

# ART TO ART

## PGCPS Visual Arts Newsletter

### Countywide Art Exhibits Back in Person

By Elizabeth Stuart Whitehead

Back in person for the first time in three years, the North, Central and South Countywide art exhibits were packed! Thousands of works of art from early childhood, elementary, middle, and high school students were displayed in three locations around the county. The Visual Art Office would like to thank our collaborators, The Clarice Performing Arts Center at the University of Maryland, Prince George’s Community College, Harmony Hall art

Center, and the Prince George’s Arts and Humanities Council. We could not have pulled off three amazing exhibits without their help!



2023

### ART EXHIBIT

Prince George's County Public Schools

**North County**  
The Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center  
8720 Avenue Brown, University of Maryland, Prince George's Park MD  
On Display: May 2nd, 9am - May 23rd, 4pm  
Reception: May 20th 6:30-8pm

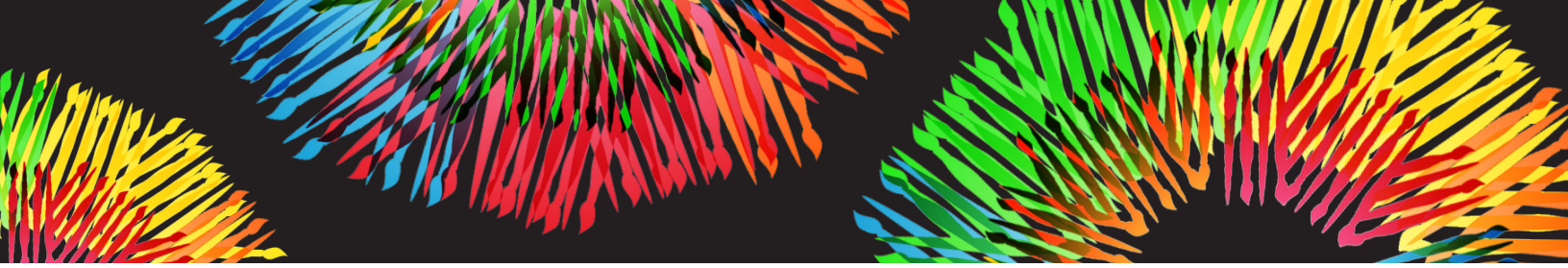
**Central County**  
Prince George's Community College Center for the Performing Arts  
801 Largo Road, Largo MD  
On Display: April 18th, 9am - May 4th, 9pm  
Reception: April 20th 6:30-8pm

**South County**  
Harmony Hall Regional Center  
10703 Livingston Blvd, Fort Washington MD  
On Display: May 18th, 9am - May 23rd, 7pm  
Reception: May 18th 6:30-8pm

PGCPS | UMD | PGC | CLARICE

Contact: [elizabeth.stuart@pgcps.org](mailto:elizabeth.stuart@pgcps.org)





## The Congressional Art Competition 2023

By Marie Rios

Each spring, a nation-wide high school arts competition is sponsored by the Members of the U.S. House of Representatives. The Artistic Discovery Contest is an opportunity to recognize and encourage the artistic talent in the nation, as well as in our Congressional District.

The Artistic Discovery Contest is open to all high school students in the Congressional Fourth District. The seat is represented by Democrat Glenn Ivey. The winning artwork of our district's competition will be displayed for one year in the U.S. Capitol. The exhibit in Washington will include the winning artwork from all participating districts from around the

country. The winning artwork is also featured on [House.gov's](https://www.house.gov) Congressional Art Competition page.

Jasmine Spencer won 1st place in Maryland's Fourth District, represented by Congressman Glenn Ivey.

"This artwork is based on photo realism, a genre of art that encompasses painting, drawing, and other graphic media, in which an artist studies a photograph, and then attempts to reproduce the image as photo realistically as possible in another medium. I was involved in the process as the photographer, the model, the lighting designer, and in the end, the painter. Combining photographic experimentation with my painting skills in such a direct way was new for me, as this was my first time attempting photo realism. The meaning behind the artwork was intended to be mostly up

to the viewers' interpretation. It could be perceived in a number of ways, for example, any meanings related to secrecy, observation, religion, etc. So, one could ask, is the artwork a window into my soul or yours?"

Jasmine is a senior at the Visual and Performing Arts Program at Suitland High School. They/Them is the National Art Honor Society Suitland HS Chapter President. Jasmine was awarded \$50,000 in scholarships to attend and is signed to Cleveland Institute of Art, in Cleveland, Ohio where Jasmine will study Drawing and Photography.

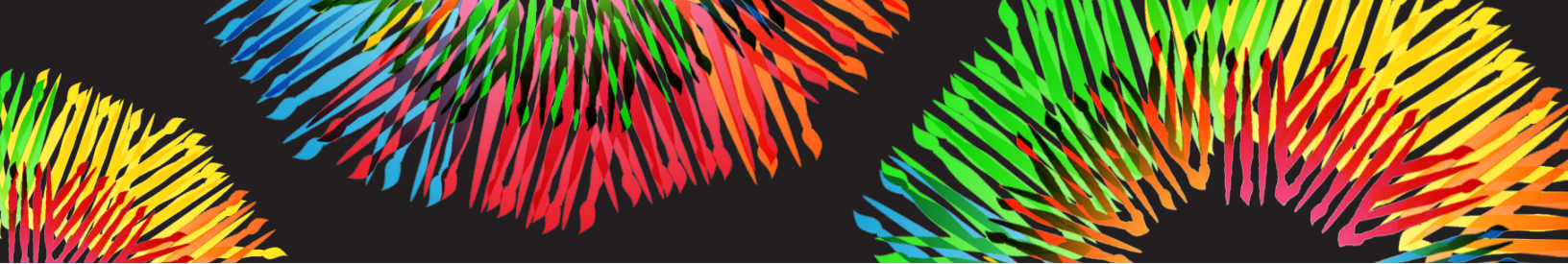


## Scholastic Art & Writing Awards

By Allison Richo

Hannah Magruder, grade 11 a student at Oxon Hill High School and member of the National Art Honor Society.

Regional Gold Key Winner and Scholastic Art National Gold Medal Winner, Hannah is the only student in Prince George's County Public School's to win this prestigious award and will receive her medal during the award ceremony on June 7, 2023 at Carnegie Hall in New York.



# Parkdale High School Fine Arts Showcase 2023

By Melvin Twine

Every year the Visual Art and Music teams come together and hold an end of the year event.

Due to covid we haven't been able to hold the event for a couple of years. So, it was great to see our student's showing off their talent.

Many of our parents attended and expressed gratitude for the event. We hope to continue with this event in the future and maybe expand it to twice a year.

"My boy had a tough couple of years. I'm so happy to see him smile again, thanks for the showcase."

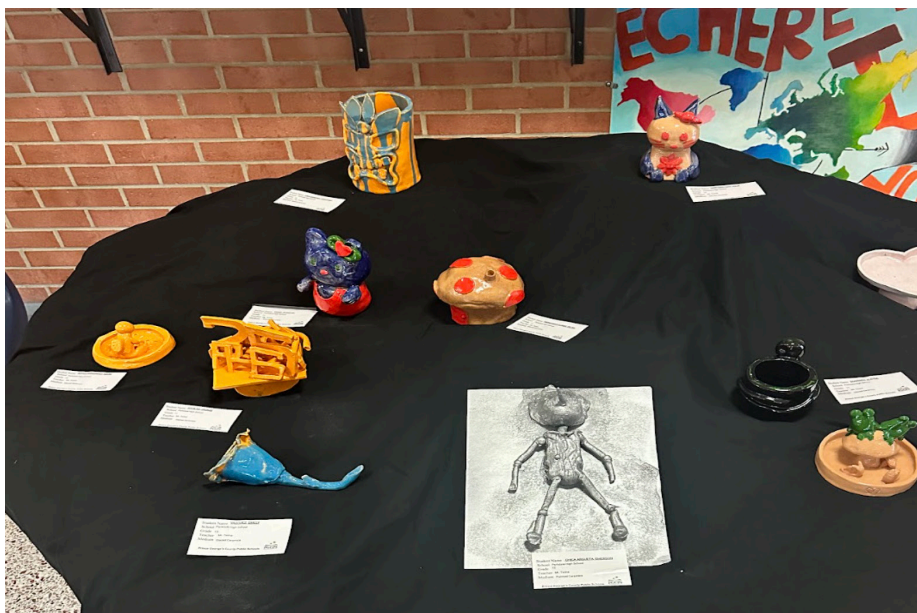
- Parent



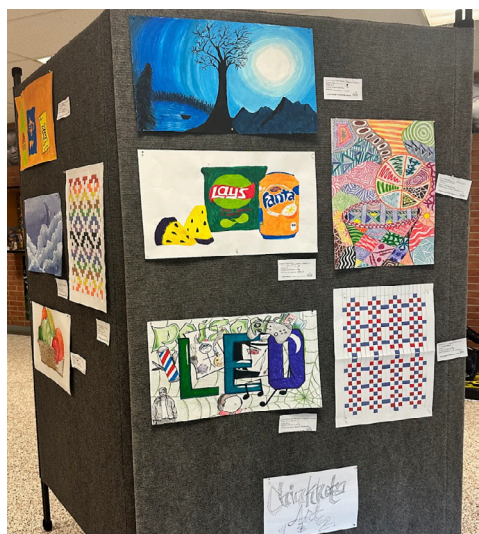
*Mrs. Jarvis-Garay's Art 1 & 2 class work.*



*Artwork from Ms. Chang's classes.*



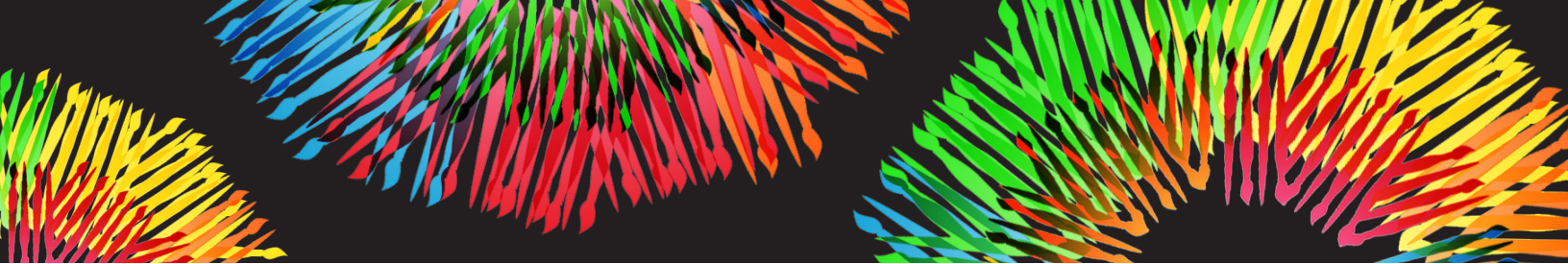
*Artwork from Mr. Twine's Ceramics class.*



*Artwork from Mr. Chinkhota's class.*



*Mr. Hairston's opening Musical selection.*



## Benjamin Tasker Middle Environmental Art Club Mural

By Amanda Huizar

This school year 6th and 7th grade students have been participating in an after school art program that focuses on collaborating and creating works of art using recycled

materials and art that depicts environmental awareness and protection. This mural has been made to reflect our club's beliefs, inspiration, and passions.



*Frida Khalo by 5th grade.*

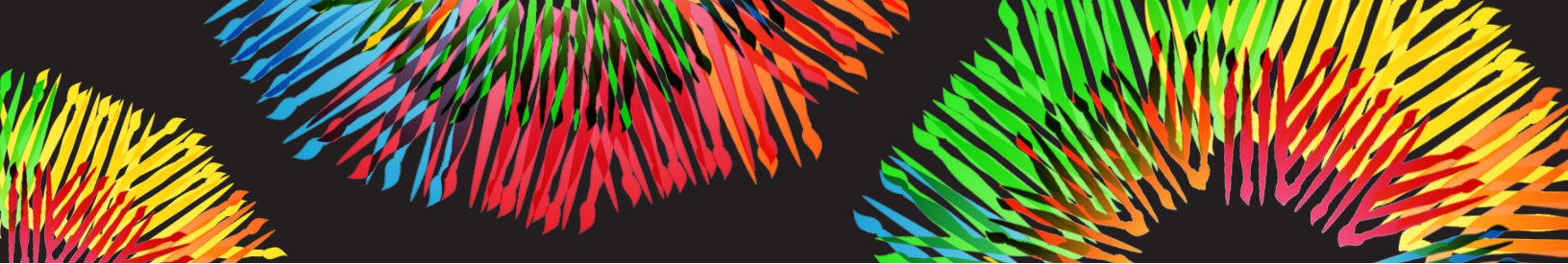
## Reflecting on My First Year Teaching Art in PGCPs

By Ms. Candrisse Watkins

As I reflect on my first year teaching art in the Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) system, I am proud of the progress I made teaching at both Magnolia Elementary School and Robert Frost Elementary School. Teaching at 2 schools simultaneously had its challenges but I am grateful for the experience to grow as an educator.

At Magnolia ES, I had the opportunity to work with many seasoned and distinguished educators who welcomed me into their school community. I also had the privilege of working with a diverse group of students who brought their unique perspectives and experiences to the classroom. We explored different art forms and techniques, such as painting, drawing, and sculpture, and digital. I encouraged them to

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express themselves creatively. I also served as the faculty advisor for student government. Working with the young leaders in the building was such a treat.

At Robert Frost ES, I focused on exploring the tools and supplies we had on hand and working with a wonderfully diverse student body. We created projects that showcased the different cultures and communities represented in the school. For Hispanic Heritage month we learned about Frida Khalo and Diego Rivera and for Black History Month we explored the artwork of Faith Ringgold, Jean Michel Basquiat & Alma Thomas. We also explored different art forms, such as collage, painting and sculpture. I encouraged students to experiment with new techniques and materials.

One of the highlights of my first year was entering pieces for my



*Collage by 1st Grade.*



*Name Writing and Character Creation by 1st Grade.*

students into the countywide exhibit. It was amazing to see the pride and joy in the students' faces as they saw their work displayed for their peers and families all over Prince George's county. I recall the joy and pride I felt sharing my work with family. They learned how much I really loved art and enjoyed making things. What a full circle chance to reconnect with my why I teach art!

As I prepare for my second year teaching art in PGCPs and 9th year in education, I am excited to continue building on the progress I've made. I plan to implement flexible seating in the art studio next year, fingers crossed it works out. I am so grateful for the opportunity to inspire the next generation of artists. I am also grateful for the support of the school community and the opportunity to share my passion for art with the students.



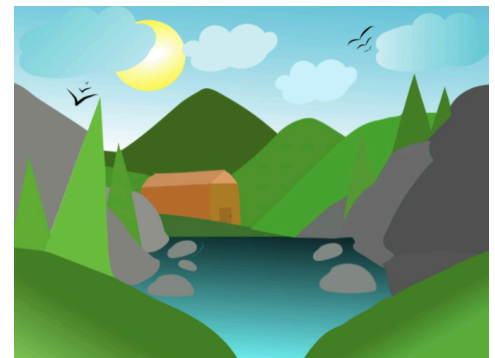
*Art Studio Agreement from the beginning of the school year, 400%.*



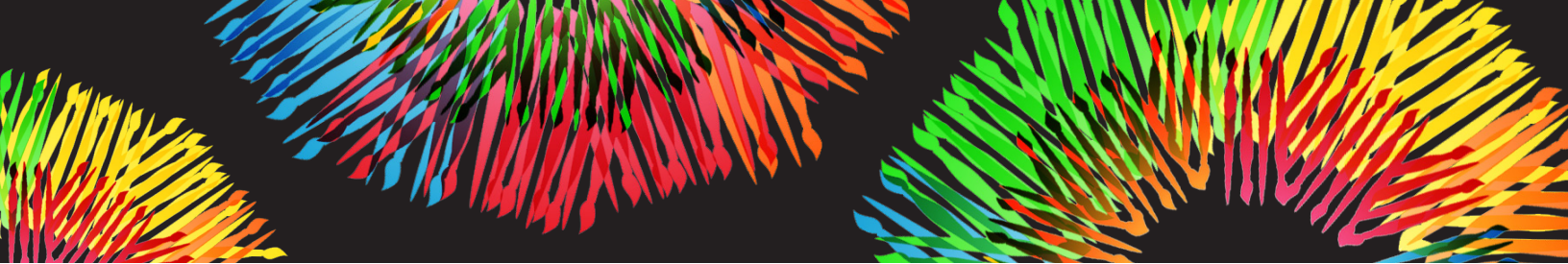
## High Point High School Digital Art Show

By Dave Wan

Hello everyone! For this year at High Point High School we have continued to do a digital show for our students, staff, and parents. We thought it would be wonderful if other art teachers in PGCPs would take a look at the show. The art show encompasses over 200 works of art with written art statements from each student. This art show was not only put together by teachers, but students as well! Some students have even customized their own panels to fit their unique artwork. [Here is a link to the show.](#) Hope you all enjoy the work!



*"Mountain View" using Adobe Illustrator, by Soneta Ly.*



## Sights and Sounds Gala

By Allison Gragg

It has been four years since Thomas G. Pullen Creative and Performing Arts Academy hosted our annual Sights and Sounds Gala. The Sights and Sounds Gala is a collaborative showcase between the Visual Arts department and Piano department at our school. During the first hour of the showcase, guests attend an art exhibition and view the student artwork on display in the hallways connecting to the main lobby of the building. The art exhibition featured artwork created by the Visual Art Majors. During the second hour of the showcase, guests attend “The Voices Within: Student Composition Showcase Recital”. This concert portion of the Sights and Sounds Gala, featured all original music created by the Piano Majors of Thomas G. Pullen.

“I am happy that our art is being displayed. I think that sometimes we are not noticed as much as the other majors at Pullen, so it is nice that other people can see our art.”

Talika Gorski, 6th grade Visual Art Major

“I won an award for Excellent Craftsmanship during the Sights and Sounds award ceremony. I feel happy that I finally reached my goals of improving my craftsmanship and it feels really good to be acknowledge by my teachers”

Aliyah Anthony, 6th grade Visual Art Major



*Guests viewing the art exhibit portion of the Sights and Sounds Gala at Thomas G. Pullen Creative and Performing Arts Academy.*

“During the award ceremony I was given the award for Outstanding Student Artist, and it feels great to be winning an award and being recognized for my artwork”

Amaya Santos, 6th grade Visual Art Major

In addition to our in-person art exhibition, I created an digitized exhibition catalog for the Sights and Sounds SY22-23 art exhibition, shared it with parents and family members who were not able to be in attendance. While we are striving to transition back to having every event in-person, having a way for families to be able to view the exhibition catalog online to experience the art exhibition in a different format.

“Thanks so much for sharing this! We could not make it tonight but love our child’s work that we never get to see! Much appreciated!”

- Proud parent



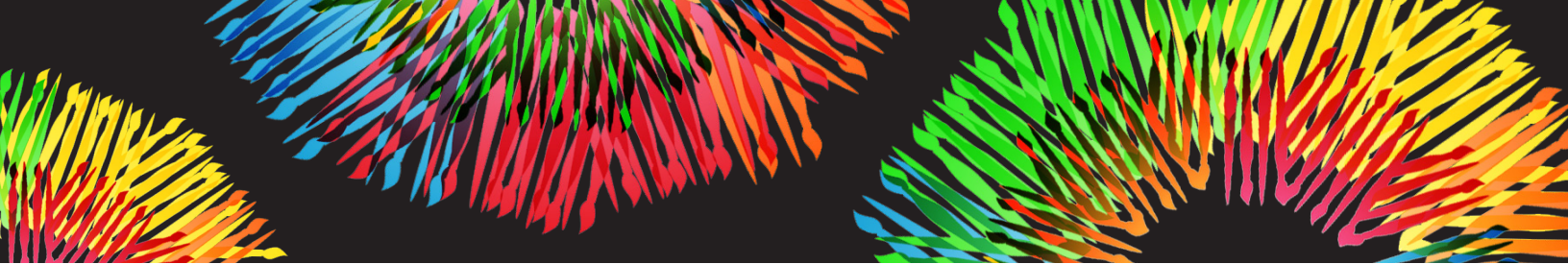
*Visual Art Majors being rewarded with a treat after the award ceremony and art exhibition.*

*Pictured: Christian Alexander, Isaiah Hawkins, Camdyn Gibson, and Korinne Jeter.*



*Vivien Halstead, Korinne Jeter, Eniafe Ajayi, Aliyah Anthony, and Amaya Santos after the award ceremony enjoying a treat!*

[View the Sights and Sounds Gala online exhibition catalog.](#)



## HHES Student Hits a Home Run with Her Baysox Jersey Design

By Carmen Berces

A “Field of Dreams” came true for Ruth Michaels, a fifth grade student at Heather Hills ES, who won the Bowie Baysox’s Jerseys design contest. Ruth credits her achievement to the Commercial Artist career awareness lesson taught by her Art teacher Carmen Berces, NBCT. Ruth got to throw the first pitch of Game 1 at the 29 April 2023 Double header. The team made a jersey for her too. Game-worn jerseys were auctioned off and the \$4,480 in proceeds were donated to HHES.

## Paper Mache Bowls

By Jennifer Conde

This year as an Art teacher I wanted to make the best use of my time and materials with the students. My school is closing and I noticed that it was hard to come by some materials for the students to create great artwork. I began researching art projects that could be made only using 1 sheet of paper. That is when I came across the idea to use one sheet of paper to make paper mache bowls. The students really enjoyed placing their hand inside of the 1 sheet of paper to create the shape of the bowl. They used tape to solidify the bowls for a strong armature. Then they added the paper mache. The students really enjoyed the process of painting the bowl, designing the bowl and the simple fact that one sheet of paper has so many possibilities.

Also the assignment allowed them to take functional art home.



*One sheet paper mache bowls.*



*Classroom collaborative art; Basquiat inspired mural.*

## Celebrating Art

### Fairmont Heights High School Regional/CRI Program

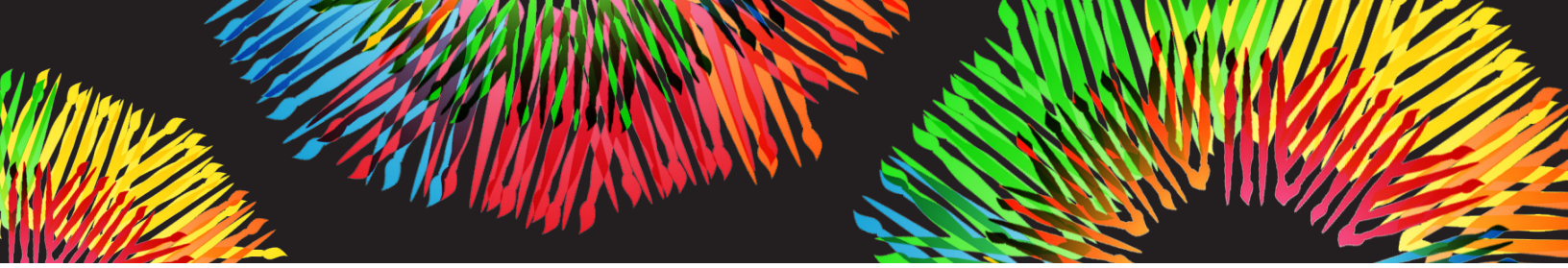
By Anne Vokes

Students in the Regional/CRI program at FHHS have been busy creating art to honor artists, nature and graduating seniors!

Artists in Ms. Bernardo’s class studied the life and art of renowned graffiti artist, Jean- Michel Basquiat and worked together to create a mural featuring Basquiat’s iconic crown and dinosaur images. Students had fun using mixed media, to include crayon, oil pastel, tempera paint and glue in this mixed media piece.

As a tribute to Arbor Day, students from each grade level used an array of art mediums to draw, paint and assemble landscapes that highlight several species of trees. Their work culminated in the production of the Regional/CRI Student Art Show,

*Continued on page 8*



*Continued from page 7*

which was celebrated alongside “Challenge Day.” Students were excited to pose for selfies next to their art. A “Senior Exhibit” featured artists graduating soon. This was a fantastic opportunity where students enjoyed sporting events, art, food and dance all in one day!

Another way students worked collaboratively to support their fellow students was to create floating lanterns for the Regional/CRI Senior Prom! Every artist in the program wrote a personal message to illuminate the success of their friends who are part of the graduating Class of 2023. They showed their love in a beautiful way!

We hope your spring has been filled with wonderful memories, just like ours!



*Dancing to Celebrate at the FHHS Regional/CRI Art Show.*



*“Amongst the Trees” FHHS Regional/CRI Art Show.*

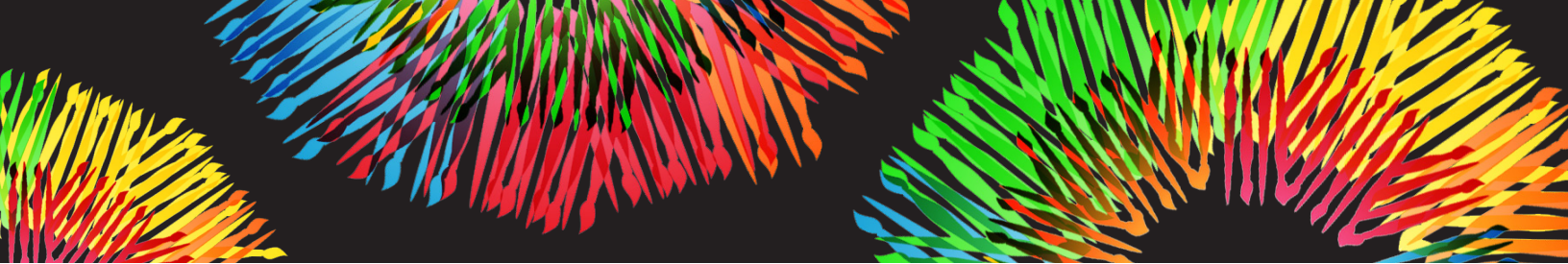


*FHHS Regional/CRI Art Show: Art by Graduating Seniors.*

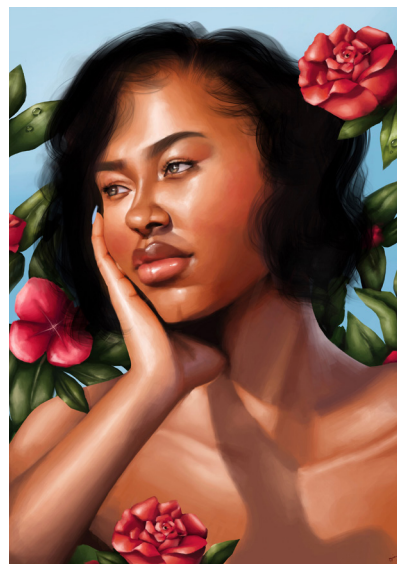


*Senior Prom 2023: Floating Lanterns above the City Skyline.*





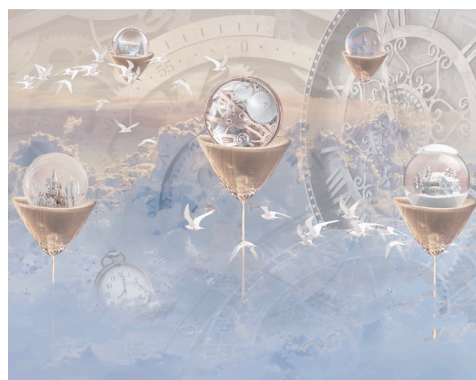
*Second place winner "The Him Within" acrylic painting by Eleanor Roosevelt junior, Hazel Hayashi.*



*Third place winner "Roses" digital painting by Eleanor Roosevelt senior, Ozioma Agoh*



*"Morning and Library" digital painting by Eleanor Roosevelt junior, Judy Chen.*



*"Timeless Realm" digital collage by Eleanor Roosevelt junior, Venus Liu.*



*"I am My Own Muse" painting by DuVal senior, Martinique Thornton.*



*Untitled drawing of hands by DuVal sophomore, Gabrielle Hart.*

## PGCPS Students Participate in Juried Teen Exhibit at Montpelier Art Center

By Monique Connealy and James Shindle

Six PGCPS student works were selected to be shown in the juried competition, "Artists on The Rise," a teen exhibit at Montpelier Arts Center in Laurel, MD.

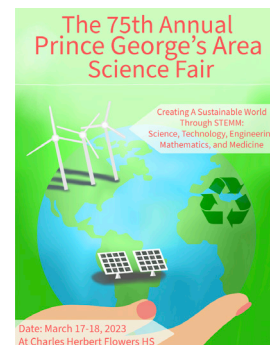
Hazel Hayashi, a junior at Eleanor Roosevelt High School won second place, and Ozioma Agoh, a senior at Eleanor Roosevelt High School won third place.

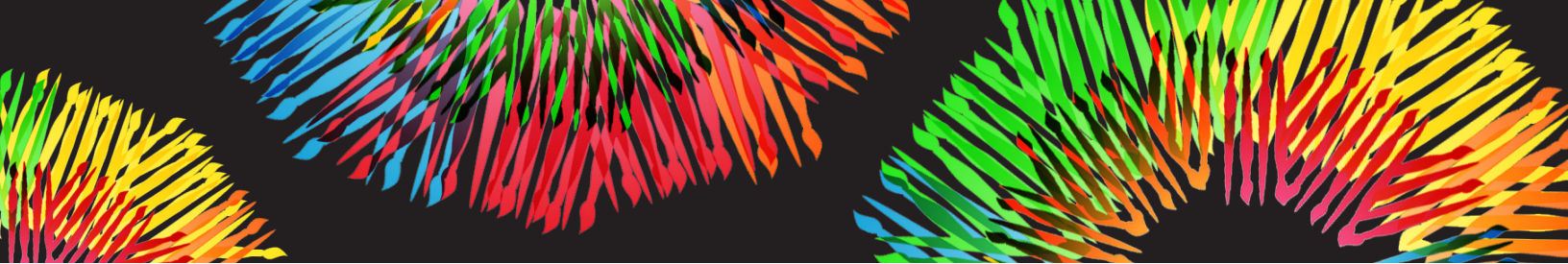
## Science Fair Cover Design Winner

By Jessica Cone

Stacey Alexis (11th grade) from Charles Herbert Flowers High School is the 75th PGASF Program Booklet Art-work Cover Winner.

Dr. Godfrey Rangasammy visited Stacey's AP Art Class to present her with her award.





## Trying New Things

By Mrs. K. Thomas

### At Isaac J. Gourdine MS

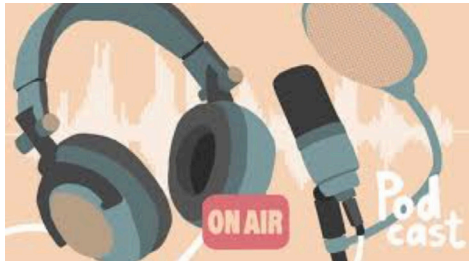
Every year I love trying new things and this year I had so many ideas. Two I am particularly proud of is the “Can you tie a tie?” and a podcasting club.

I did a Tie event in my school that was based on equity. I created a flier with a QR code around the school for students and staff to sign up. My announcement went:

“We are wrapping up our Black History Month and before we do I am calling on our Black Boy scholars to celebrate and join me during my enrichment class starting 2/27-3/4 from 10:30 am to 11:00 am to practice tying a tie. This skill is needed for dressing your best for that job interview. This can also be good for just going out somewhere nice. The sign-up sheet is below if any of our scholars or staff is interested. Sign Up Sheet -Please share this invitation with your scholars. (Other eth-

nicities and genders are welcomed as well). Thanks. If they were not able to come there is a video to learn [“How to Tie a Tie”](#)

Students came out and learned how to tie a tie. They had lots of fun!



### Student Podcast

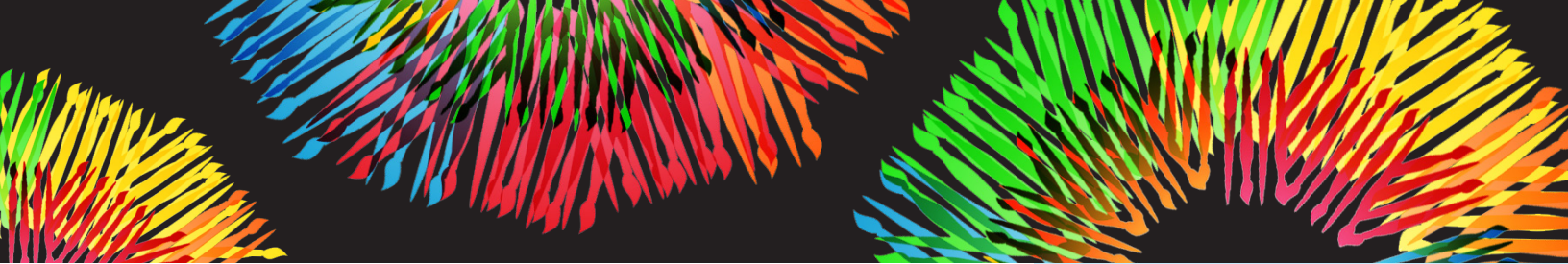
This year I started the Student Podcast “Talk about It” where students can express themselves with different topics at home or at school. Some fun topics about shopping, gaming, and sports as well. I have an

enrichment team that will recruit and interview others on topics requested by the students. Some interviews can be anonymous.

### Art Club

I also conducted an Art club again with 20 students to start. We did several activities such as drawing, painting, sculpting, etc. The students insisted this go right up until the end of the year because they didn’t want it to end!





## Earth Day Bus Wrap

Anne Delaney  
Project Coordinator  
Metro Art in Transit

The 2023 Earth Day Bus Wrap Celebration was very successful. The 15 students and their families were able to attend the event. There were a few remarks, students received a certificate from the General Manager/CEO, and then the families were invited to view the artworks that wrapped three buses, one for each jurisdiction. Each bus was wrapped with five artworks from one jurisdiction, and it circulated within that jurisdiction for four weeks.

Please view the [link](#) to a video about the Earth Day Bus Wrap Celebration. There is also a page about the project on the [Art in Transit website](#).



## This is YOUR Newsletter

Share your art news with other PGCPS Art Teachers.

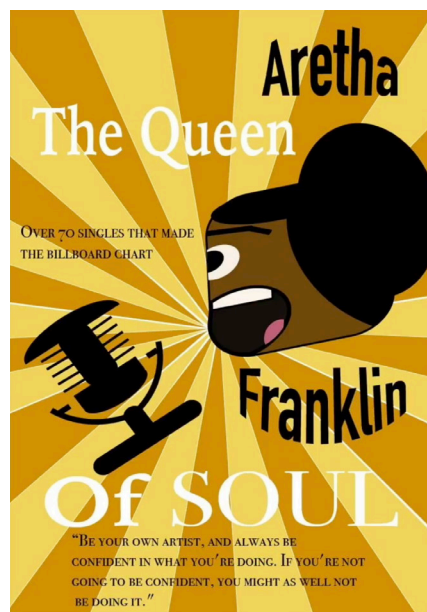
- Did your school do a special installation or mural?
- Do you have an exciting collaborative project to share?
- Did you attend an art exhibit on your own or with your students?
- Are you showing your own art anywhere?\*
- Are your students showing their art anywhere?\*
- Is there an art event that 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](mailto:monique.king@pgcps.org)) to confirm newsletter deadline.

[CLICK HERE TO UPLOAD STORIES](#)



## Black History Month Posters

By Mark Arcusa

I do a black history poster with Computer Graphics 1 and here's some of the better ones. No tracing allowed in Illustrator has always been my policy and they vary in skill. Many have no drawing skills coming in.

I told them they could use symbols for the person or make them abstract. [Check em out](#).