

ART NEWS MARCH-APRIL 2019

Hello! I'm super excited that we have, "sprung forward," and that spring is but a week away! I, for one, am certainly looking forward to some warmer weather! It was really nice to meet so many new faces, and see many familiar ones during Parent Teacher Conferences, and get the chance to talk and celebrate your children and what they can do! Many of you brought your children with you, which was great, because it gave them the opportunity to share what they do in the art studio classroom and lead the conversation. If your child(ren) have art on a Tuesday or a Wednesday, he/she/they may have mentioned our student teacher, Mr. John.

Jonathan Leung is here with us this spring from Pratt Institute, in Brooklyn. It's great having him here as he learns and grows into being an art teacher. He brings with him a willingness to dive right in and inspire and get creative with our 166 artists!

Please mark your calendars: June 5th is our Annual Kid's Art Fair, 6-8pm in the school cafeteria. You will receive more information in the coming months about the fair and how to volunteer. And I promise you, if you have never attended before, it is a fantastic family event that showcases the artistic talents of all of our PS166 students!

Noteworthy:

The Hilda af Klint show will close on April 23rd at the Guggenheim-please go see this stunning exhibit if you can! Also, Frida Kahlo, Appearances Can Be Deceiving at the Brooklyn Museum is on through May 12th, Andy Warhol from A to Z and Back Again closes at the end of this month to make way for the Whitney's Biennale, (May 17th-September 19th), and Joan Miró, Birth of the World is on at the MoMA through June 15th. The Hudson Yards opened this past weekend-go see the Vessel designed by Thomas Heatherwick, a British Designer. It is a 15-story open structure of multiple connected staircases that cost roughly \$150,000,000(Yikes!)! Also try other museums such as: The Museum of Art and Design at Columbus Circle, the Cooper Hewitt, the Children's Museum of Art, Museum of the City of New York, New York Historical Society, the Queens Museum, out in Flushing Meadows Park, or El Museo del Barrio. The Metropolitan always offers a wealth of art to see, and great family activities! There is so much out there to see and do!

Ms. King

Questions-Email: Rking2@schools.nyc.gov



Check out the Vessel! I picked the perfect evening, as you can see by the sunset!

ART NEWS MARCH-APRIL 2019

KINDERGARTEN

Kindergarteners are learning about patterns. The reason they are doing this is to help them in not just their drawing skills, nor to put another art tool in their toolbox, but to help get ready to paint their 3-D guitars using pattern. We shared a fantastic read aloud, *When Pigasso Met Mootisse*, by author, Nina Laden. The book is loaded with wonderful illustrations and humor about the semi-fictional life of Picasso and Matisse.



(Students use Crayola color sticks-which are awesome "woodless" color pencils-no sharpening necessary that provide great rich colors)

Students completed beautiful oil pastel drawings that included guitars, and sometimes other instruments. Students worked on coloring in a uniform direction, blending, and layering colors, and filling the space, (the entire paper). Please note the lovely bulletin board on the first floor, outside K-101!



First Grade

We are continuing our *Urban Utopia* Unit, where students look at works by architects Zaha Hadid, (Iraqi/British), and Friedensreich Hundertwasser, (Austrian), as well as artworks by Bodys Isek Kingelez, (Belgian Congo, Africa), who created fantastic maquettes for buildings. Students will be brainstorming ideas about what an *Urban Utopia* might include. To start, students will be drawing building ideas considering both form and function. They will learn how to take a 2-D piece of paper and transform it into a 3-D building, and then they will work as architects in small groups designing a specific building for our First Grade *Urban Utopia*.

1-204 Construction Paper, Scissor and Tape Constructions-Designing an Urban Utopia.



SECOND GRADE

Students are continuing to think about positive and negative space in art through a study of Matisse's *The Dance I*, which can be seen at the MoMA. Students work on a drawing in their sketchbooks, and then create a painting. They learn to think about the figures, (bodies), as shapes.

Students also practiced modeling the painting by creating a *tableau*; tableau is French for "living picture." A tableau is a still scene containing one or more persons/(actors in theatre), who are posed and silent.

This year, students are taking some creative license with choice of sky colors, as well as skin tones! I'm super excited about this project, as are the students-they love to paint!

Works in progress below:



ART NEWS MARCH-APRIL 2019

THIRD GRADE

Third graders are working on their own unique versions of Paul Klee's Cat and Bird, (on view at the MoMA). Students learn about color theory through painting with areas of warm and cool tissue paper squares. In addition, students craft a story or a poem that has a cat and a bird for their main characters, or theme.



Below: Covers from the textless book project



FOURTH GRADE

As students consider symbols and their use, they design their own and transform it into a beautiful sand painting. Students viewed images of the cave paintings at Lascaux, hieroglyphics, from Egypt, and Native American symbols. Think present day, emoji's! I have also shared a bit of the work by sand artist Joe Mangrum. Mangrum is often found on his knees creating brightly colored ephemeral sand mandalas by the Washington Square Park Arch, or in Union Square Park on weekends. Check his website:

www.joemangrum.com/artnews

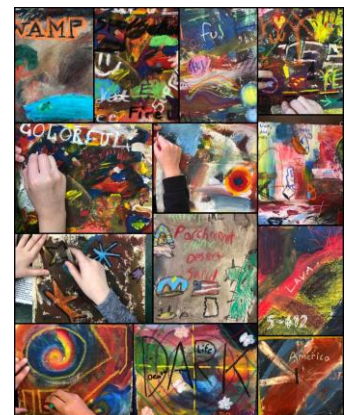


FIFTH GRADE

This week, students started working on the collaborative process of a painting drawing project. Each student painted an abstract canvas using the primary colors and white acrylic paints. Students were then assigned a partner and asked to add images and text to the other's painting. Students had time to share conversation first about their work, and planning next steps. The students were completely engaged, and as an art educator, this is definitely a project I would do again next year! The results are stunning. There's a bulletin board of them up on the fourth floor that has garnered many compliments! Check it out this month if you are on four!

There is a private, reservation only, sign up for wait-list), exhibit of Basquiat's work currently on view in the East Village through the Brant Foundation-website:

<https://brantfoundation.org/exhibitions/jean-michel-basquiat-exhibition/>



If you need to schedule a meeting, I am available most Tuesdays from 2:40-3:20, and can be available for a morning slot before school starts.

HAPPY SPRING!