



VISIONS & VOICES



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Back Cover - Photography by Jason Thiel, *Grade 12*



**Scholastic  
Art & Writing  
Awards**

Alliance for  
Young Artists  
& Writers

## 2021 Award Winners

### HORSEHEADS HIGH SCHOOL

- LAUREN ALLEN* Honorable Mention, *Photography, Man's Best Friend*, Christine Malloy, educator  
*LAUREN ALLEN* Honorable Mention, *Comic Art, Distance Learning*, Brian Hart, educator  
*MIKENNA BISHOP* Gold Key, *Drawing & Illustration In Her Arms*, Brian Hart, educator  
*ALICIA CARROLL* Silver Key, *Digital Art, Life in Quarantine*, Christine Malloy, educator  
*ABBY CHRISTMAS* Honorable Mention, *Drawing & Illustration, Fierce*, Brian Hart, educator  
*KATERI CONDON* Honorable Mention, *Photography, My Little Brother, a Soccer Giant*, Christine Malloy, educator  
*RORY COUGHLIN* Honorable Mention, *Digital Art, The Red Car*, Brian Hart, educator  
*RORY COUGHLIN* Silver Key, *Drawing & Illustration, The Huntress*, Brian Hart, educator  
*JULIANNA DAY* Honorable Mention, *Painting, Oculus*, Mary Theetge, educator  
*SORA HAAN* Honorable Mention, *Drawing & Illustration, Wondering*, Mary Theetge, educator  
*SORA HAAN* Honorable Mention, *Drawing & Illustration, Distracted*, Mary Theetge, educator  
*MATTHEW HUNTER* Honorable Mention, *Drawing & Illustration, Year 2020*, Mary Theetge, educator  
*MAGGIE JONES* Silver Key, *Mixed Media, Earth and the Angels In-Between*, Mary Theetge, educator  
*GRACE KUHNEL* Honorable Mention, *Mixed Media, Gracefully Grazing*, Cynthia Cratsley, educator  
*GRACE KUHNEL* Honorable Mention, *Painting, Greener Pastures*, Brian Hart, educator  
*ANNELIESE LITTLE* Silver Key, *Ceramics & Glass, Coiled and Braided Vessel*, Cynthia Cratsley, educator  
*SOPHIA LORENZ* Honorable Mention, *Drawing & Illustration, A Wasted Table for Two*, Mary Theetge, educator  
*ISABEL PADDOCK* Honorable Mention, *Drawing & Illustration, Clear as a Bell*, Mary Theetge, educator  
*MEGAN RANGSTROM* Silver Key, *Drawing & Illustration, My Brother's Prize*, Brian Hart, educator  
*JASON THIEL* Gold Key, *Photography, Alone*, Christine Malloy, educator  
*JASON THIEL* Honorable Mention, *Photography, Sunrise Motivation*, Christine Malloy, educator

### HORSEHEADS MIDDLE SCHOOL

- MADISONROSE CAVANAUGH* Gold Key, *Drawing & Illustration, You stare politely right on through ...*, Kathleen Kendall, educator  
*ZHI CHEN* Silver Key, *Drawing & Illustration, Scott Cunningham, educator*  
*ZHI CHEN* Honorable Mention, *Drawing & Illustration, Pandora's Pencil*, Scott Cunningham, educator  
*MACKENZIE GROVER* Honorable Mention, *Drawing & Illustration, Scott Cunningham, educator*  
*MARI MAYO* Silver Key, *Sculpture, 52 Card Pickup*, Scott Cunningham, educator  
*AYDEN MEKOS* Silver Key, *Drawing & Illustration, Maskless*, Kathleen Kendall, educator  
*AVI PATEL* Honorable Mention, *Drawing & Illustration, Looking Out My Window*, Scott Cunningham, educator

## Editor's Notes

*This has definitely been an interesting year! In difficult times like these, the arts give us a creative outlet and focus that can be an escape from the stress of everyday life. Art is not only a healthy distraction; it offers us comfort and normalcy. We recognize these feelings and hope to move closer to a time where "hybrid" and "virtual" are no longer used when describing school.*

*We have all had to confront new challenges over the past year, and it has shown our flexibility and perseverance. Through all of this change, our students have continued to flourish in their creative works. This year's magazine can attest to the students' outstanding ideas and artistic skills in our Horseheads schools.*

*Please find solace, distraction, inspiration and enjoyment as you look through these pages knowing that now, more than ever, art is making a difference and impact on our society. - Chris Bell, Art Teacher, Horseheads Intermediate School*

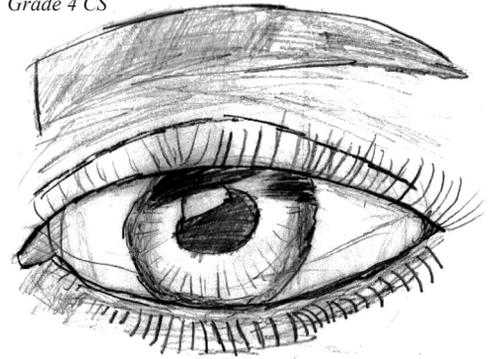
# ELEMENTARY

Grades Kindergarten - 4

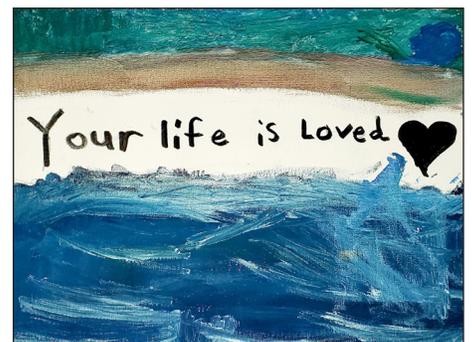
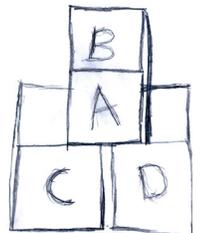


Jenna Ames Grade 2 CS

Daniel Mosher  
Grade 4 CS



Mariah Williams  
Grade 4 CS



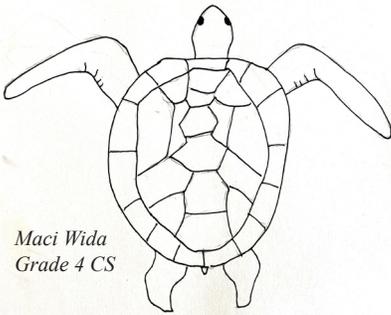
Teagan Peden Grade 4 CS



Loklan Finnerty Grade K CS



Parker Campanelli Grade 1 CS



Maci Wida  
Grade 4 CS



Ananya Chuahan  
Grade 4 RR



## *Artist Spotlight*

*Steven Shutts  
Grade 4, Center Street*

*Why do you enjoy creating art?*

I love art because I can use my imagination.

*What are your favorite things to draw?*

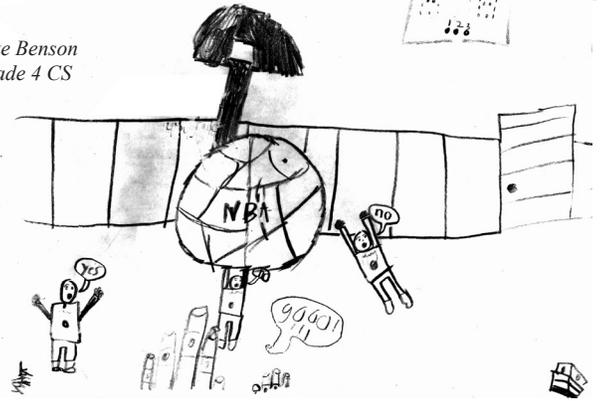
I like to draw Pokémon and Dragons.



Willow Barr Grade 4 CS



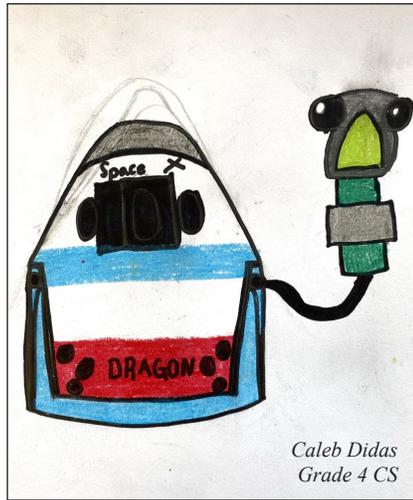
Jake Benson Grade 4 CS



Samara McDowell Grade 3 CS

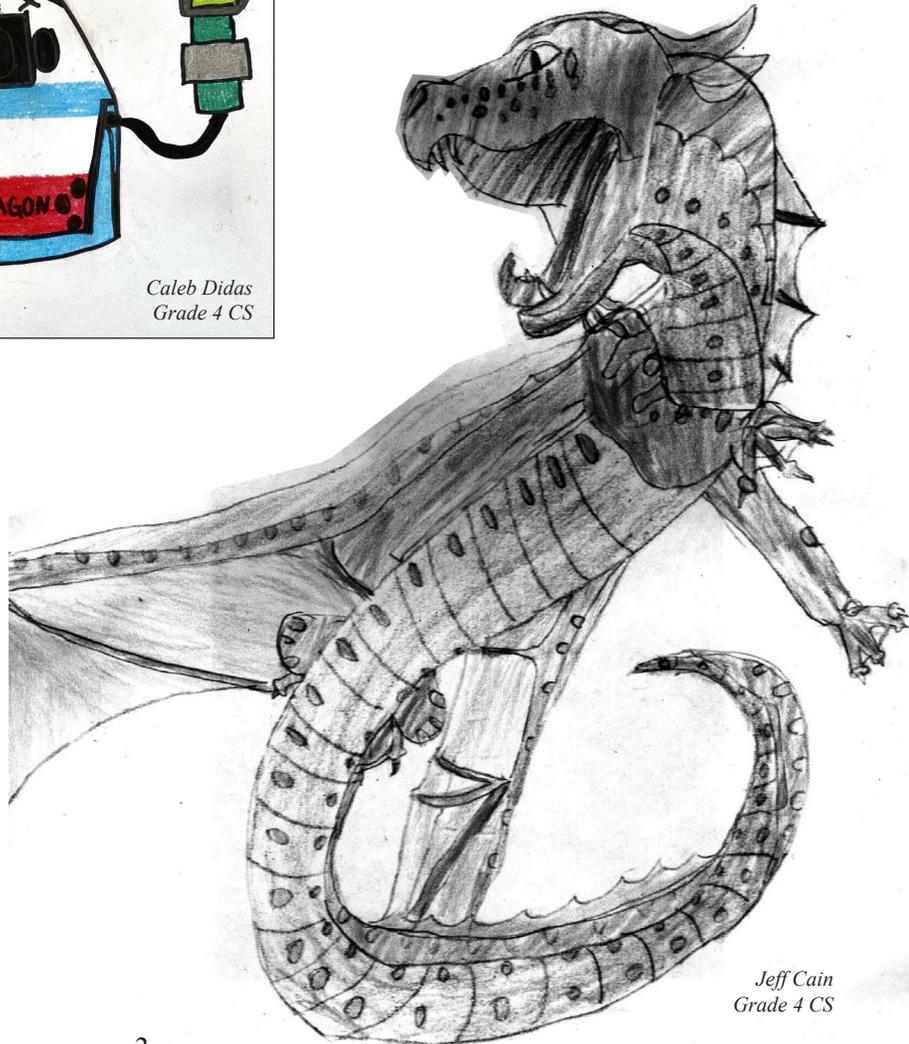
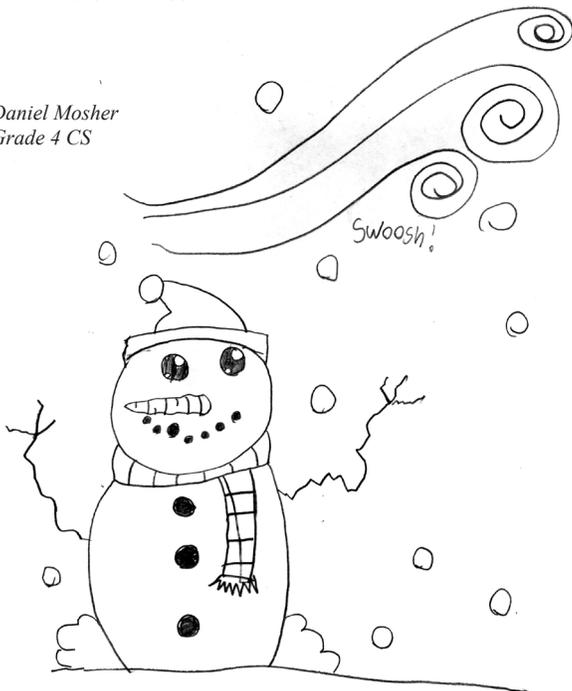


Ben Fierro Grade 1 CS

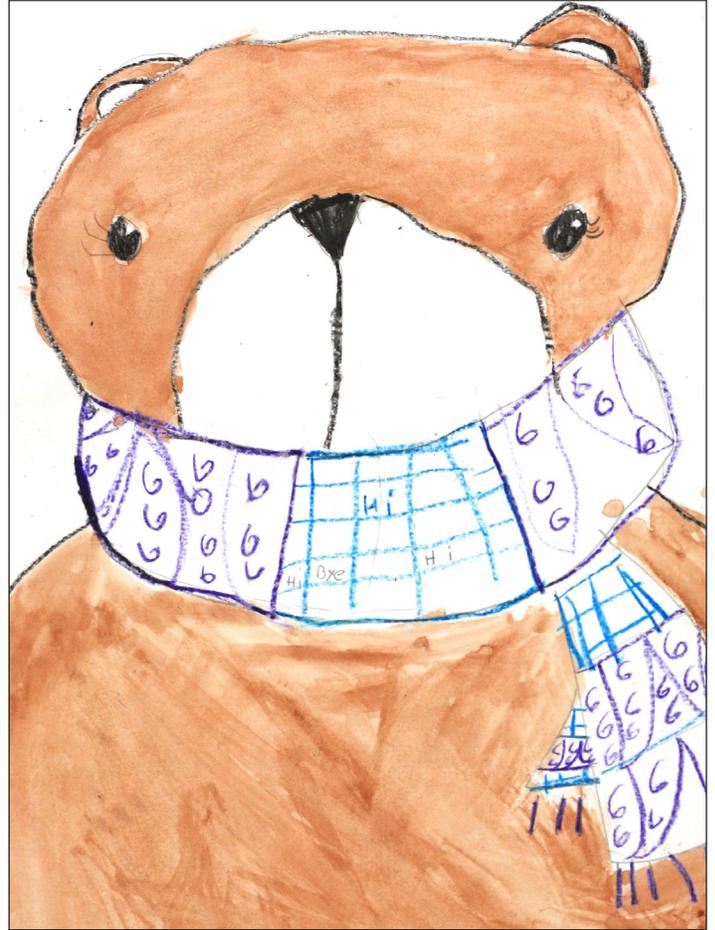


Caleb Didas Grade 4 CS

Daniel Mosher Grade 4 CS



Jeff Cain Grade 4 CS

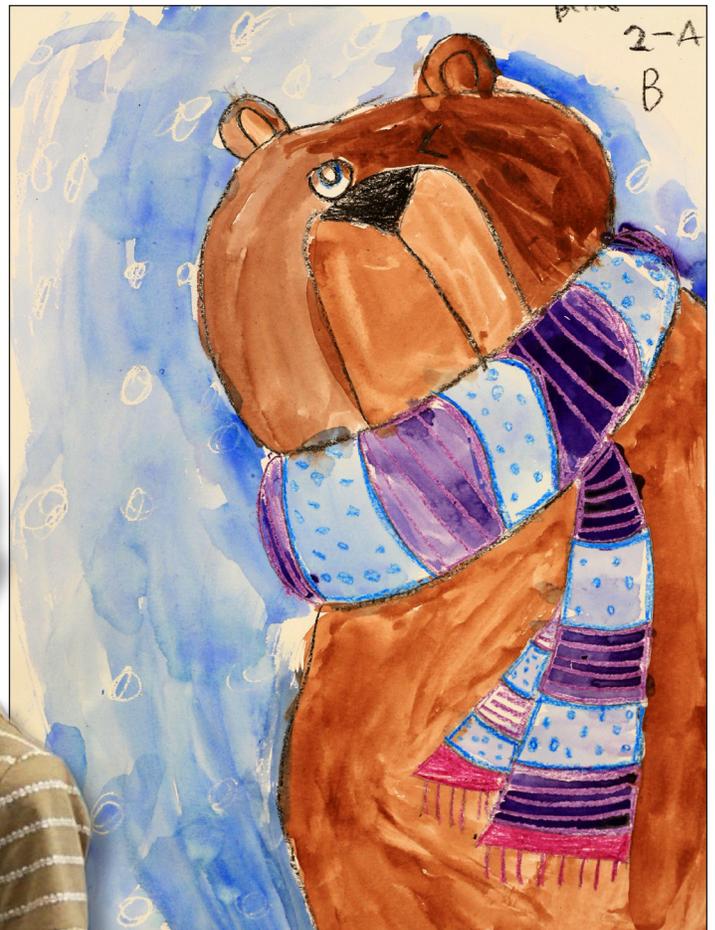


# Artist Spotlight

**Avery Howarth**  
**Grade 4**  
**Big Flats**

**What is your favorite thing to draw?**  
My favorite thing to draw is people.

**Why do you love to create art?**  
Art makes me happy. And, no matter what, it's not 'bad', it's just something I can continue to work at and improve on.



Bella Upham Grade 2 RR

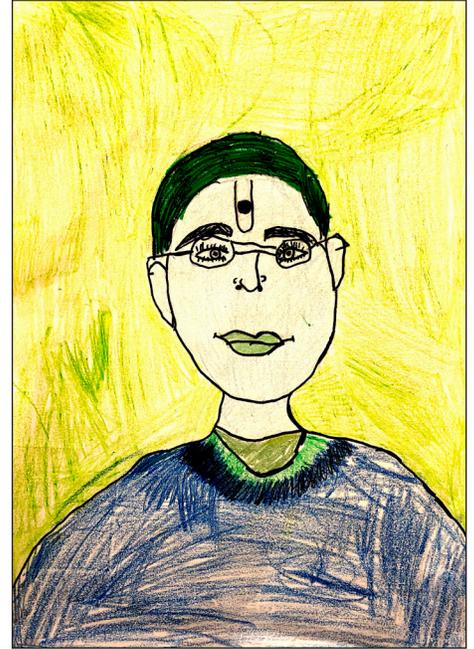
Julia Mangino Grade 2 GR



Valentina Moreira-Antepara Grade 3 GR

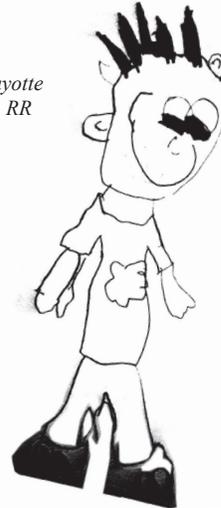


Purva Patel Grade 3 GR



Paul Johnson IV  
Grade 2 GR

Alex Mayotte  
Grade 3 RR



Connor Joensen  
Grade 1 CS

# Artist Spotlight

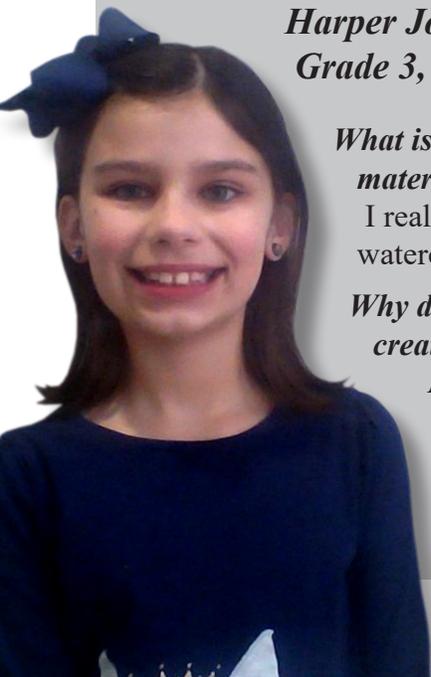
**Harper Johnson**  
Grade 3, Gardner Road

**What is your favorite material to work in?**

I really enjoy watercolor.

**Why do you love to create art?**

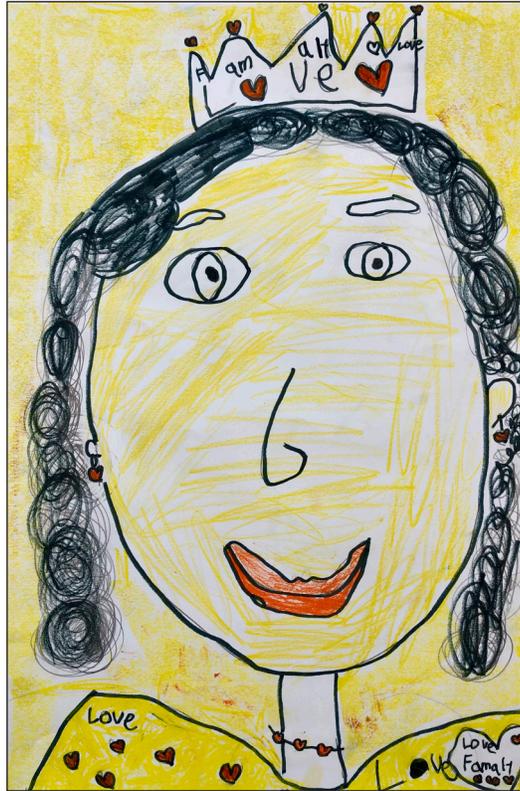
Art allows me to be creative.



Landen Spencer Grade 2 GR



Rocco Narsiff Grade 4 GR



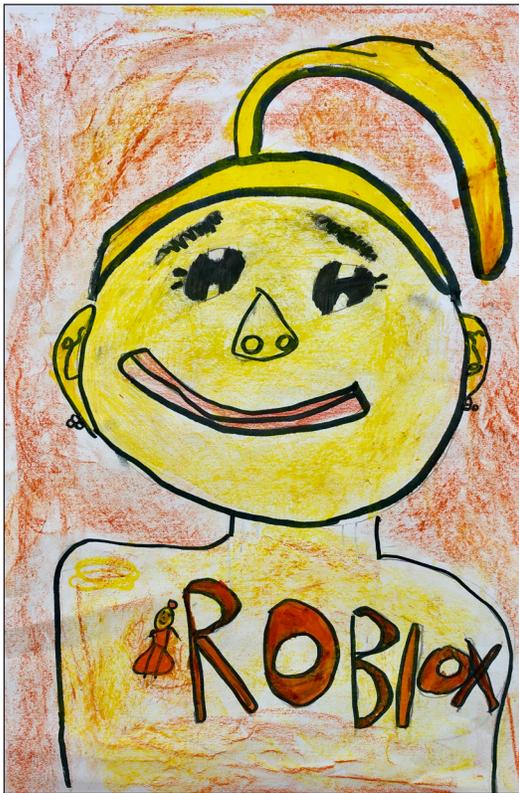
Ava Fuksman Grade 1 GR



Deetya Shetty Grade K GR



Wyatt Stebbins  
Grade 4 GR



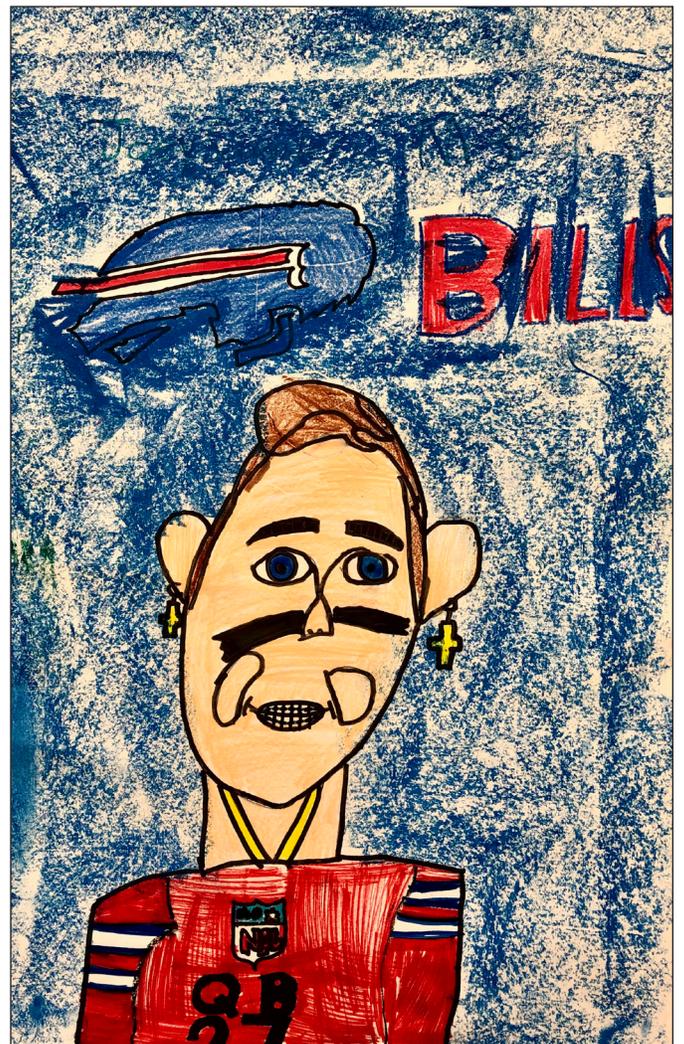
Emma Saunders Grade 1 GR



Brooke Jones Grade 3 GR



Hunter La Row Grade 3 GR



Joey Saunders Grade 3 GR



Leighton Knapp Grade 2 RR

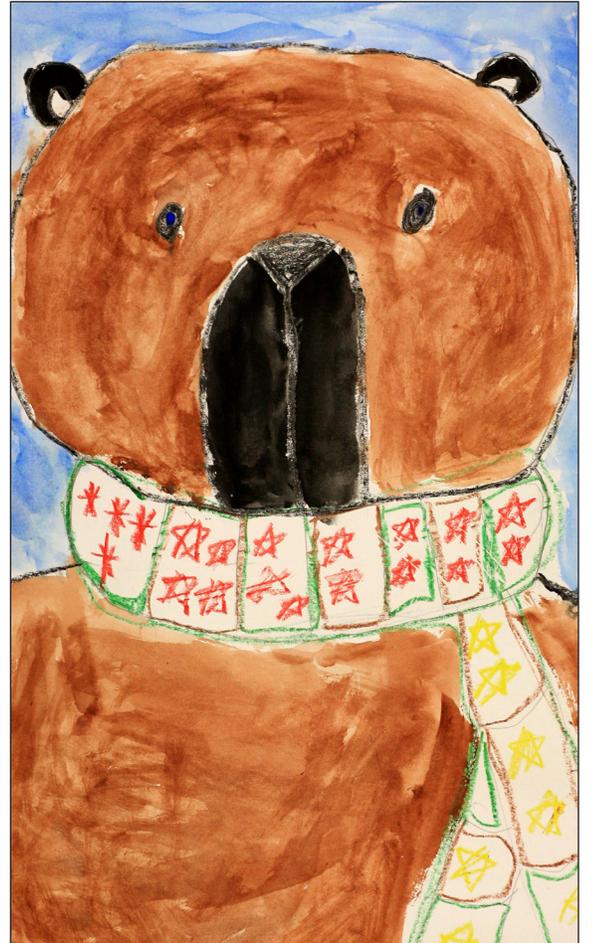
Harper Lowman Grade K RR

Katy Sonsire Grade 1 RR

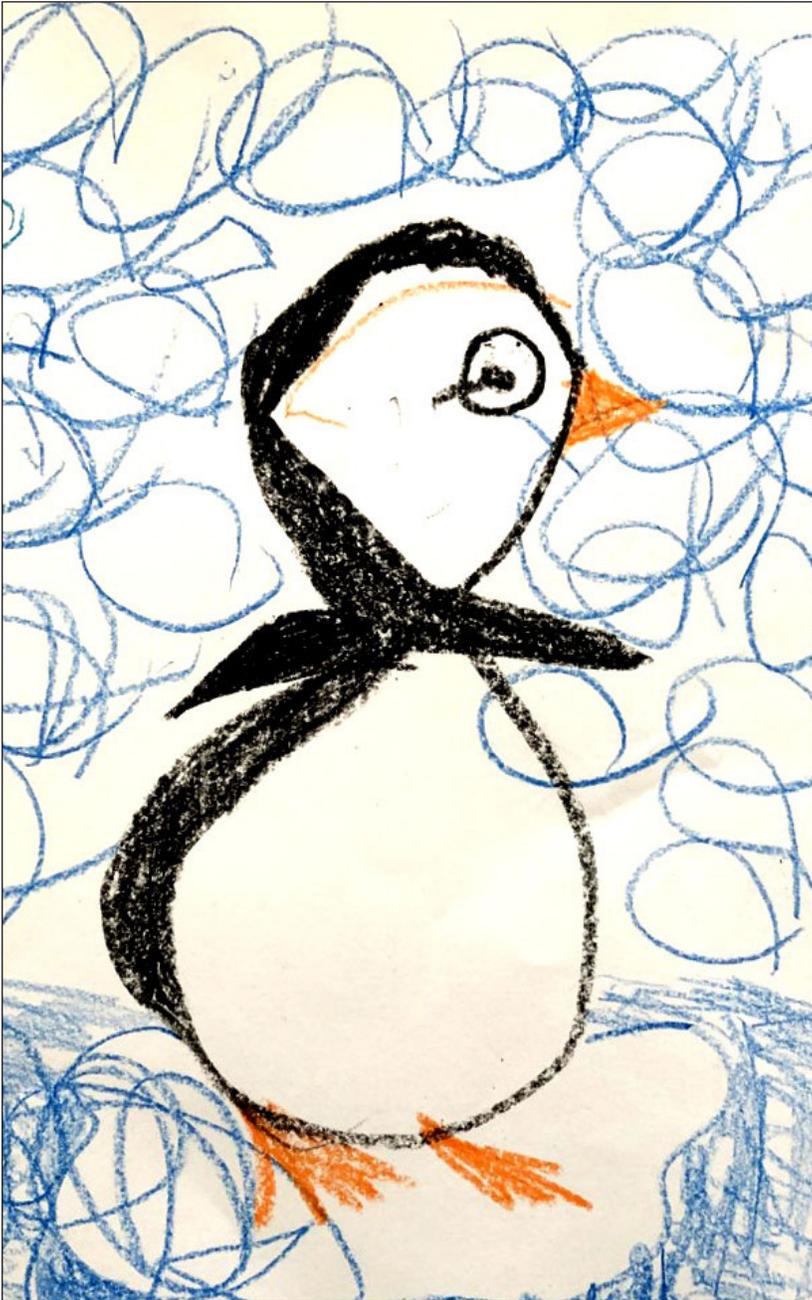
Bryson Keenan Grade 2 RR



Gavin Jones Grade K RR



Brody Keenan Grade 2 RR



Alexander Stachowski Grade 1 BF



## Artist Spotlight

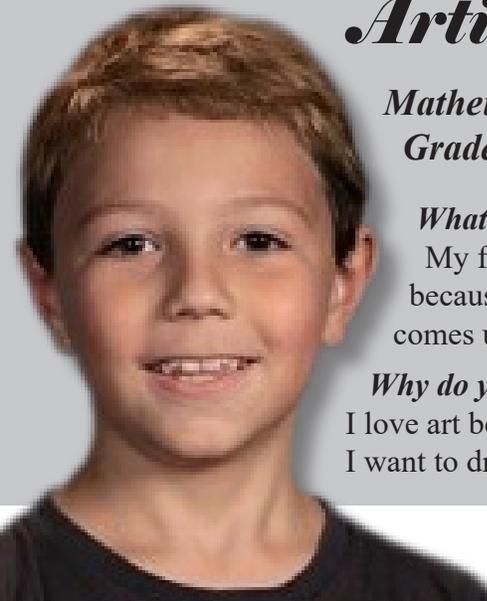
**Matheus Pacheco**  
Grade 4, Gardner Road

*What is your favorite thing to draw?*

My favorite thing to draw is doodles because I can draw whatever my mind comes up with.

*Why do you love to create art?*

I love art because I can draw whatever I want to draw.





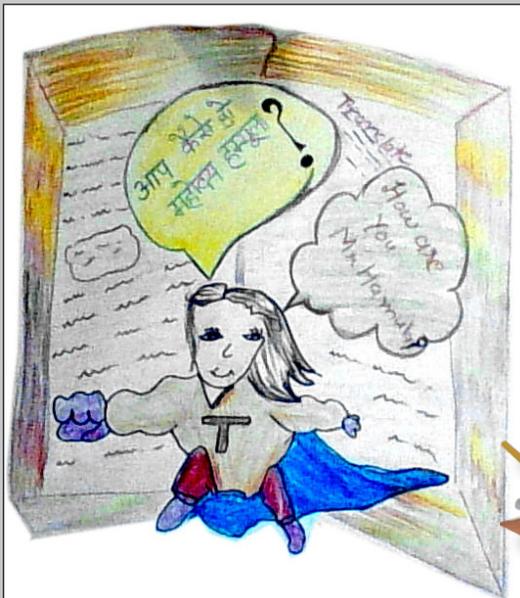
Henry Schaut Grade 2 BF



Zach Kaiser Grade 4 BF

## Artist Spotlight

**Ananya Chauhan**  
Grade 4, Ridge Road

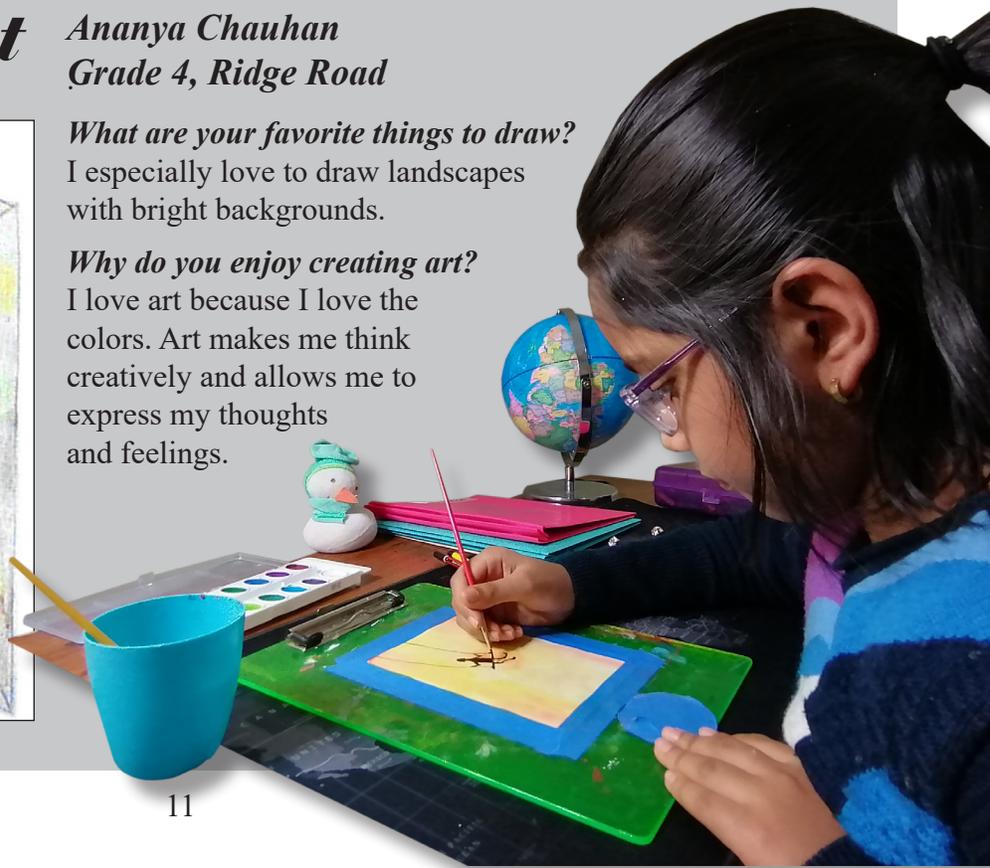


**What are your favorite things to draw?**

I especially love to draw landscapes with bright backgrounds.

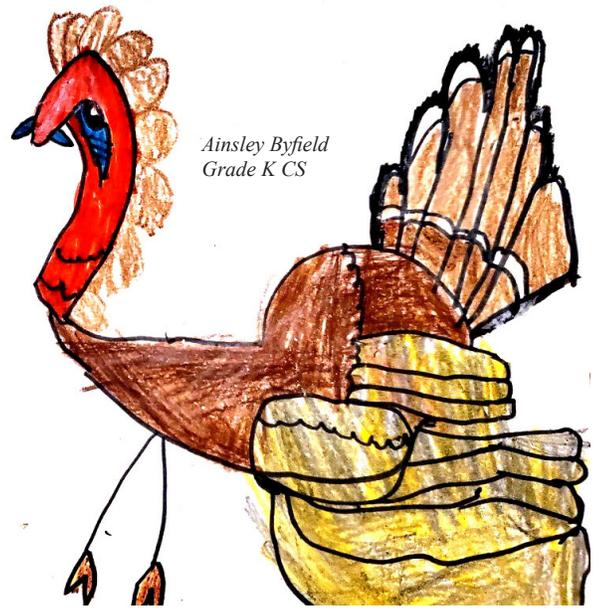
**Why do you enjoy creating art?**

I love art because I love the colors. Art makes me think creatively and allows me to express my thoughts and feelings.





Emmerly Bennett Grade 2 BF



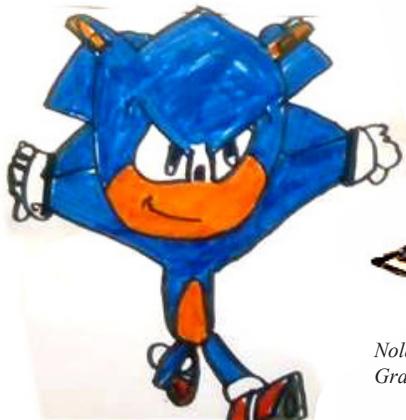
Ainsley Byfield  
Grade K CS



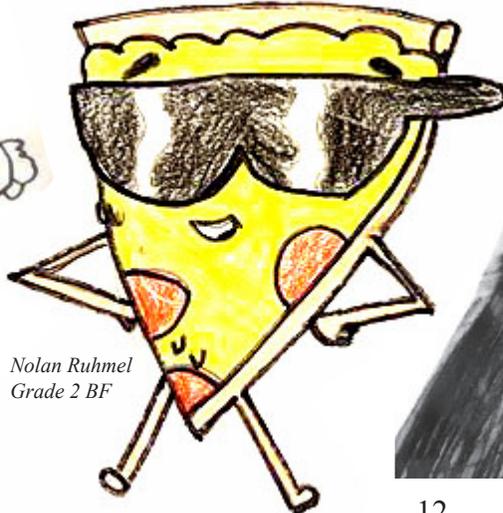
Morgan Bock Grade 3 RR



Declan Hogue  
Grade 2 GR



Riley Goodwin  
Grade 2 BF



Nolan Ruhmel  
Grade 2 BF

Emma Jones Grade 4 RR



Aliyah Teets Grade 4 RR



Lucy Vence Grade 1 BF



# Artist Spotlight

**Opal Giancoli**  
Grade 2,  
Center Street

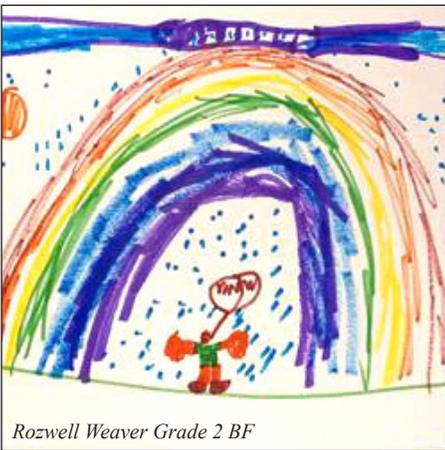
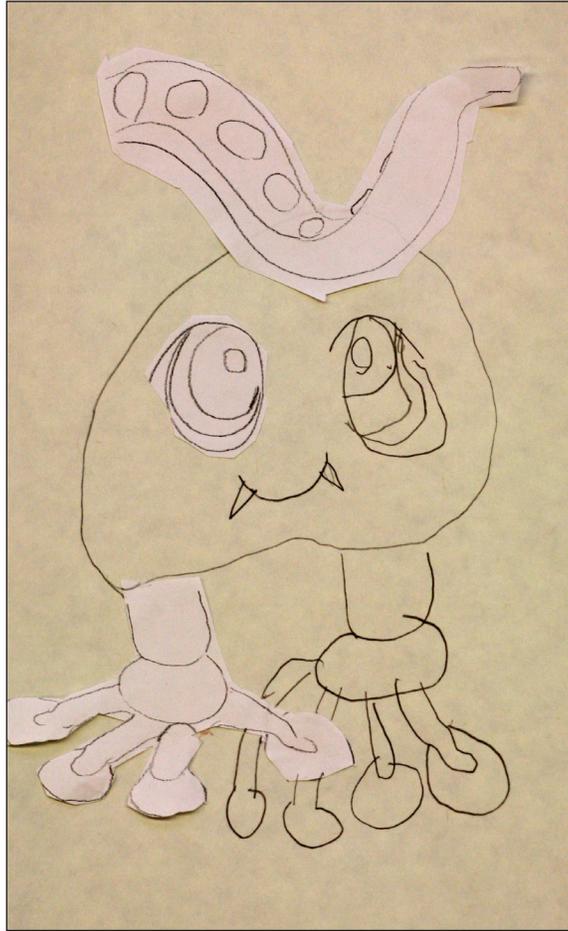
*What is your favorite thing to draw?*

My favorite thing to draw is an imaginary character. Her name is "Wolfe" and she has wolf ears.

*Why do you love to create art?*

I love art because you can draw whatever you want and be creative in your own way.





Rozwell Weaver Grade 2 BF



Dominic Tota Grade K BF

## Artist Spotlight

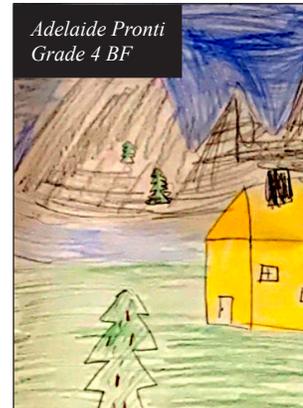
**Dylan Lorenz**  
Grade 4,  
Big Flats

*What is your favorite kind of Art to make?*

I love Abstract Art. Anyone can look at it, and it could be many different things to many different eyes.

*Why do you love to create art?*

I love Art, because Art can be a way to express yourself.

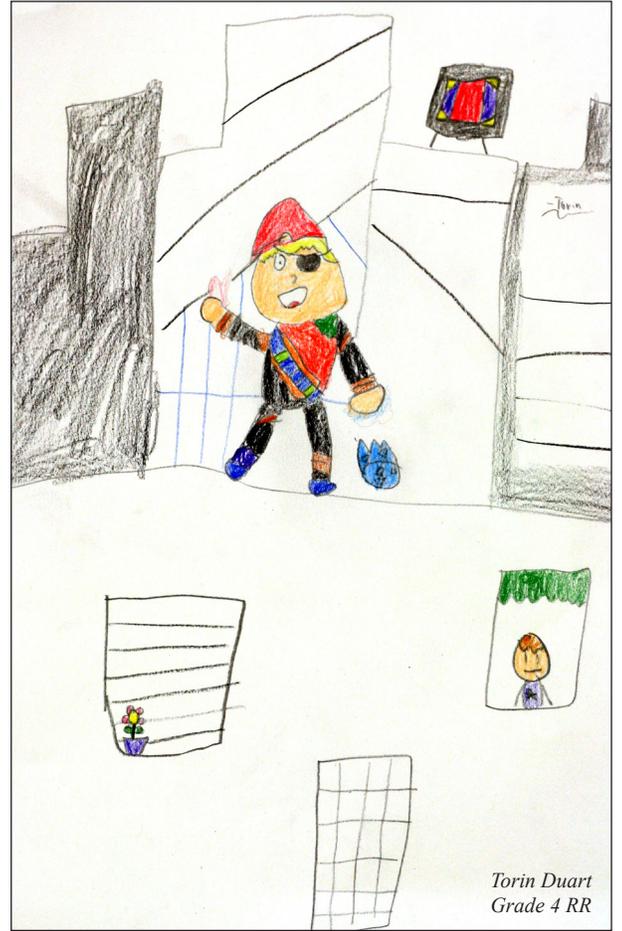


Adelaide Pronti  
Grade 4 BF

TJ Daughinet Grade 3 CS



Ginny Blake Grade 4 RR

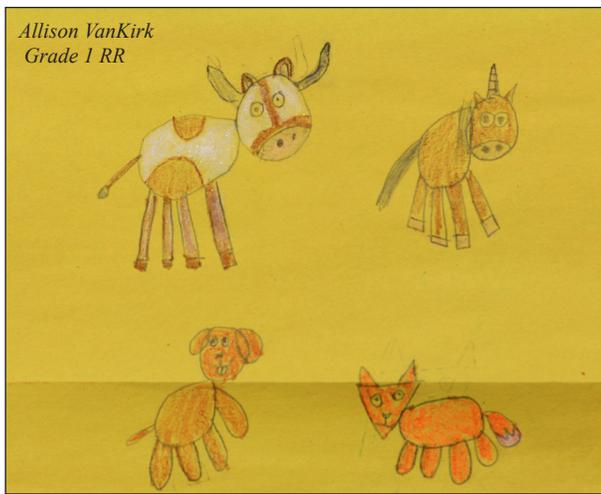


Torin Duart  
Grade 4 RR

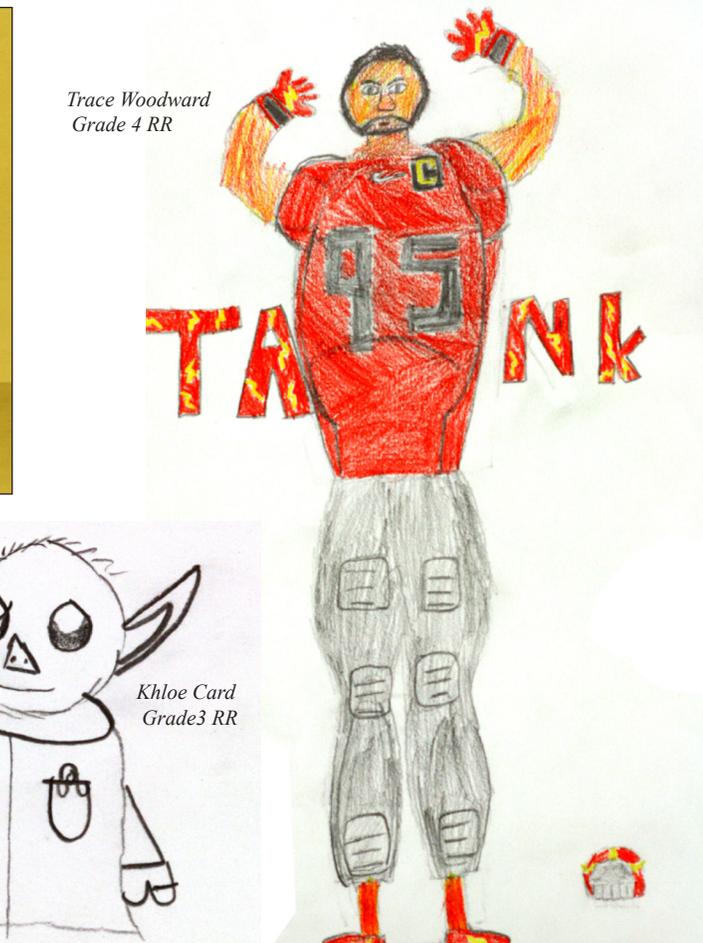
Lillian Shope  
Grade 4 RR



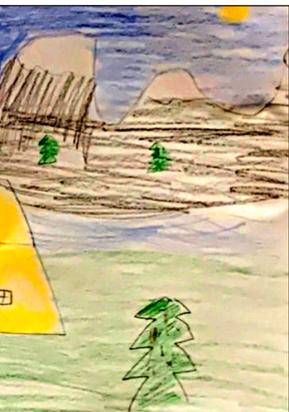
Allison VanKirk  
Grade 1 RR



Trace Woodward  
Grade 4 RR



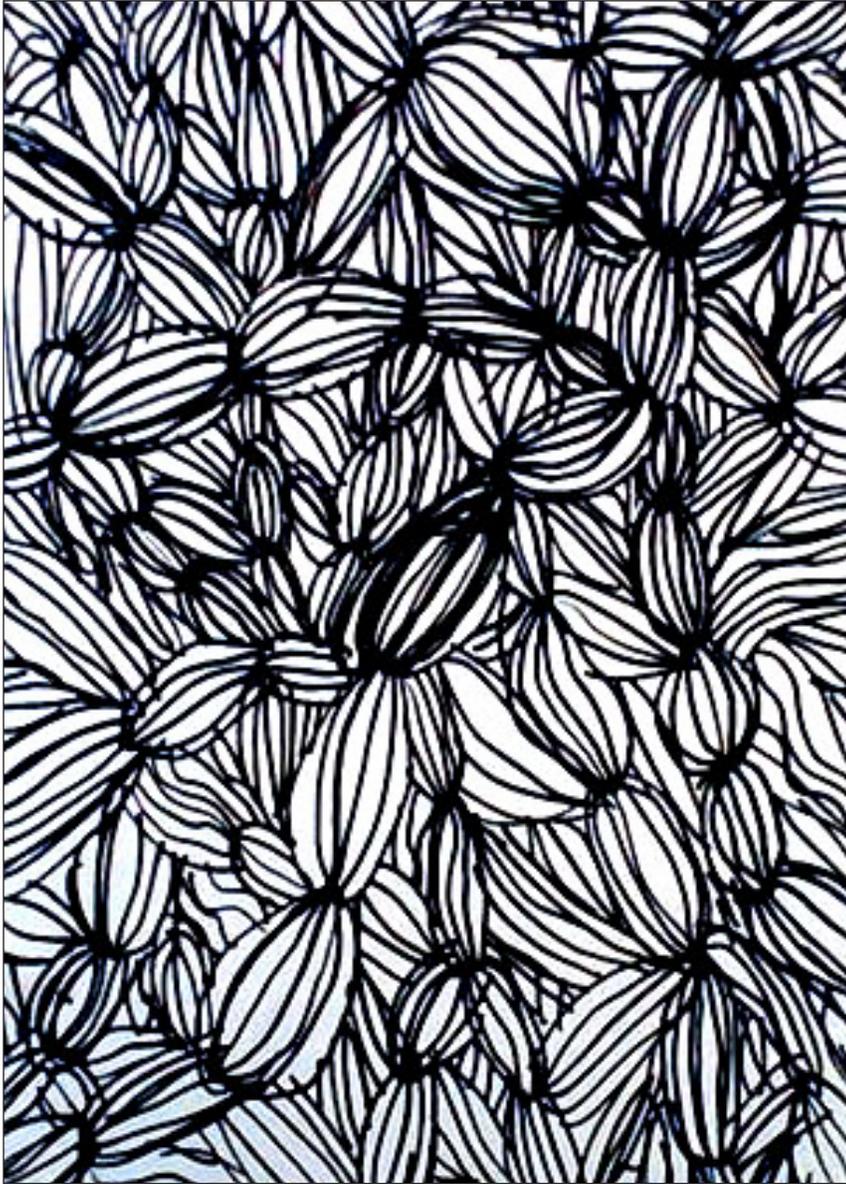
Khloe Card  
Grade 3 RR



Braylen Burchard Grade 2 BF



# INTERMEDIATE



Sophia Puffer Grade 5



Isaac Klesh  
Grade 5



Carissa  
Gouermout  
Grade 5



Ethan Wilson  
Grade 5



Sarah Materne  
Grade 6



Leah Piecuch  
Grade 5

Sophia Puffer Grade 5



Kalyani Niraula Grade 6

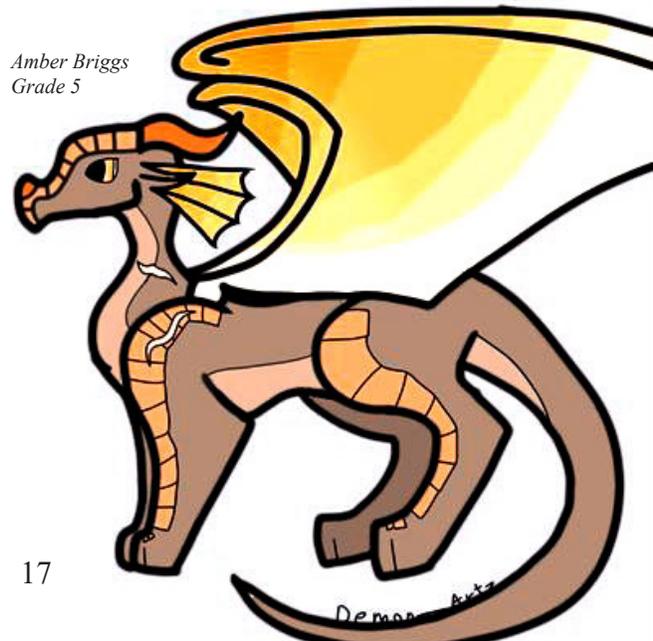


Ava Nicholas Grade 6



Annika Fuksman Grade 5

Amber Briggs Grade 5





Andrew Jones  
Grade 6



Charlotte  
Adams  
Grade 6

## Artist Spotlight

**Keeley Millspaugh**  
Grade 5

### What is your favorite material to work in?

My favorite art medium to work with has to be pencil. I love the depth you can create by just layering the graphite. I also enjoy watercolor painting. The colors are so rich and painting with them is relaxing.

### Why do you love to create art?

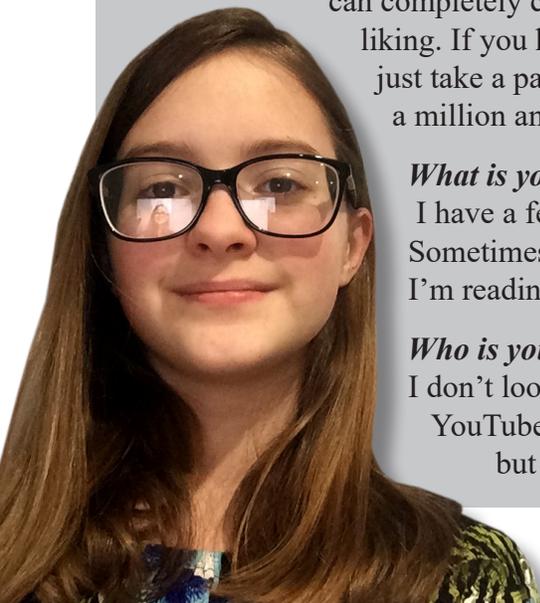
I love art because it is something you can completely customize to your liking. If you have an idea you can just take a paper and pencil, and draw. There are no rules. You can draw an apple from a million angles or you can draw a cartoon character!

### What is your favorite thing to draw?

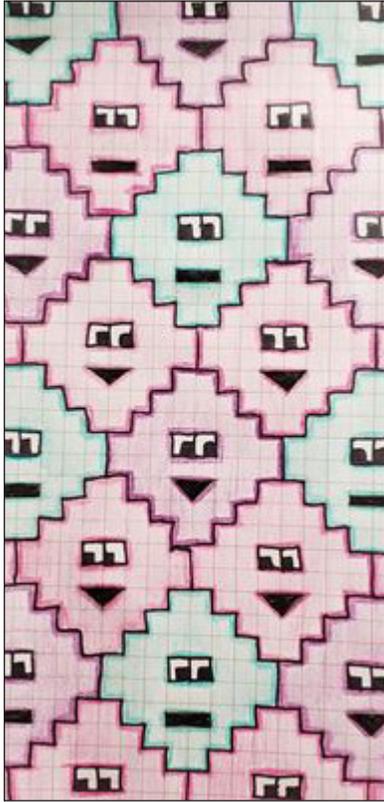
I have a few things I like to draw. Sometimes I'll draw what I wore today. Sometimes I'll draw an animal. Sometimes I'll try to draw characters in a book that I'm reading. It depends on my mood.

### Who is your favorite artist?

I don't look at enough art to have a favorite artist, really. I do like the art of some YouTubers, such as LavendarTowne, DrawingWiffWaffles, and SonaDrawsStuff, but I don't really have a favorite.

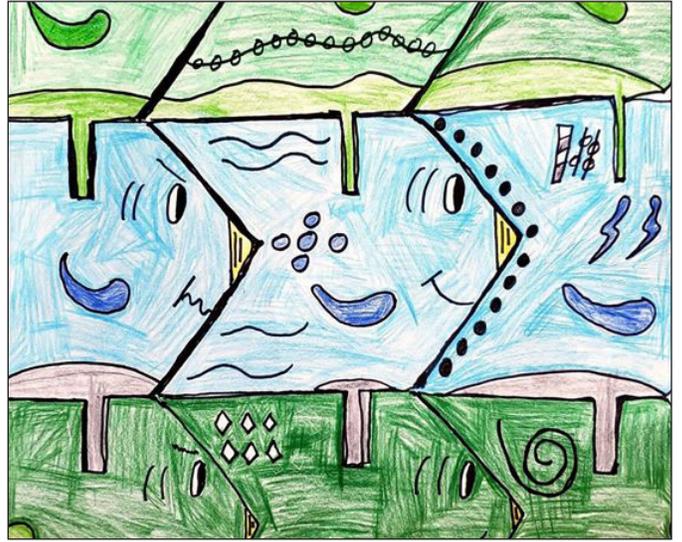
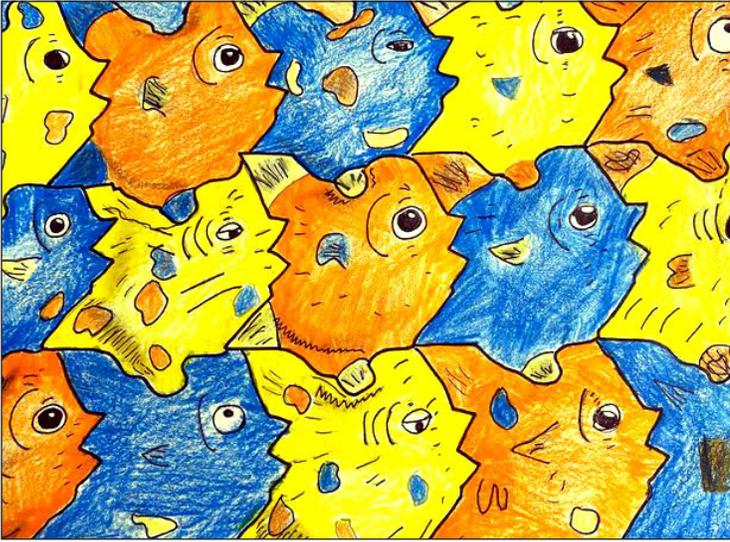


Sarah Materne Grade 6



Abigail Valicenti Grade 6





Ashley Giammichele Grade 6

Logan Zurcher Grade 6

Sophia Polise  
Grade 5

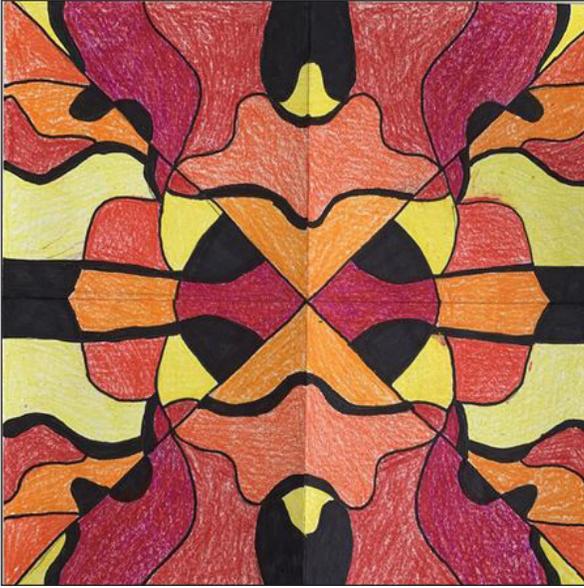


Keegan Duart  
Grade 6

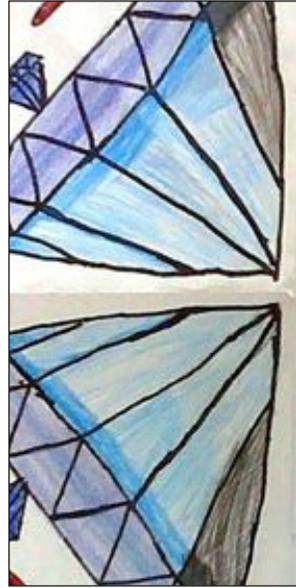
Leah Johnson  
Grade 5



Charlotte Adams Grade 6



Kamryn Backer Grade 6



Ixchel Fazzary Grade 6



Piper Sullivan Grade 6



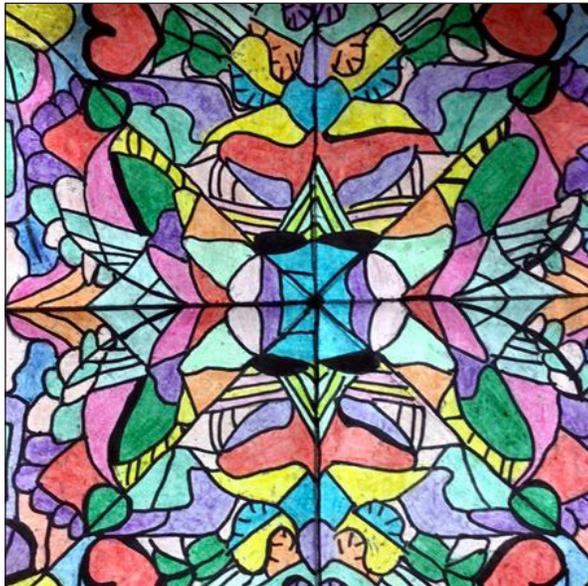
Logan Zurcher Grade 6



Dylan Young Grade 6



Mya Piecuch Grade 6



Destiny Hess Grade 6



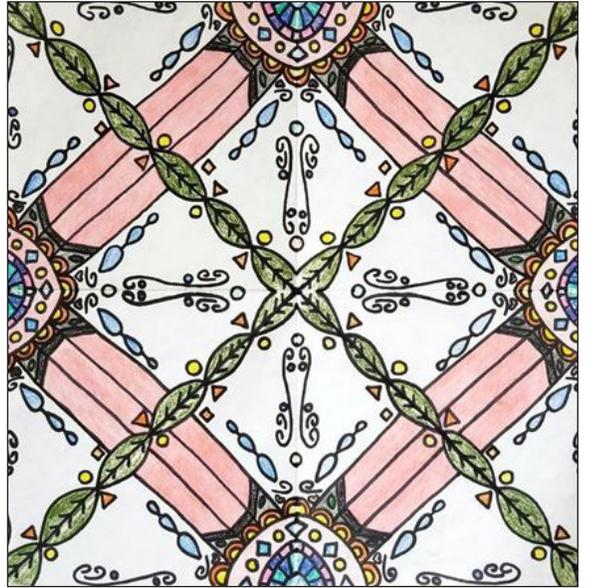
Fernando Casillas Grade 6



Joanna Benjamin Grade 6



Maria Elisha Raine Buhian Grade 6



Quintin McKinley Grade 6



Elena Vondracek Grade 6



Chase Miller Grade 6



Rylie Reheis Grade 6





Mitchell Jackson  
Grade 6



Calista Johnson  
Grade 6

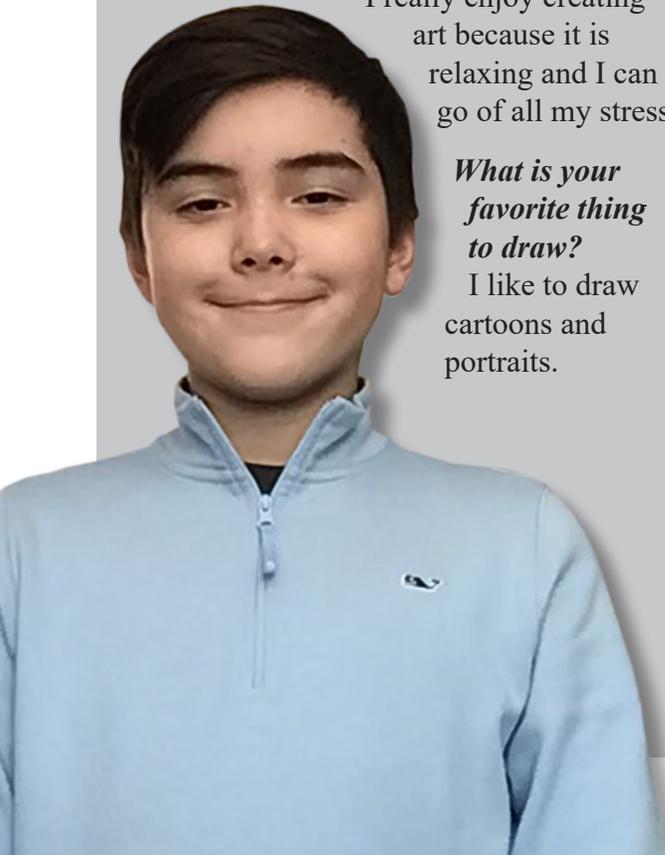
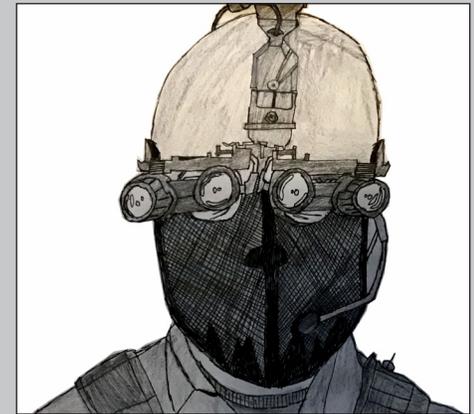
## Artist Spotlight

**Mitchell Jackson**  
Grade 6

**What is your favorite material to work in?**  
I like to draw in pencil.

**Why do you love to create art?**  
I really enjoy creating art because it is relaxing and I can let go of all my stress.

**What is your favorite thing to draw?**  
I like to draw cartoons and portraits.



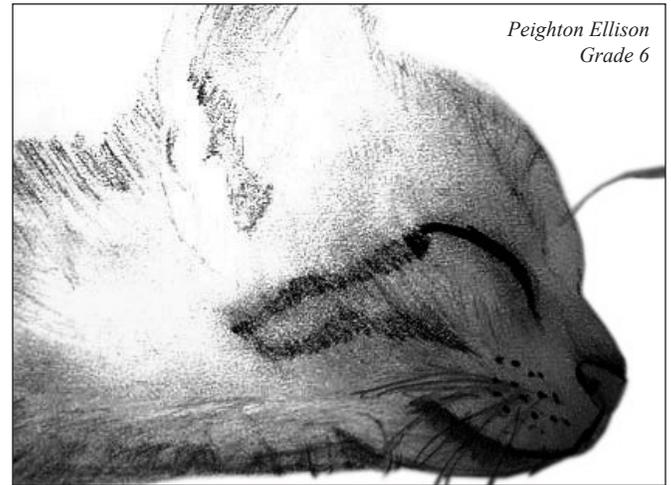
Lorelei Rivers Grade 5



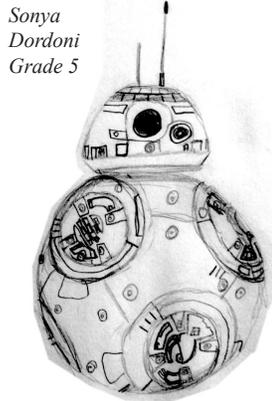
Lorelei Rivers Grade 5



Peighton Ellison  
Grade 6



Sophia Polise Grade 5



Sonya  
Dordoni  
Grade 5



Amber Briggs  
Grade 5



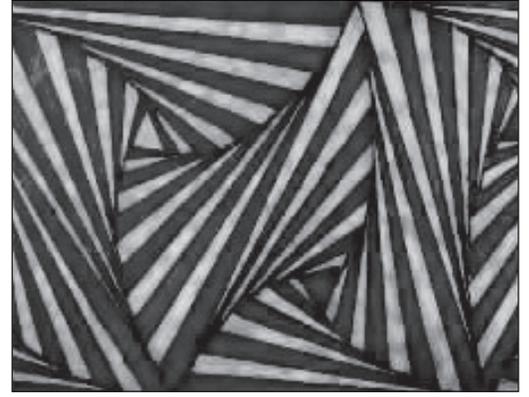
Amelia Reed Grade 5

Lacey Titsworth Grade 5



Dexter Bell Grade 5

Noah Cady Grade 5



# Artist Spotlight

**Kai Grow**  
Grade 6

*What is your favorite material to work in?*  
I like to draw in pencil.

*Why do you love to create art?*  
I love art because it's calming

*What is your favorite thing to draw?*  
My favorite thing to draw is graffiti or manga.



Marcus Pacheco Grade 5



Claire Ruffer Grade 5



Connor Romeo Grade 5



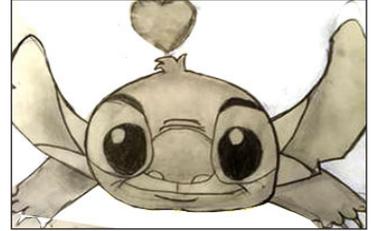
Hailey Earl  
Grade 5



Keeley  
Millsbaugh  
Grade 5



Elena  
Molina-Chilton  
Grade 6



Liam Kelly Grade 6





Suzanne Sydlansky Grade 5



Niyati Sharma Grade 5



Ahmed Ibrahim Grade 5



Elsa Ott Grade 5



Mya Ector Grade 5



Abigail Edsall Grade 5



Madalyn Nugent Grade 5



Connor Warrick Grade 5



## *Artist Spotlight*

**Sonya Dordoni**

**Grade 5**

**What is your favorite material to work in?**

My favorite thing to work with is a regular pencil. You can shade, you can do dark and light, and I'm not really the kind of person who likes to color my people drawings.

**Why do you love to create art?**

I love art because it makes me feel inspired and happy. When I'm angry or sad, I do art and it calms me down.

**What is your favorite thing to draw?**

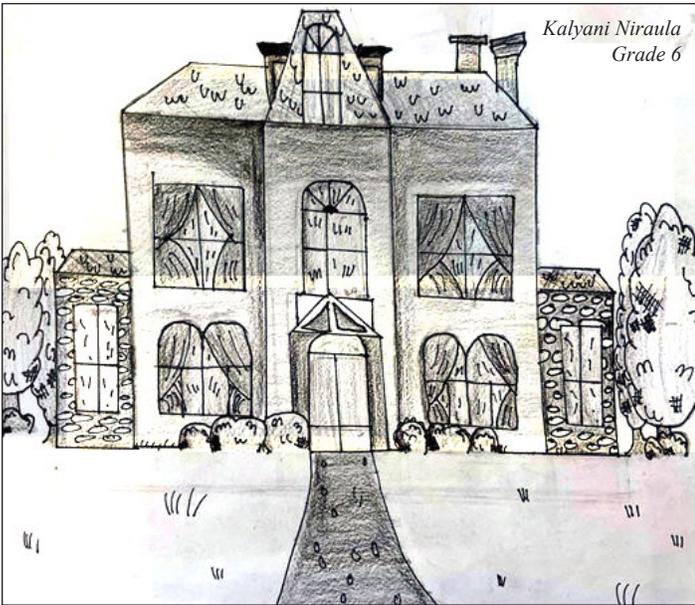
My favorite thing to draw is people and faces. I really like designing clothes and putting them on people. I like drawing people doing things like ballet, ice skating and gymnastics

**Who is your favorite artist?**

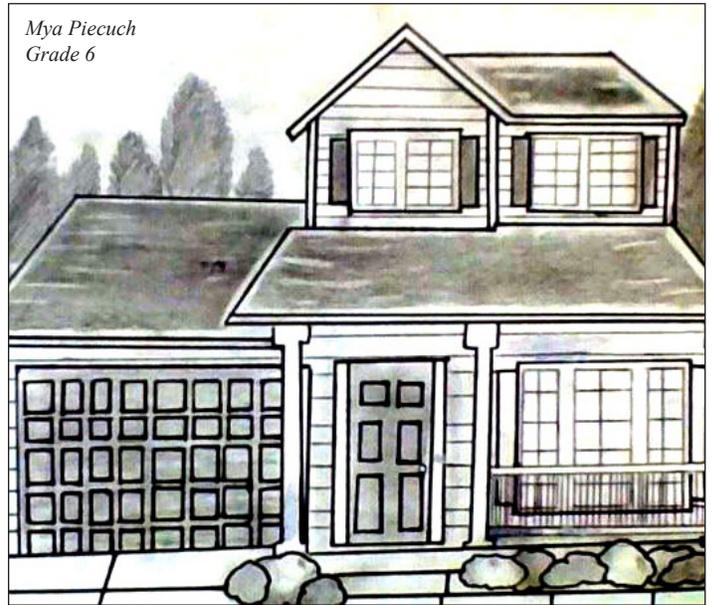
I do really like my aunt Julia's artwork. She's a wedding painter and she does other things like animals and beautiful mountain scenes.

I also like the Youtuber Moriah Elizabeth. She repaints squishes and she paints clothes. I like how she makes things colorful and fun.

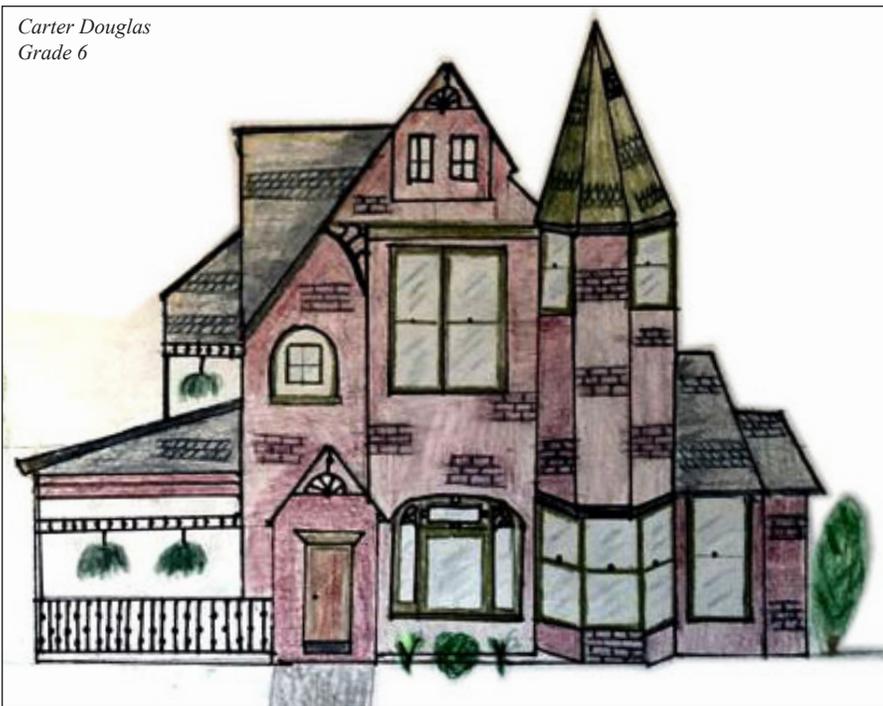




Kalyani Niraula  
Grade 6



Mya Piecuch  
Grade 6



Carter Douglas  
Grade 6



Tyson Utter Grade 6

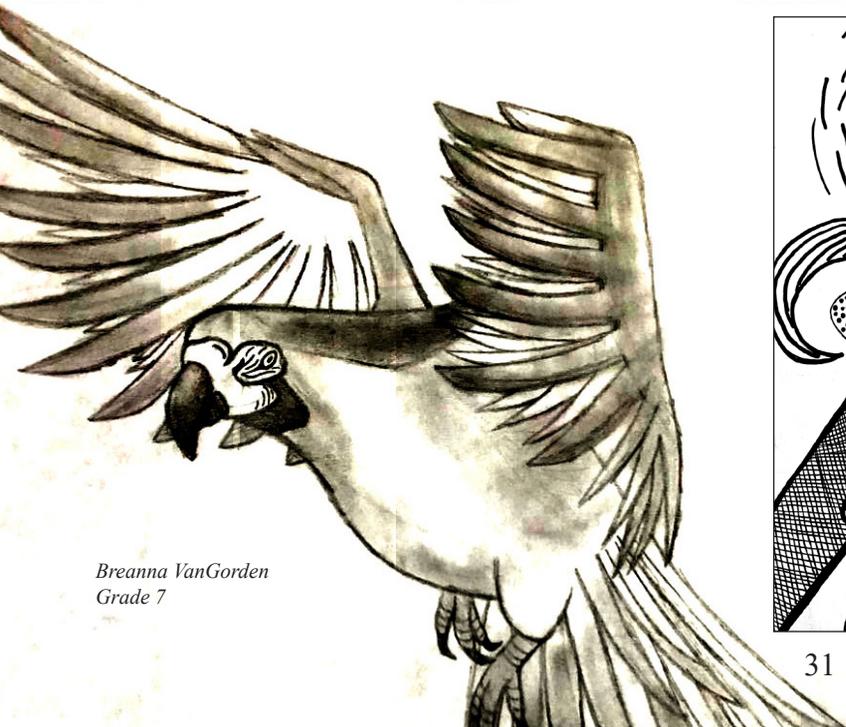


Gabriella Pagano Grade 6

# MIDDLE SCHOOL

Madison Rose Cavanaugh Grade 8

Grade 7 and 8



Breanna VanGorden  
Grade 7



Andrea Benjamin Grade 7



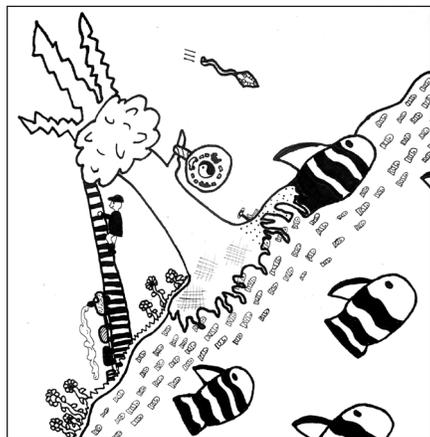
Anna Ruhmel Grade 8



Santiago Moreira Grade 8



Josh Knapp Grade 7



Keegan Harkness Grade 7



Olivia Hornsby  
Grade 7

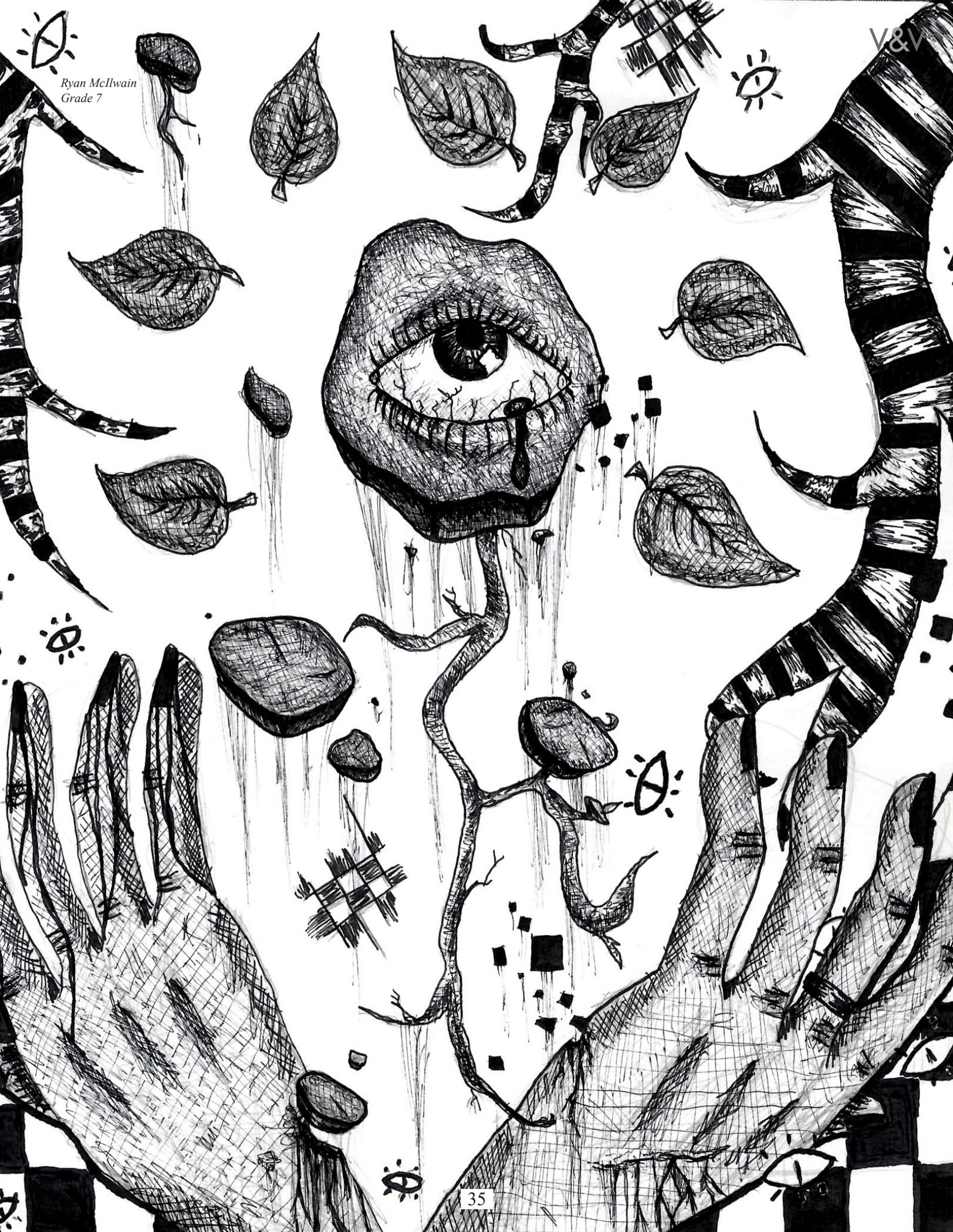


Sophia Christmas Grade 7

Zhi Chen  
Grade 8



Ryan McIlwain  
Grade 7

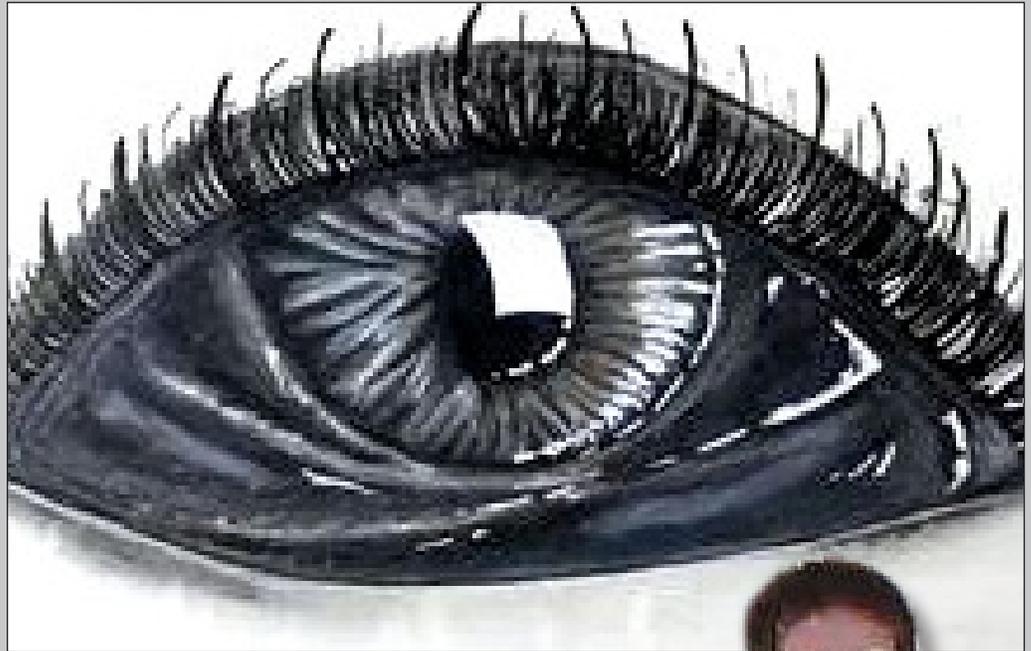




Karis Adams Grade 8



Hunter Stratton Grade 8



## *Artist Spotlight*

*Ayden Mekos*

*Grade 7*

*Who is your favorite artist?*

My favorite artists is Vincent Van Gogh

*What is your favorite medium to work in?*

My favorite medium to work in has to be clay or drawing with pencils in different shades.

*What is your favorite thing to draw?*

I like to draw people and creative characters.





# Artist Spotlight

**Mari Mayo**  
**Grade 8**

***Who is your favorite artist?***

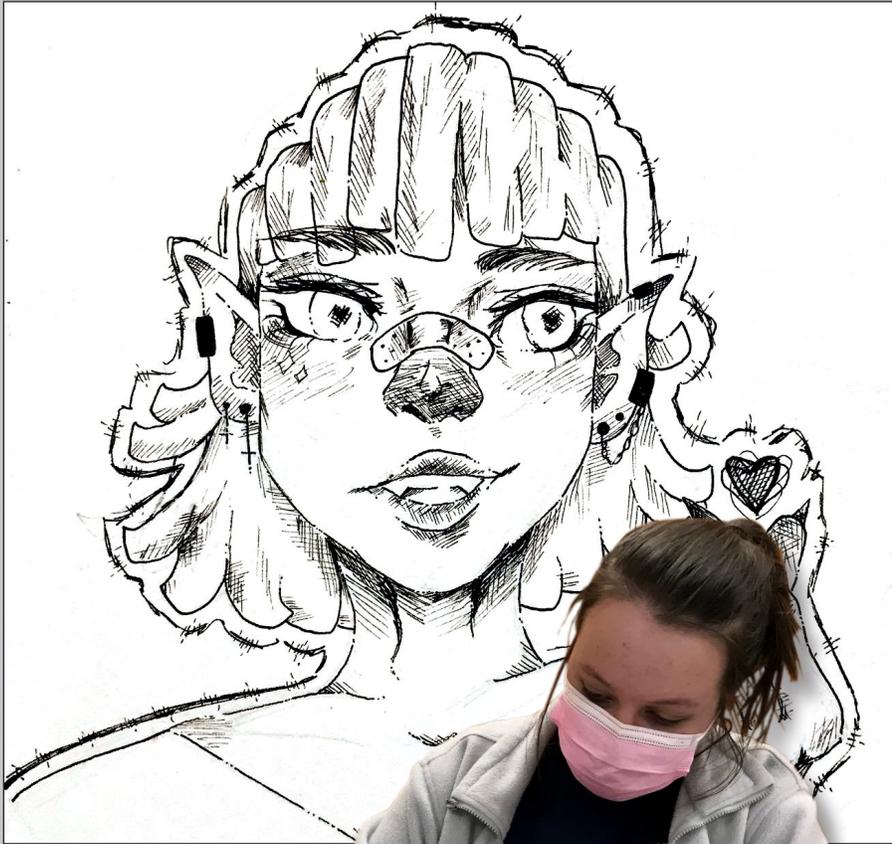
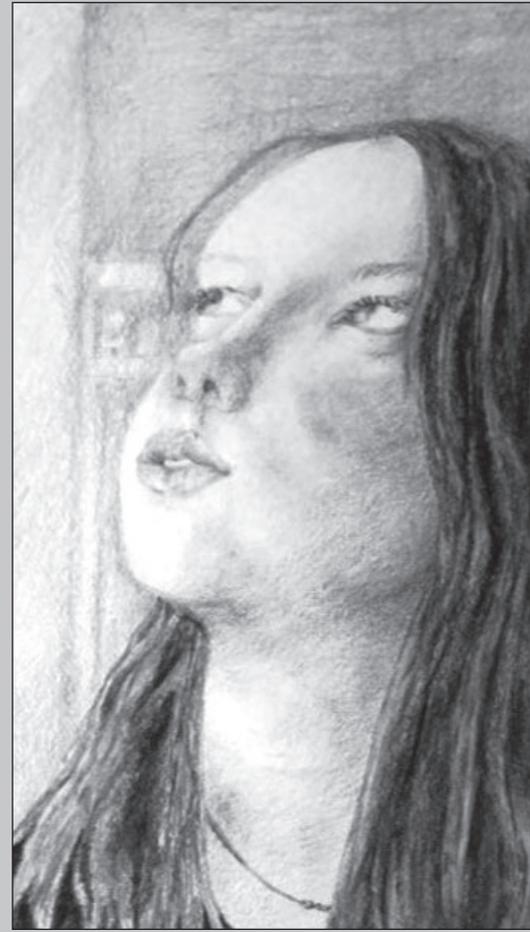
I don't have favorite artist currently, but rather I take inspiration from many different artists. Whether it be a famous painting or a classmate's drawing.

***What is your favorite medium to work in?***

My favorite medium is pencil or ink. I really enjoy using marker and playing around with linework.

***What is your favorite thing to draw?***

I mostly like to draw people, portraits to be specific. I like being able to capture different emotions and facial expressions.





Kasidy McCracken Grade 7



Kayla Rathbun Grade 7



Aubrey Howe Grade 7



Mark Mendez Grade 7



Grace Stratton Grade 7



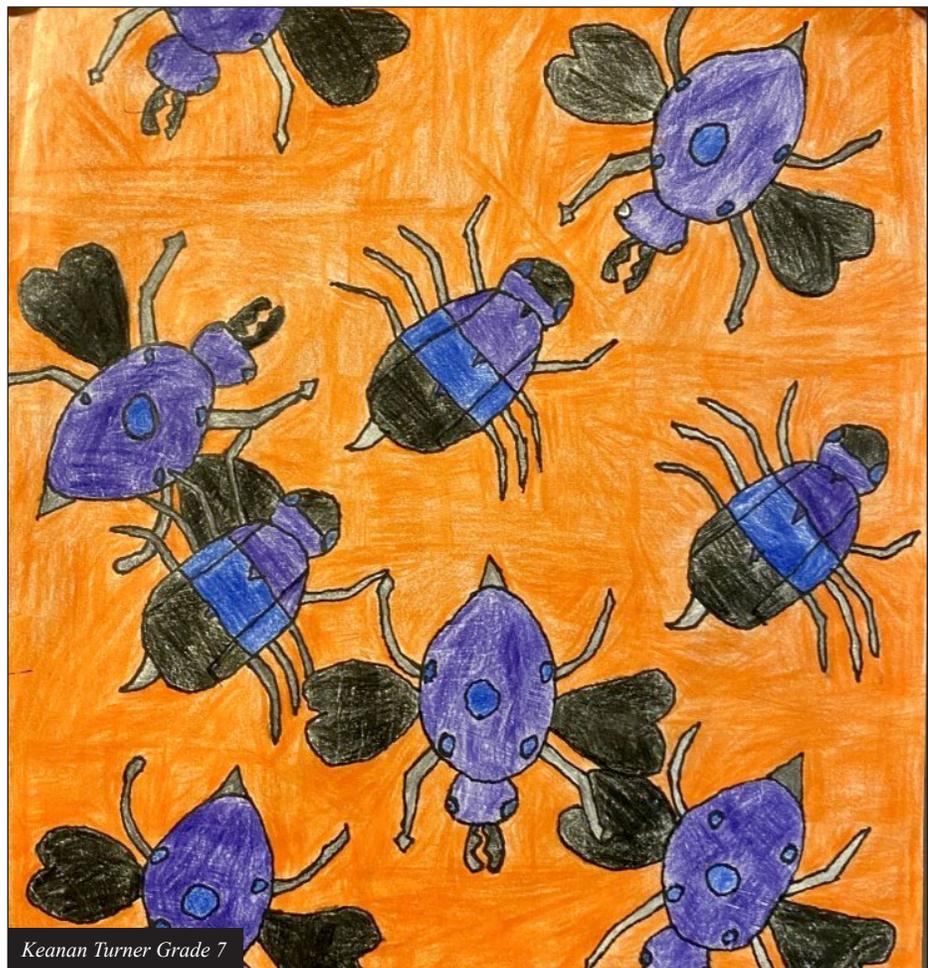
Madelyn Ellis Grade 7



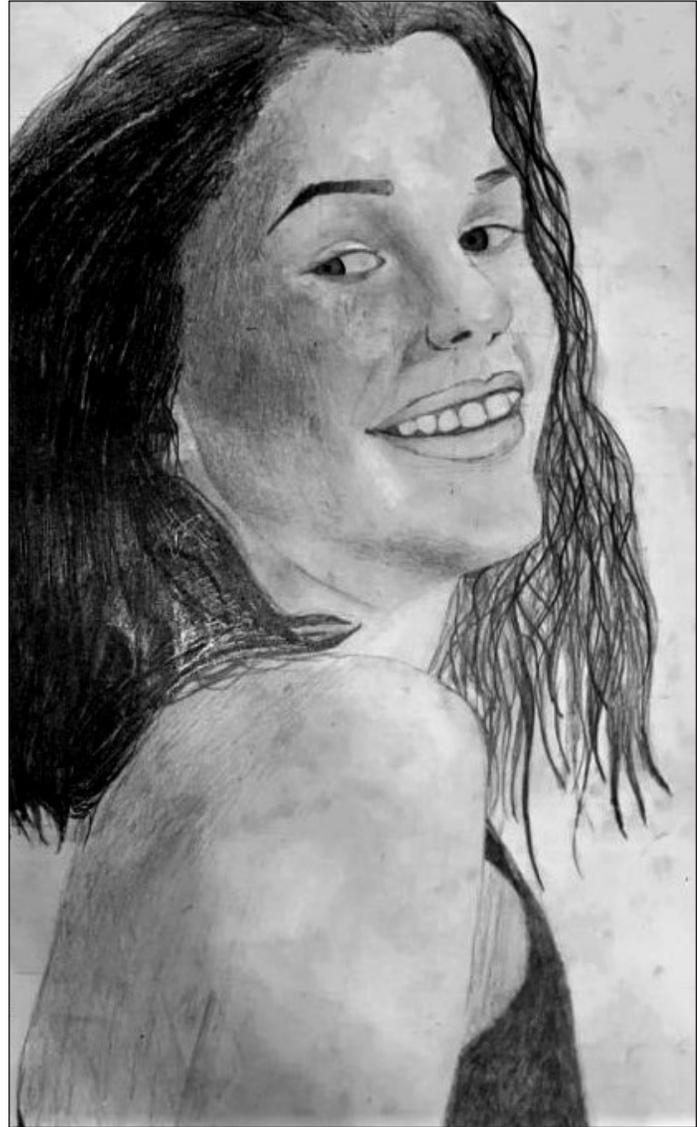
Mackenzie Baker Grade 7



Lucie Mackenzie Grade 7



Keanan Turner Grade 7



Arianna Fuksman  
Grade 8



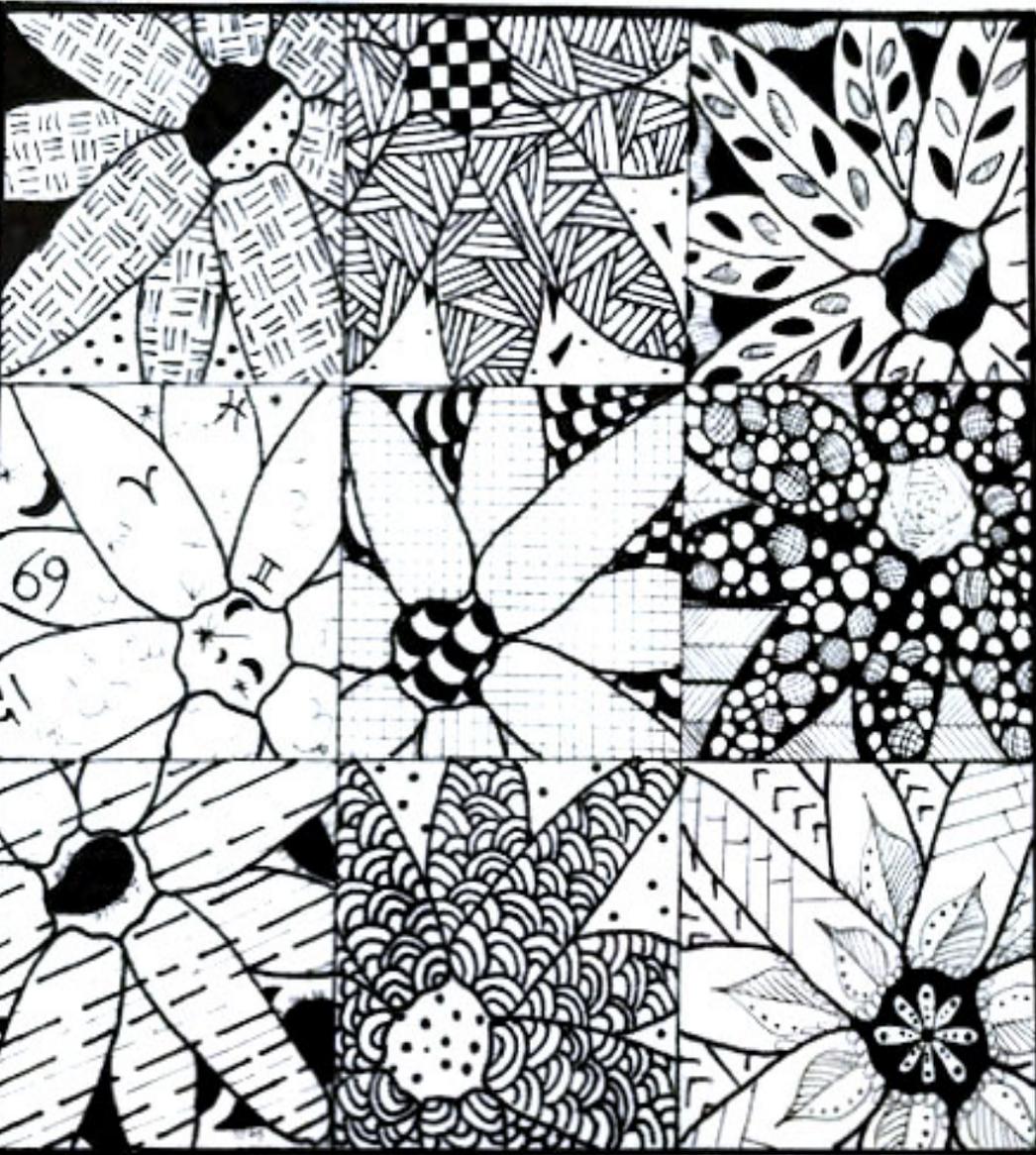
Amelia Ellison Grade 8

Gabby Janeski Grade 8

Riley Bronson Grade 8



Sadie Gustin Grade 7



Lauren Hall Grade 8



Tiffany Staight Grade 7



Isabella Custred Grade 7



Ellia Diezhandino Grade 8

Mallory Crum  
Grade 7



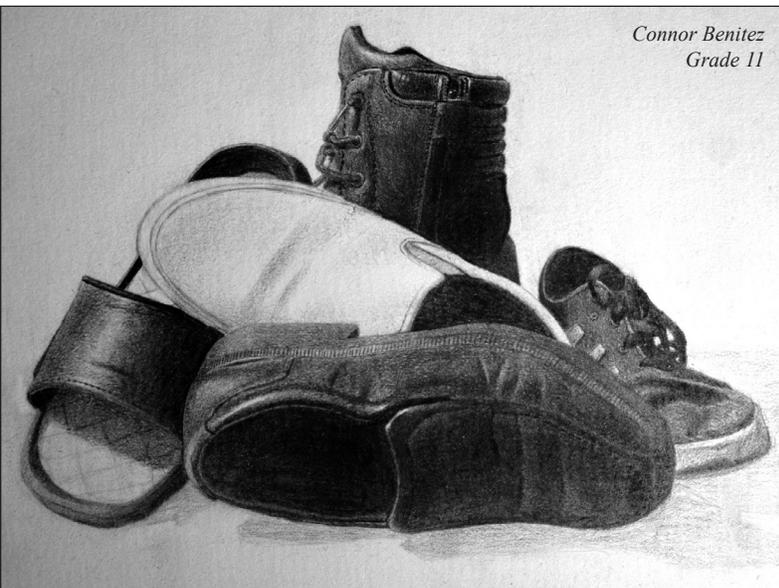
# HIGH SCHOOL

Grades 9-12

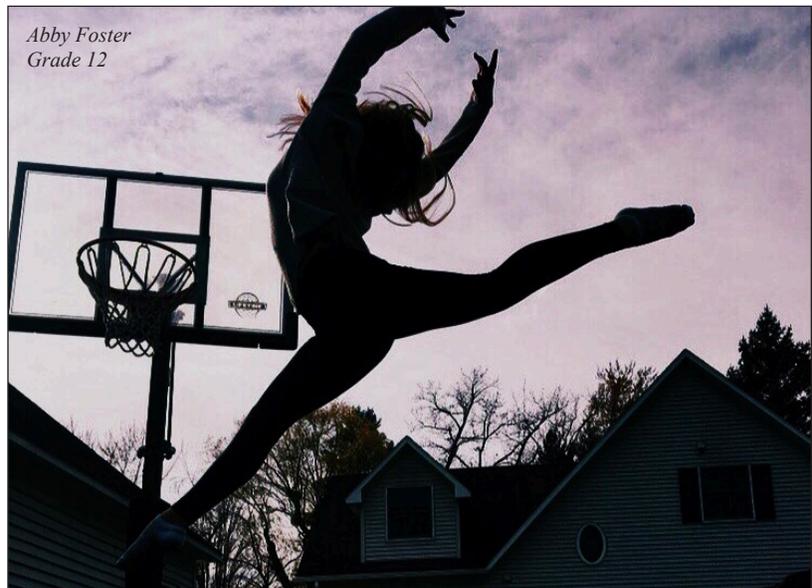
*Abigail Christmas  
Grade 12*



*Connor Benitez  
Grade 11*



*Abby Foster  
Grade 12*



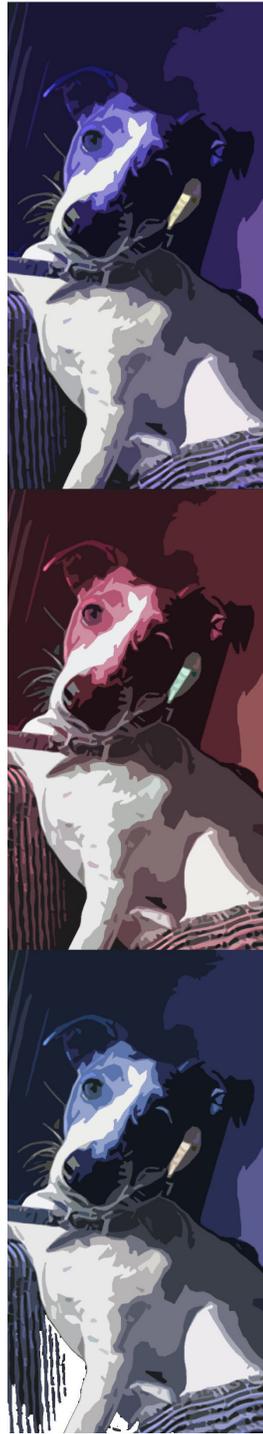


Katherine Beecken  
Grade 9



Gabby Salce Grade 12

Kelsey Gillette Grade 12



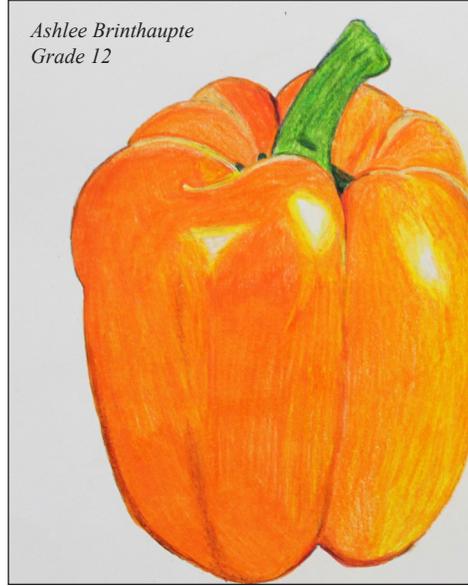
Nina Calabria Grade 10



Julianna Day Grade 10



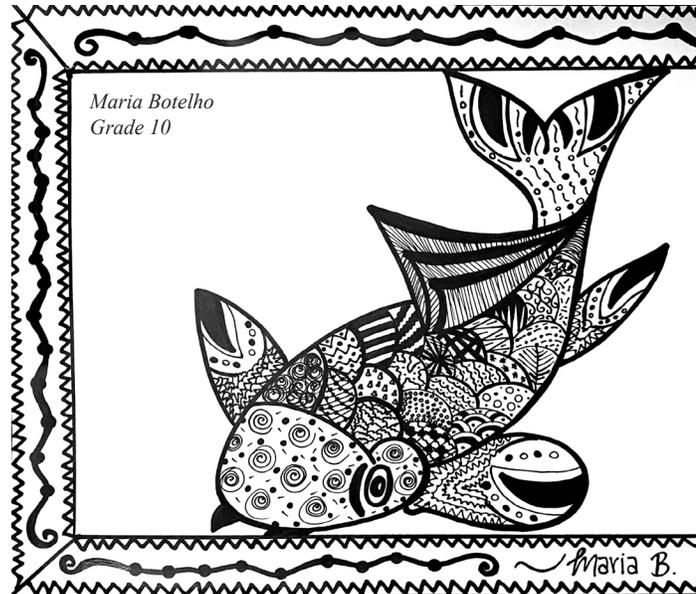
Ashlee Brinthaup  
Grade 12



Kristy Huang  
Grade 12



Nina Calabria  
Grade 10



Maria Botelho  
Grade 10

~ Maria B.





Madilyn Jerzak  
Grade 9



## Artist Spotlight

*What is your favorite medium to work in?*  
Digital art

*Do you have any advice for younger students in the arts?*

Dont fear struggling, it may suck but it means you're improving.

*Rory Coughlin, Grade 12*

*Do you plan on pursuing art as a career. If so, what college and what career?*

I plan on going to The College of Arts Media and Design at Northeastern University to study Graphic/Communication Design

*Who is your favorite artist?*

Edvard Munch



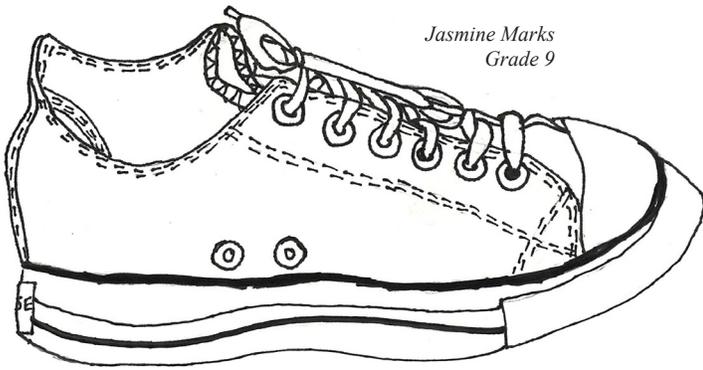
Tagan Mack Grade 10



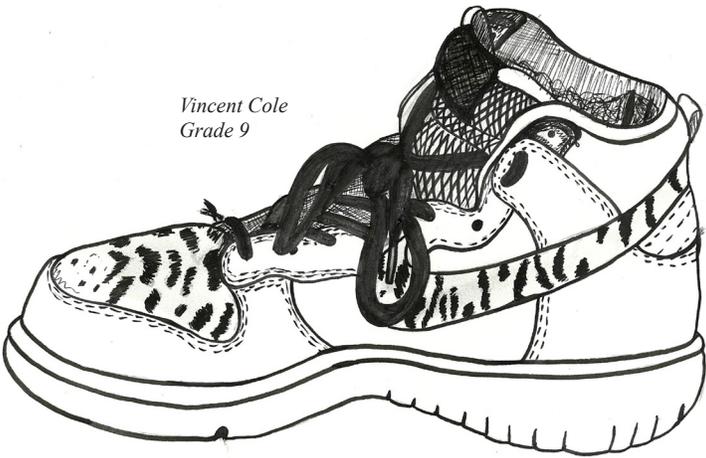
Tamara Mendez Grade 10



Jasmine Marks  
Grade 9



Vincent Cole  
Grade 9



Tagan Mack Grade 10



Juliana Day Grade 10



# Artist Spotlight

**Jason Thiel**

**Grade 12**

**Who is your favorite artist?**

Peter McKinnon

**What is your favorite medium to work in?**

Photography

**Do you plan on pursuing art as a career. If so, what college and what career?**

I will become a freelance photographer and go to Corning Community College for business and art.

**Do you have any advice for younger students in the arts?**

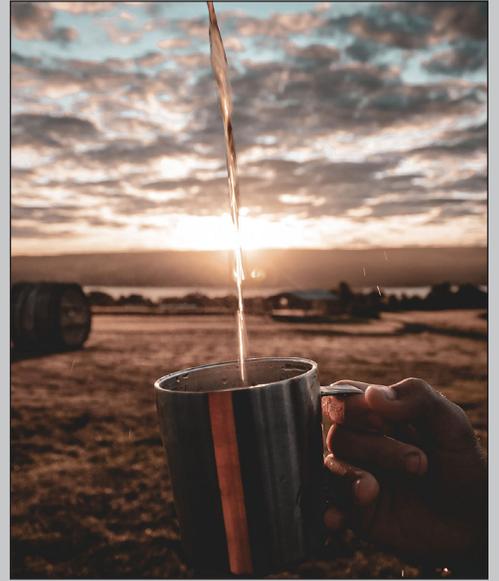
Don't stress yourself out because you want to enjoy what you're creating, but don't stop pushing yourself to become better.

Lauren Allen  
Grade 12



Kateri Condon  
Grade 12





Lily Quick  
Grade 12



Haylee Parker  
Grade 11



Kienan Blitz Grade 11



Madilyn Jerzak Grade 9



Kateri Condon  
Grade 12

Hailey Turner Grade 10



## A McDonald's Chinese New Year

Written by Rebecca Peng  
Grade 10

Clink. Clink. Clink.  
Everyone raises their glasses  
Chopsticks clinking To celebrate

Clutching your bowl of white rice  
You look around  
Fish, Peking Duck, Tofu  
Dumplings, Noodles...

What do you choose?  
Creamy, white fish  
Hot! Spicy! 辣!  
Confused glances your way

Such shame!  
Whose child is that?  
She's Chinese and can't eat spicy?  
Go eat at McDonald's!

Hot tears  
Anger, fire  
Spiriting away and away  
Gulping in air

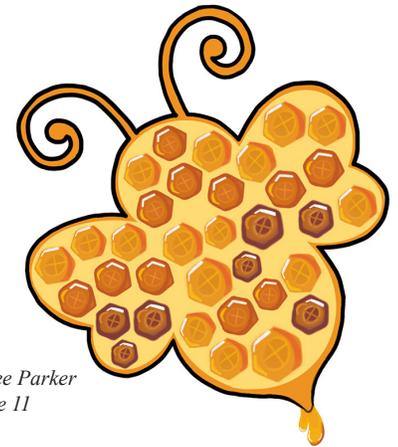
You sit in the booth  
A yellow M, Big Mac  
Spread red powder  
Biting in, and holding back the pain



Adrianna Nybeck  
Grade 10



Macy Karpowich  
Grade 10

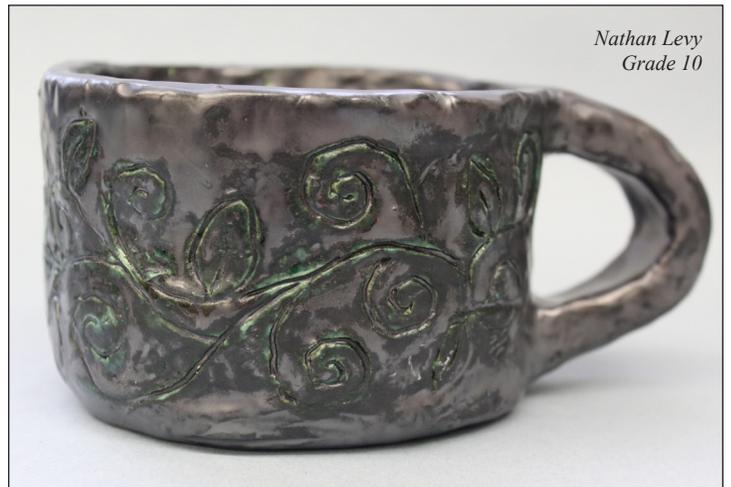


Haylee Parker  
Grade 11

Annaliese Little  
Grade 9



Nathan Levy  
Grade 10



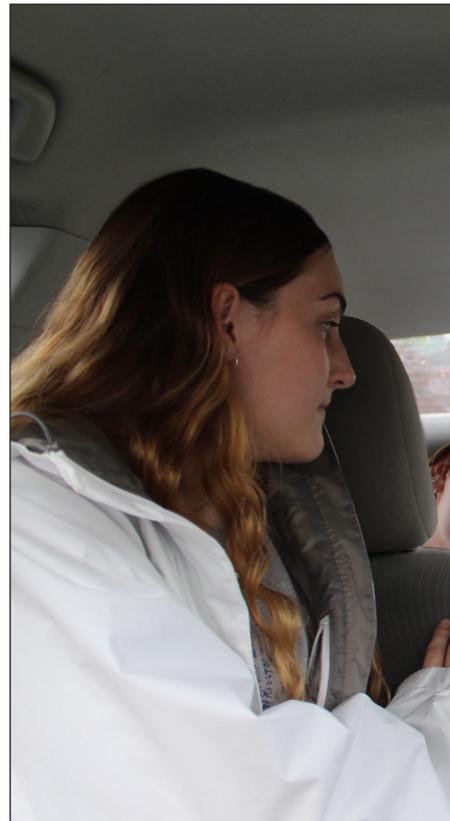


Zachary Webb  
Grade 12

Mya Gray Foster Grade 12



Annaliese Little Grade ?



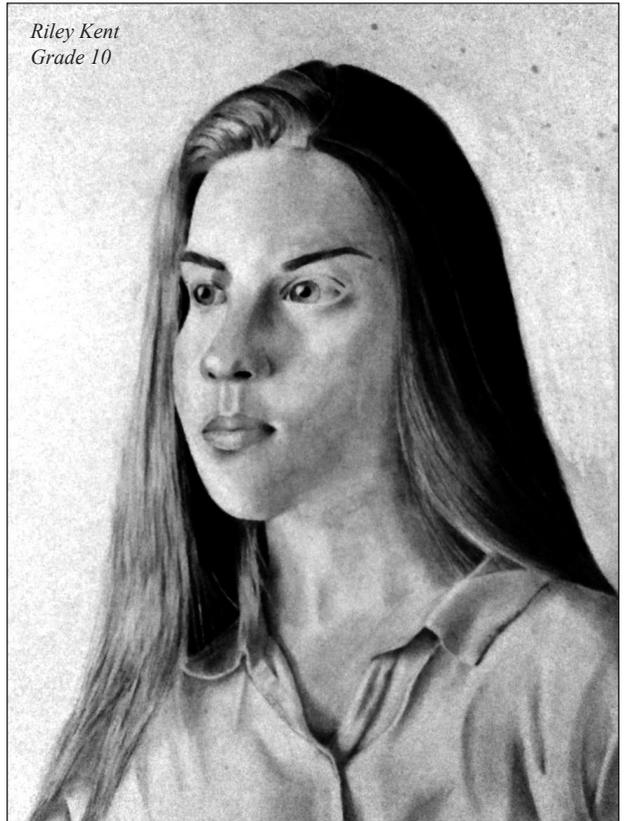
Mia Casada Grade 12



Erika Finch Grade 12



Emma Trefzegeer Grade 12



Riley Kent  
Grade 10



Alicia Carroll  
Grade 12



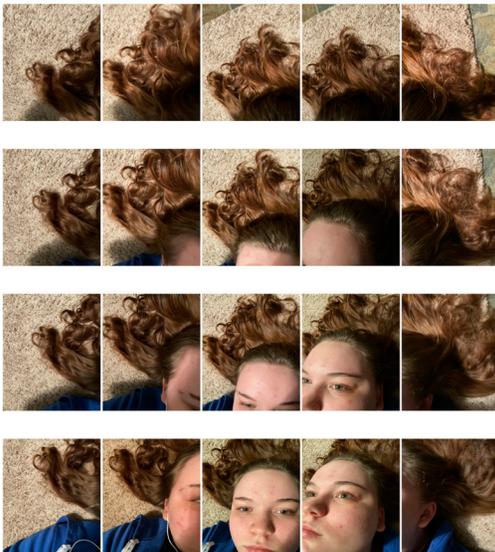
Mackenzie Minor  
Grade 10



Kateri Condon  
Grade 12



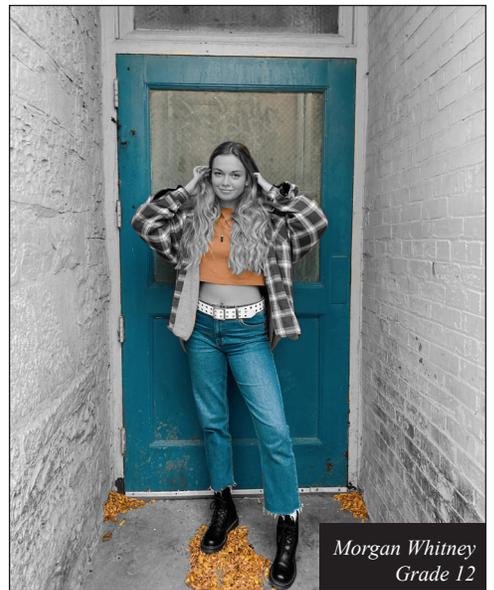
Haylee Parker Grade 11



Lauren Allen Grade 12



Roselyn Monks  
Grade 12



Morgan Whitney  
Grade 12

# Artist Spotlight

**Megan Rangstrom**  
Grade 12

**Do you plan on pursuing art as a career. If so, what college and what career?**

I plan on going to Alfred University as part of their art and design program

**What is your favorite medium to work in?**

I love to draw more than anything else.

**Who is your favorite artist?**

One of my favorites is Mike Butkus.

**Do you have any advice for younger students in the arts?**

If you love art do it, do it everyday and share it with others.



*Nina Calabria*  
Grade 10



*Nina Calabria*  
Grade 10



## Excerpt from *Ancient End* By Keira Mantey, Grade 10

"Someone has to go." Thandon set his shield down next to him. The tent felt eerily quiet, especially for the rowdy young men of the regiment.

"I say we send Celegon. After all, he is the quickest on his feet and he's quite agile." One of the soldiers suggested.

"Speak for yourself, Aithon. I'm not stepping foot outside of that gate past dark." Celegon rolled his eyes. "We starve then. Is that what we've concluded?" Thandon boomed.

"Come on, men. You've been trained to endure the brutality of war. Yet none of you are brave enough to go outside the tent to hunt for dinner?" He looked around. Silence. "They're bloody pigs." "Aye, pigs with the gaze of Medusa." Someone chimed from one end of the tent.

"And tusks sharper than the sword of Perseus." Another yelled. The men all grunted and chimed in in agreement.

"Silence. You're all beginning to sound like cowards." Thandon groaned.

"I'll go." I said meekly, raising my hand. Instantly, the blood rushed to my face and my raised hand began shaking. The whole regiment turned their attention on me, sizing me up and down. Then they began laughing.

"They let a woman into the army?" One of the soldiers boomed.

"Fresh bait?" Another cackled.

"Silence." Thandon roared. The tent was absolutely still. "Come forward." Thandon motioned with his hand towards me. I slowly made my way, with my head down, through the crowd and to the feet of the commander. "What is your name?" He said softly.

"Ithirae Merlara, commander." I managed.

"How long have you been a part of the regiment, soldier?" He sized me up. I heard snickering at his mentioning of the word 'soldier'.

"Six months sir." I stood with my hands pinned to my sides.

"Do you think you will be able to successfully retrieve two deer?" Thandon said softly.

"Yes sir." I said with a straight face. "Then I see no problem. Soldier, you are dismissed." He smiled. I

nodded my head and left the tent. I could hear laughing and snide comments until I was too far away to hear anything. The other tents were lit up as well, no doubt picking who they'd be sending out for dinner. That's how it always was. Only, I have no idea what happens to the men who leave the tent. I do know that I never can seem to spot them in the drills the following morning. Another reassuring thought to ease my nerves.

As I made my way to the gates of the camp, I could see various tents opening and small figures coming out. Each regiment seemed to send their weakest men out hunting. Likely because the task was close to impossible, and by doing so, they were weeding out their 'weakest links'.

Outside of the army's camp, the woods were infested with Bloodhogs. Bloodhogs are venomous boars that roam around the woodlands of Gladaria, Ancient Greece. They are completely blind, it is said.

Although one can not tell for sure by gazing upon their milky red eyes in their last moments. An image that will never leave your head assuming you survive, which has proved to be close to impossible considering only four of the ten regiments end up eating dinner in the end.

If you come face to face with a Bloodhog, they say your best defense besides brutal force, is to cover your eyes and battle using your sense of hearing. As if it isn't already hard enough to battle with all your senses to begin with. The Bloodhog's venom is shot out of a gland in its throat. It is like acid. It will turn you instantly blind. That is when the Bloodhog uses its unparalleled sense of smell to stab its prey in the throat with its razor sharp tusks.

They're the reason nobody wants to hunt for dinner anymore. They're the reason the camp is starting to starve. If it were possible at the moment, we would move our camp farther north. But we are surrounded. Our hope is, in the next month, to kill off enough Bloodhogs to make a path through the woods in which we will quickly flee through. The chances are slim.

"This is new." I heard over my shoulder. I turned.

"I get it, I'm a girl. So? Come on, keep going." I snapped. Then I saw who it was. Lieutenant Rowe. His chestnut brown hair was disheveled, and he has a bruise along the right side of his face. He had been in another quarrel.

"Woah there, soldier. I meant no disrespect. Anyone who fights with us is a friend of mine." He chuckled.

"I- I'm sorry Lieutenant. I didn't know it was you." I turned red. "It's alright, Ithirae." He smiled. "I wish you the best of luck. I would like to see you come back with all your appendages. I wish I could even dream of the same for the rest of this lot." I looked around at the skimpy men around me. We laughed.

"Thank you, Lieutenant." He bowed slightly before turning on his heel. I smiled and watched as he turned away. He seemed to almost always be smiling, despite our current situation. It made me wonder, sometimes, if he was mad. In a time like this, being at war with our own kingdom, shouldn't there be nothing but despair? Sadness? Fear? Then again, what would I know. I'd never seen action.

It was now late afternoon, and the chosen soldiers were beginning to gather at the entrance. As the horn blew, and the last of the men gathered, and it became almost completely silent except for the sound of the cold night air rustling the leaves on the trees of the forest. As if it weren't already scary enough. The men shifted their weight from foot to foot, looking uneasy. Then, an optimistic but deadly serious Gordon stood before us.

"We all know what lays ahead. Keep your guard up, don't forget to cover your eyes when you come in contact. Rely on your senses. We've trained for this. First one back with a deer for their regiment is rewarded first serve of any part of the animal. Go to it." The gates began to slowly open, the dark forest only becoming darker as the night enveloped us. "Good luck, boar-bate." One of the men snickered. I took a deep breath before surging forward.

Sydney Ham Grade 10



Lily Quick Grade 12



Vincent Cole Grade 9

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*I would like to give a special thank you to the teachers, staff, and parents who have helped make this possible. The Horseheads School District prides itself on our achievements in the arts. Visions & Voices magazine celebrates our talented student population at all ages. Now more than ever, the arts celebrate the best parts of life. Creative thinking and creation are invaluable skills for all students. Thank you for supporting our kids.*



VISIONS & VOICES

