

# Paterson Post

April 30, 2018

## For the Love of Art at STARS

Our STARS Academy recently added an Art Department and as a result, their high school students have been creating amazing artworks. In fact, STARS art teacher, Mrs. Stojakovic, and her team of judges, have chosen student artwork to be included in several local and state art contests and exhibitions:



- Kevon Clarke (grade 9), Luis Mata (grade 10), Bryan Torres Tavarez (grade 10), and Justin Mayes (grade 11) had artwork on display at the district's annual Student Art Show at the Paterson Museum during the month of March;
- Kaliyah Evans, Deven Grace and Bryan Torres Tavarez (all grade 10), and Nicholas Martinez (grade 12) had artwork on view March 4-29<sup>th</sup> at the Hawthorne Library as part of the Art Educators of New Jersey Passaic County Student Art Show;
- Nicholas Martinez represented STARS in a New Jersey Department of Education contest for designing a New Jersey inspired Easter egg poster;
- Michael Cabieses (grade 9), Tyjamir Bell (grade 9) and Gwynne Ebanks (grade 12) have artwork on view during April at "Galleria d'arte" at the District Office; and
- Bryan Torres Tavarez, Deven Grace and Gwynne Ebanks were among the "top artworks" in the annual Bus Safety Poster Contest sponsored by the School Transportation Supervisors of NJ.

Congratulations to all of the STARS students for their excitement and enthusiasm about creating and participating in some wonderful art contests and art exhibitions!

## RPHS Students Raise Awareness Through Art

Last week, several Fine Arts students from Rosa Parks High School of Fine and Performing Arts (RPHS) participated in the "Memory Project", a charitable nonprofit organization. The Memory Project invites art teachers and their students to create and donate portraits to youth around the world who have faced substantial challenges, such as violence, disasters, extreme poverty, neglect, orphans and loss of parents.

The student portraits were an opportunity for RPHS art students to use their talents for global awareness, creating portraits of children of Puerto Rico who were affected by Hurricane Irma. Each portrait will be hand-delivered to the kids in need. Fine Arts teacher Ms. Rothenberg is proud of her students and feels that these portraits will "boost the spirits of the children as they will have a loving keepsake that they can hold onto."



## JFK STEM Partners with University of Pennsylvania Program



Dr. Dante Petretti, interim principal of JFK's STEM academy, spent the afternoon of April 21<sup>st</sup> at the University of Pennsylvania (Penn) campus. He was there because STEM was recently selected to be one of 11 service partners for their graduate students completing a capstone project in the Penn Masters of Applied Positive Psychology program (MAPP). The Penn Green Team completed their final project and presented it at the annual event with the ten other teams. The Green Team's project is a comprehensive plan with

resources which will support the JFK STEM's multi-year Resilience and Grit program which is focused on helping students successfully address ongoing challenges. Special thanks to Penn's Leona Brandwene, Paterson science teacher Danielle Hoffman, The Green Team, and the University of Pennsylvania!

## All DonorsChoose Projects Funded

Thanks to an extremely generous \$29 million donation from a San Francisco-based technology company, every DonorsChoose.org project in the country was fully-funded as of March 27<sup>th</sup>. For our school district, this means that in a single instant, 103 classroom projects were funded supporting 67 teachers for a grand total of \$89,249 in donations. If you've never used DonorsChoose.org or are interested in posting a new classroom project, you can sign up for an account at [donorschoose.org/teachers](https://donorschoose.org/teachers) (if you don't already have one) to support a project idea that you think will bring your classroom to new heights. The more it's able to boost how your classroom is bringing a specific Paterson priority to life, the better! The whole process will take approximately 25 minutes. Then when your project is funded, DonorsChoose.org ships the supplies directly to your classroom.

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## Around the District



April 19 – 2018 – Don Bosco Technology Academy had a PTO Workshop entitled "Keep Our Children Safe Training". The guest speakers were Anthony Traina, District's School Security Coordinator and Captain Richard Reyes of the Paterson Police Department. This informational training for parents, students, and staff was to help everyone understand what to do when an emergency arises at our schools. Workshop planners Parent Liaison Mrs. Demarest and Parent Coordinator Ms. Simmons were pleased that so many enjoyed the workshop.

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April 20, 2018 – School 9 kindergarten classes were super excited to visit the Liberty Science Center on Friday, April 20th in honor of Earth Day. Students were able to participate in every exhibit, it was a fun learning experience for both teachers and students!

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April 26, 2018 – It was a beautiful day for the district's annual Autism Walk which began at School 2 and ended at the steps of City Hall. Over 190 students from School 2, Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Senator Frank Lautenberg School, Dale Avenue, and STARS Academy participated in this year's walk. Speakers included six students, Superintendent Shafer and Acting Mayor Williams-Warren.

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School 12 – Using recycled breakfast trays, crayons, scissors, glitter, glue, and brass fasteners, WPU Professor in Residence Mrs. Sandler led the School 12 kindergartners in a project that allowed them to create their own fish with a glittery scale. She read aloud Marcus Pfister's book before the activity, and, in honor of poetry month, WPU Professor in Residence Dr. Golden created an accompanying poem the children shared while showing off their creations: "Rainbow fish, rainbow fish, thank you for your scale -- I thank you for sharing and salute you with my tail!"

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Earth Day – In celebration of Earth Day, Mrs. Roman's first graders at School 12 worked with WPU Professor in Residence Mrs. Sandler to create paper plate mobiles. Children discussed the many things that can we do every day to save our environment. Pictured is Mrs. Roman's class showing off their completed project with their sentences on the hearts.



School 9's "Kindness Quilt" – Kelly Dailey, art teacher and Simone Sandler Professor in Residence from WPU coordinated a school wide arts integration project. This permanent quilt was created by grades k-8 using tongue depressors and markers. Students used words, phrases and designs to reinforce their message. The display is situated outside the cafeteria for everyone to see. Kindness encourages kids to help others and is a gift everyone can give.

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YMLA Recognizes Student Achievement - It's truly rewarding for educators or parents to celebrate student achievement – a when children exceed expectations, a true celebration is in order! That is just what happened at the Young Men's Leadership Academy for students who earned the designation of "Honor Roll Student" (received a grade of "B" or higher in all subject areas). These students were joined by their parents for a celebratory breakfast. Board of Education Commissioner Vincent Arrington gave congratulatory remarks.

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## Upcoming Events

**May 2: Board of Education Workshop**

6:30 p.m. at the District Offices, 90 Delaware Avenue

**May 10: NJ School Performance Report**

6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. in the cafeteria at the District Offices, 90 Delaware Avenue

**May 12: FREE Medical Services Fair**

11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. at 59 Mill Street Paterson NJ (Oasis - A Haven for Women and Children)

**May 16: Board of Education Regular Meeting**

7:00 p.m. at John F. Kennedy Educational Complex

**May 25: Early Dismissal**

1:00 p.m. Dismissal Students & Staff (PEA)

**May 28: Memorial Day**

District Closed

**Effective Academic Programs • Creating & Maintaining Healthy School Cultures  
Family & Community Engagement • Efficient & Responsive Operations**

Paterson Post is a publication of the [Department of Communications](#).  
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