covid-19 pandemic.

After students complete this year's 203 paintings in March 2022, the total number of YAFH artworks created since 2012 will be 1,867. This includes 1,667 works of art for permanent installation in healthcare sites and 200 Gifts of Gratitude for frontline healthcare workers. We thank Youth Art for Healing for their partnership and support of our amazing artists!



Click [HERE](#) to watch the Gifts of Gratitude video or to watch the full 2021 YAFH Art Show click [HERE](#)

This is YOUR Newsletter

Share your art news with other PGPCS 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](#)