



2020

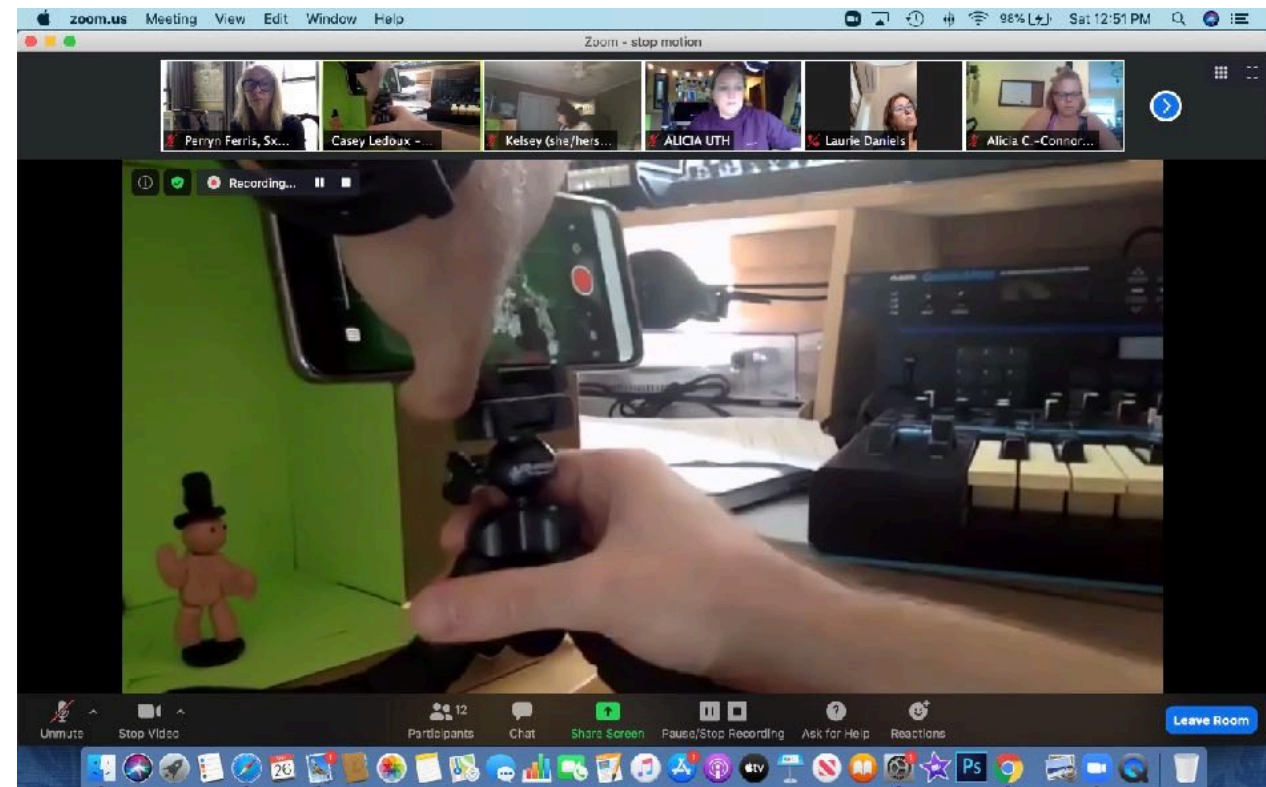
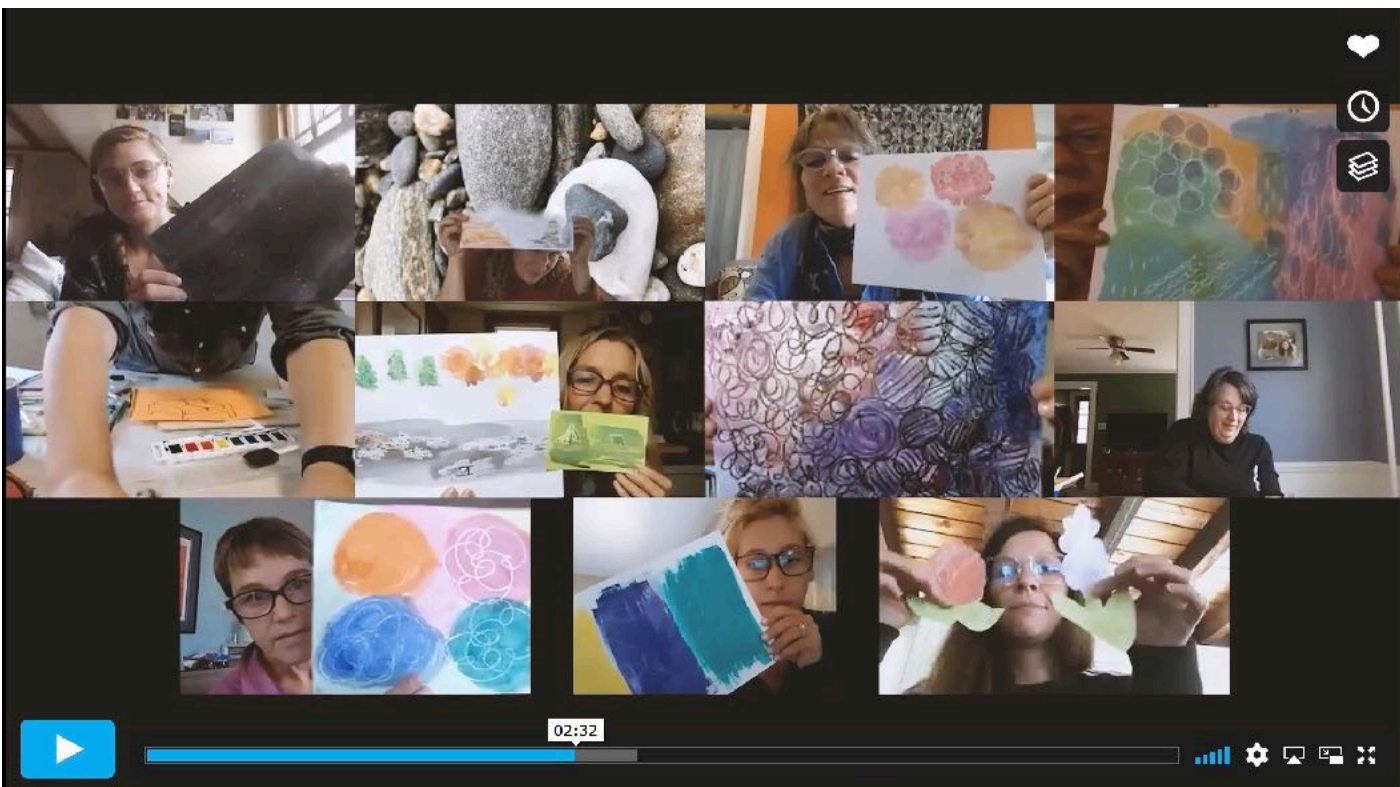
September Arts Institute

Saturday, September 26

Side x Side's annual professional development event became a one-day virtual event due to Covid-19



Side x Side's annual professional development for educators - the Summer Arts Institute - was moved online and to September in 2020. We were thrilled to have so many of our Portland and Lewiston educators with us for the one-day virtual event on Saturday, the 26th. Attendees enjoyed participating (and becoming students for a day!) in one of five art-making workshops: shadow puppetry, stop-motion animation, journaling, bookmaking, and performance and storytelling. This event kicked-off Side x Side collaborative arts-integrated programming in the Portland public schools and Lewiston's Connors Elementary School. We are very excited to be able to continue teaching academic content through the arts (remotely) this year!





2020

NAAEE Conference

"The Arts and Conservation: Arts Integration and Environmental Studies"

Side x Side was honored to be a part of the 49th annual North American Association for Environmental Education Conference in October. Side x Side staff members Anne Ackerman and Meghan Scribner filmed their virtual session, "The Arts and Conservation: Arts Integration and Environmental Studies," with help from Side x Side teaching artist Casey Ledoux. The workshop outlined a Native Maine Plants and Trees program that Anne created and implemented in collaboration with fourth grade teachers at Lyseth Elementary School last year.

A young girl with blonde hair is holding up a large, colorful drawing. The drawing depicts four figures with large, multi-colored wings (blue, green, purple, yellow) and are standing on a yellow and green zigzag pattern. The background of the drawing is a mix of blue, purple, and yellow. The girl is wearing a blue shirt.

2020

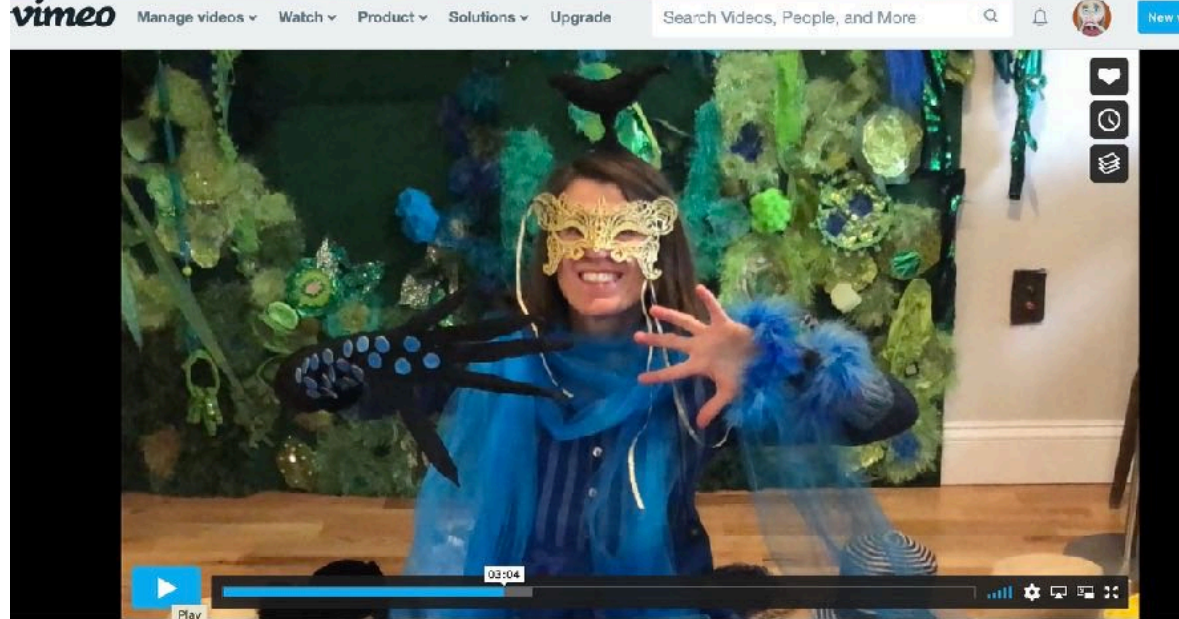
Second Grade Drawing Program

“Building Community”

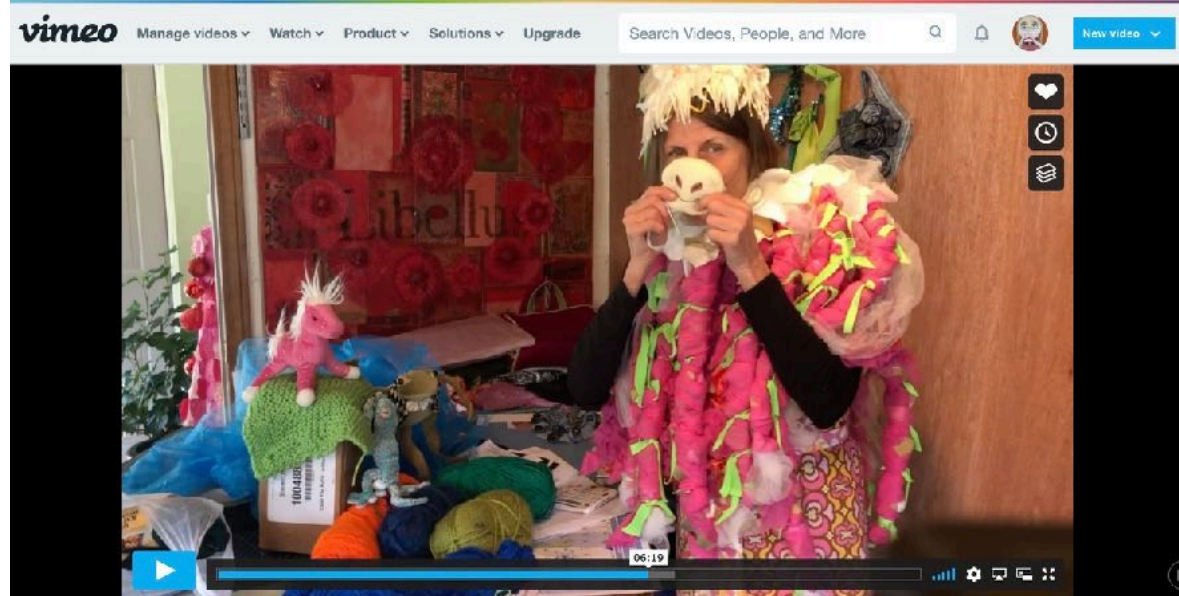
Teaching artist: Pamela Moulton

Ocean Avenue Elementary School

A virtual Side x Side drawing program for second graders at Ocean Avenue Elementary School which was led by teaching artist Pamela Moulton, was integrated with a unit on building community, facilitating conversations about diversity, and highlighting how much we all have in common. Moulton met with students during Zoom classes and created five whimsical video tutorials centered around drawing that teach students that art is everywhere! Featuring Pamela and her “creative spirit” Posey, the tutorials are titled, “What is your favorite read to self place?” “What is your favorite meal?” “What is your favorite place to play?” “Who lives with you?” and “My self portrait.” Each tutorial exposes students to a wide variety of art and teaches a drawing lesson. During classroom Zoom sessions with Pamela, students shared beautiful drawings they created in response to each video tutorial



Tutorial 5: My Self Portrait



Who lives with You tutorial 4



Draw Your Favorite Place to Play!



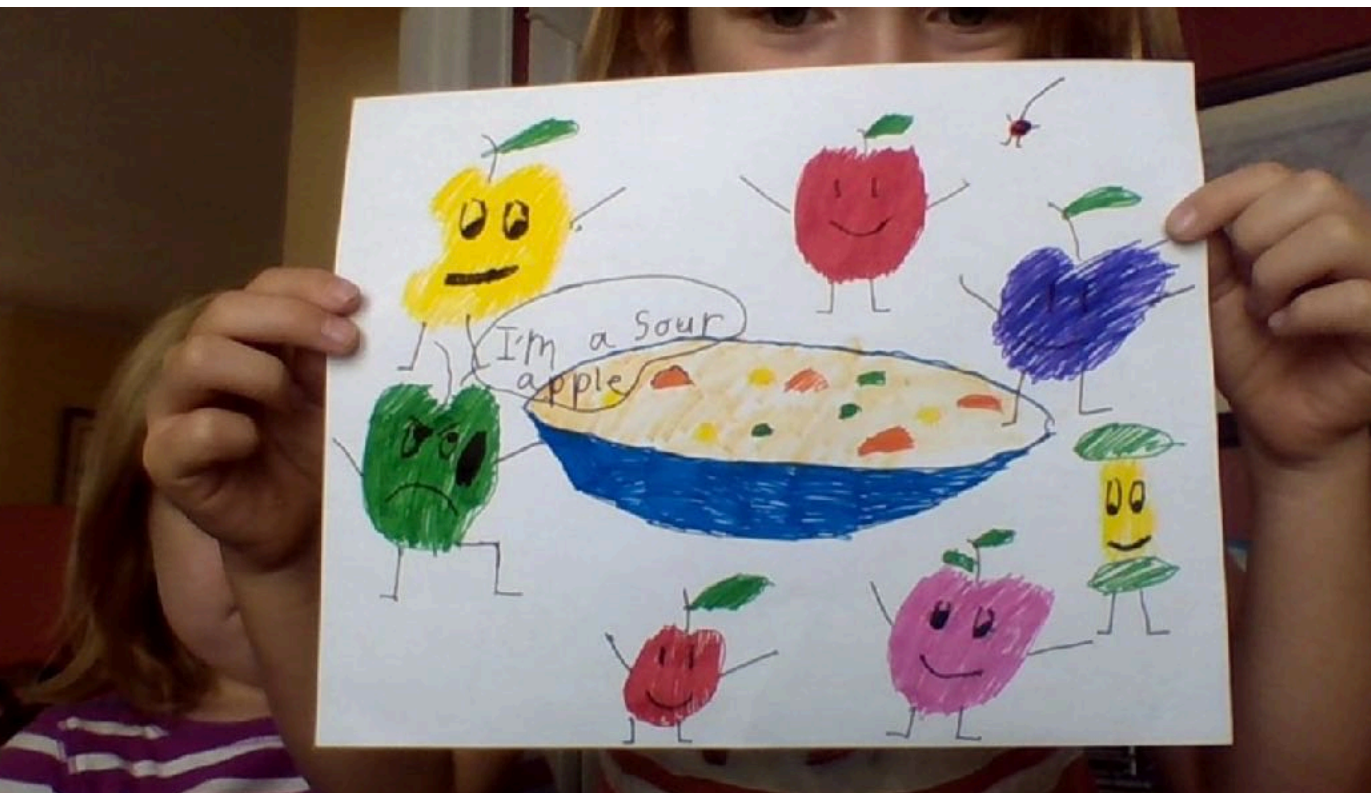
Making Art with Pamela - Tutorial 2 - "What is Your Favorite Meal"

Cooking is an Art form! Draw and create in the kitchen with Pamela and Posey!



Making Art with Pamela - Tutorial 2 - "What is Your Favorite Meal"

Cooking is an Art form! Draw and create in the kitchen with Pamela and Posey!





2020
Pre-K Movement and Improvisation Program
“Families, Emotion, Nature, and Ourselves”
Teaching artists: Meg Christie & Lisa Hicks
Talbot Elementary School

In November, a Side x Side creative movement and improvisation program for preschoolers at Talbot Elementary School (formerly Riverton) was led by teaching artists Meg Christie and Lisa Hicks. In collaboration with classroom teachers Christine Wirth and Jen Seed, the program brought stories to life in Talbot’s outdoor classroom. Using the books “Crybaby” by Karen Beaumont and “The Hello Goodbye Window” by Norton Justin and Chris Raschka as anchor texts in addition to other books, students participated in creative movement and improvisation exercises that explored the themes of family, emotions, nature, and ourselves. The program culminated in a final student performance captured on video.



2020

Fourth Grade Bookmaking Program

“Extreme Weather”

Teaching artist: Anne Ackerman

Ocean Avenue Elementary School



Also in November, fourth graders at Ocean Avenue Elementary school completed a Side x Side bookmaking program led virtually (over Zoom) by teaching artist Anne Ackerman and based on a science and literacy unit on extreme weather. During the program, students made six-page accordion booklets (with pockets for a map) that detailed a particular extreme weather event. Students learned about the use of symbols as warning systems for extreme weather and as guidance for safety and created their own symbols for their booklets. Each booklet has pages dedicated to a description, sequence, cause and effect, compare and contrast, and problem and solution. Using watercolor pencils, students created imagery for each page which, along with their paragraphs, was designed to help the reader better understand their weather event.





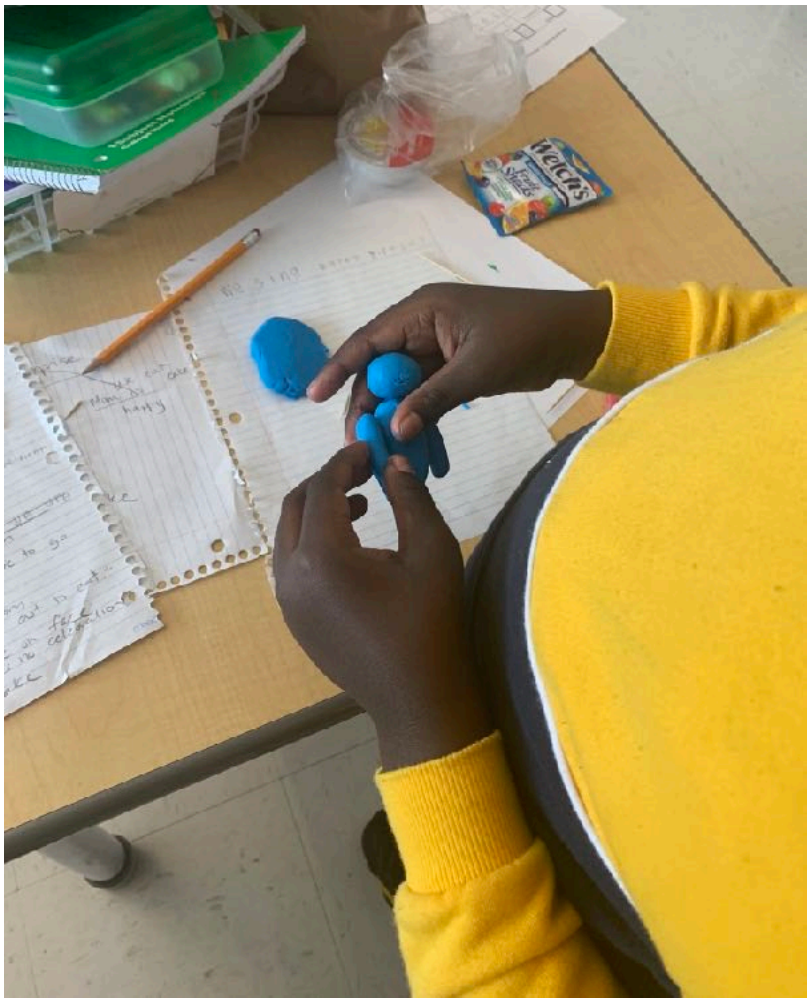
2020-2021

Fourth and Fifth Grade Stop Motion Animation Program

“Our Many Stories”

Teaching artist: Casey Ledoux
East End Community School

At the East End Community School, A Side x Side stop motion animation program led by teaching artist Casey Ledoux and integrated with a narrative writing unit began in November and wrapped up in February. Called, “Our Many Stories,” the community-building program allowed students to explore and share their family’s culture and history through stop motion animation videos. After completing a script based on an important event in their lives, students created clay characters and green screen sets to animate their stories. They then recorded in-character voice overs to bring their stories to life. Ledoux compiled all the student animations into one longer film and premiered it online via Zoom.





2020

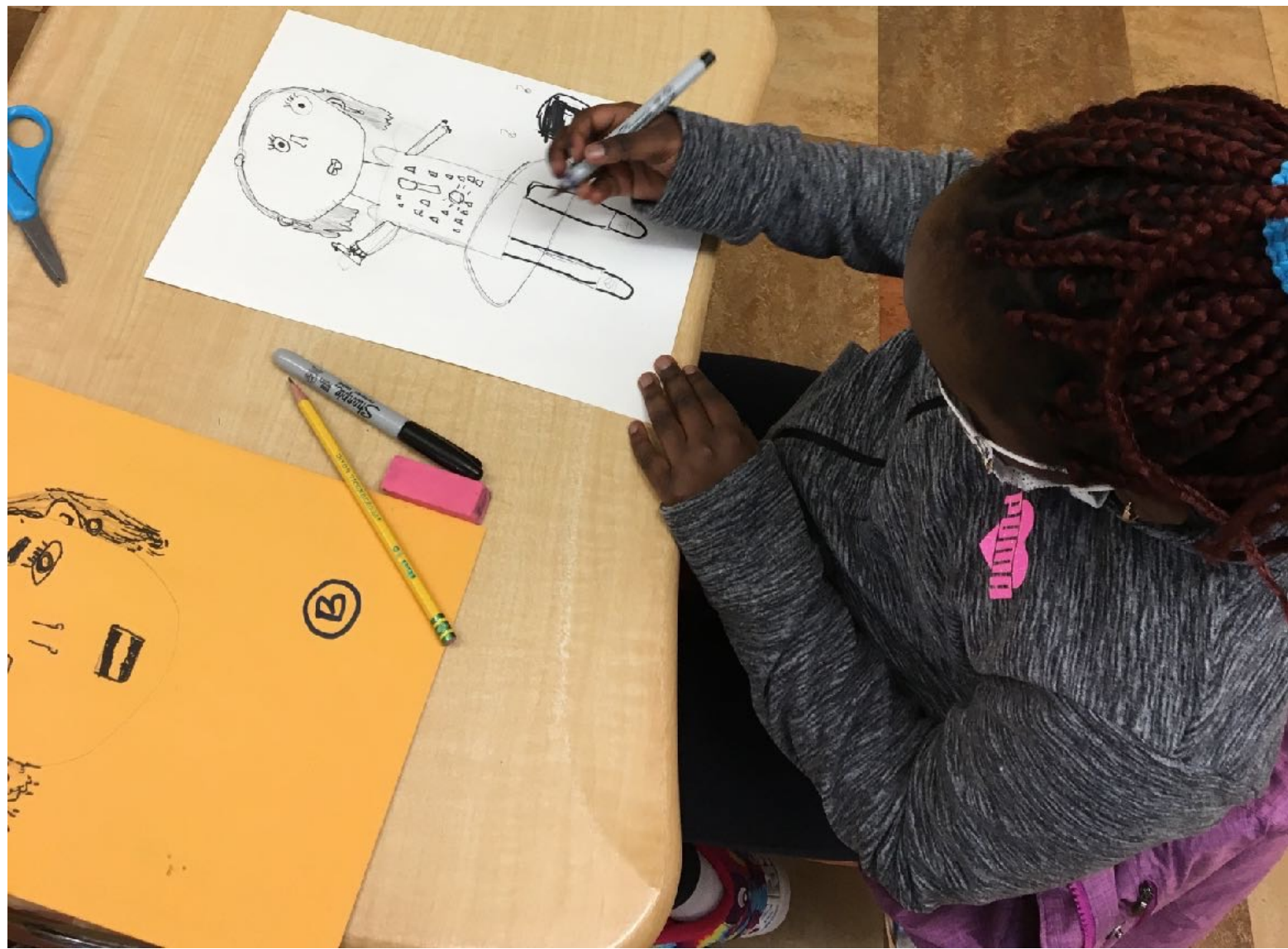
First Grade Self Portrait Program

“Who We Are”

Teaching artist: Sarah Boyden

Ocean Avenue Elementary School

First graders at Ocean Avenue Elementary School participated in a Side x Side self portraiture program led by teaching artist Sarah Boyden and based on a literacy unit exploring “Who We Are.” Art supplies were delivered to the first grade classrooms of Ms. Lausier, Ms. Mohamed, and Ms. Peterson and Boyden led sessions over Zoom to help students create two self portrait puppets and illustrated and painted background settings. During the program, students also enjoyed a Zoom visit by Side x Side teaching artist and master storyteller Antonio Rocha





2020

Fourth Grade Bookmaking Program

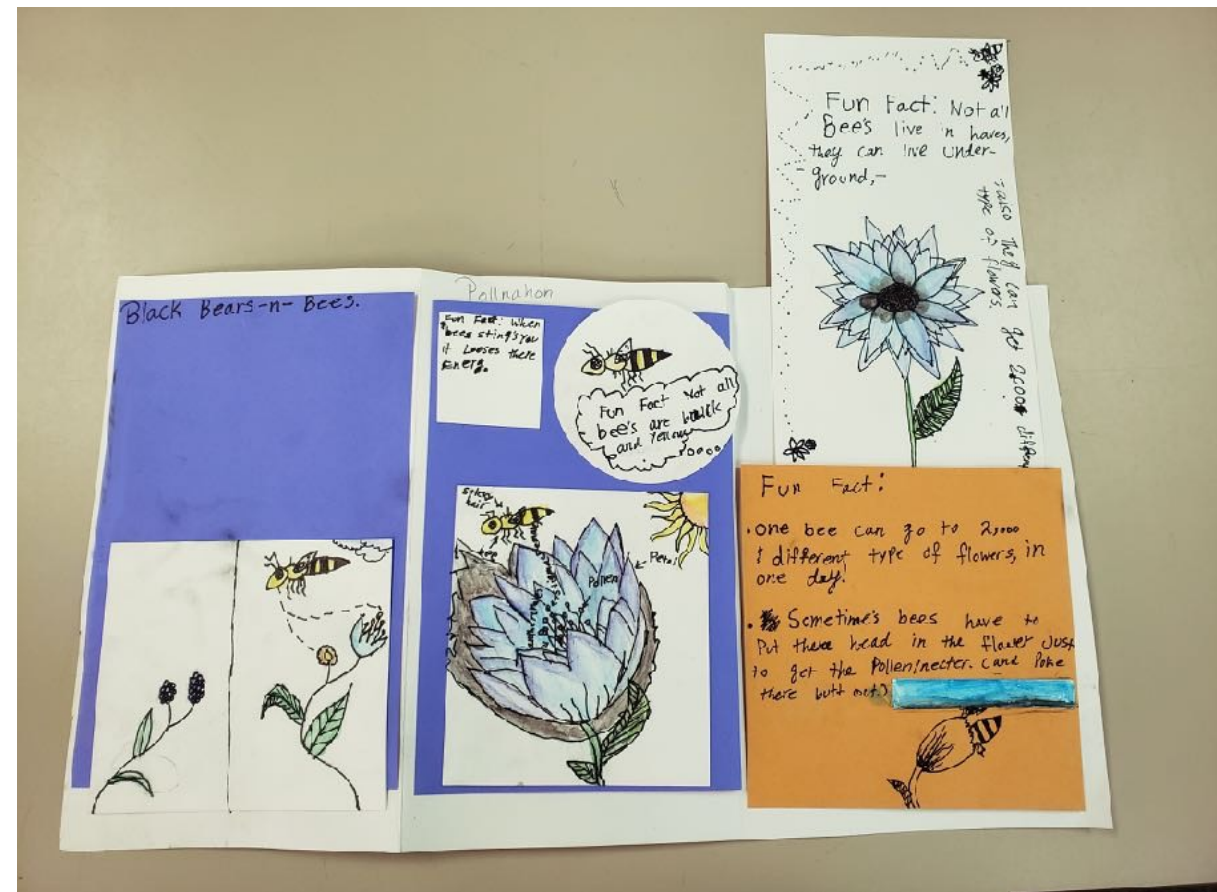
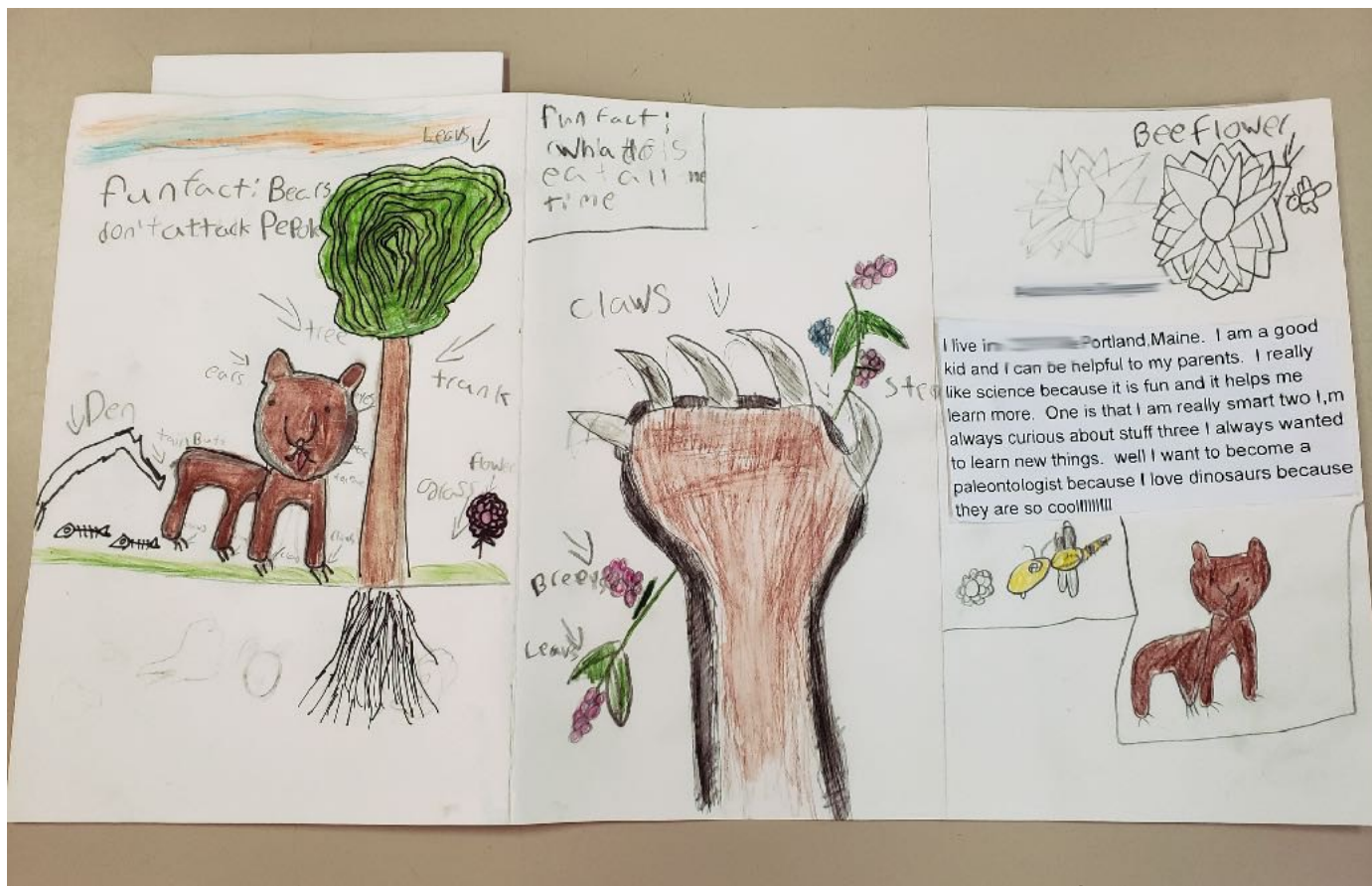
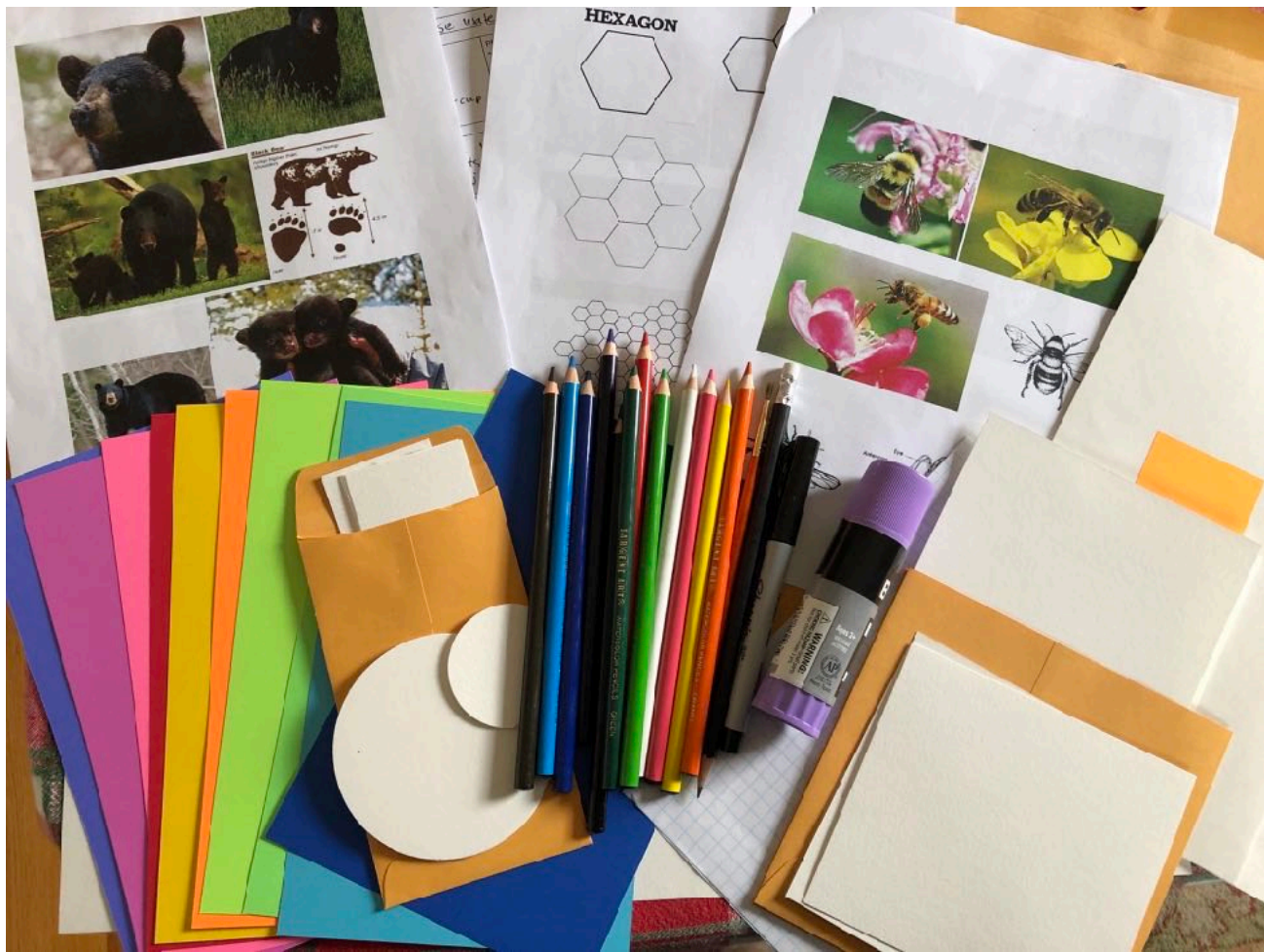
“Phenomena in Science”

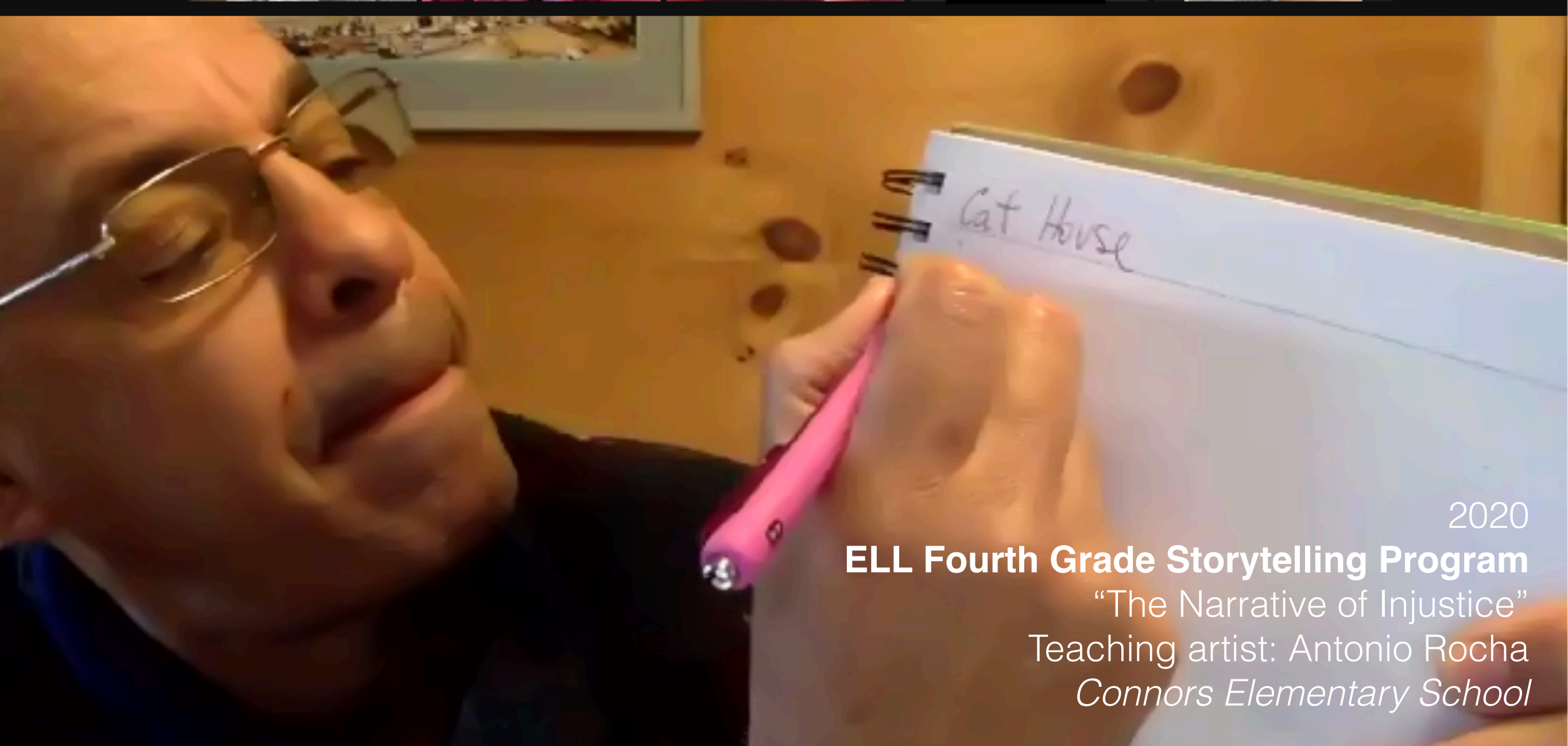
Teaching artist: Anne Ackerman

Talbot Elementary School



In December, fourth grade students at Talbot Elementary School (formerly Riverton) completed a Side x Side bookmaking program led by teaching artist Anne Ackerman and based on a literacy and science unit studying the adaptations of and relationship between plants, bees, pollination, and black bears. The program kicked off with a visit via Google Meet from Deb Perkins of First Light Wildlife Habitats to learn all about pollination and bees. Then students worked with Ackerman over Google Meet and through video tutorials to create informational accordion books using watercolor paper, mixed media papers, watercolor pencils, and pop-ups (supplies that were delivered to the school at the beginning of the program). As part of their books, students created and labeled drawings of flowers, bees, and black bears to demonstrate their symbiotic relationship and the adaptations that help them survive. Each student finished the program with a completed book that is a beautiful and informational resource..





2020

ELL Fourth Grade Storytelling Program

“The Narrative of Injustice”

Teaching artist: Antonio Rocha

Connors Elementary School

Fourth grade ELL students in Ms. Hubbards class at Connors Elementary School in Lewiston participated in a Side x Side narrative storytelling program led by teaching artist Antonio Rocha. During the program, students engaged in various storytelling exercises to learn how to gather details and narrate in an arc format for video. Rocha also taught storytelling techniques such as facial expression/manipulation and using hand gestures to craft stories. Using their memories, students created personal narratives and recorded their stories using Seesaw. Through the sharing of their stories with Rocha and their class over Zoom, students gained a sense of empowerment and empathy for their fellow classmates.



2020-2021

Third Grade Journaling Program

“Hope and Joy”

Teaching artists: Molly Brown
and Jill Osgood

Rowe Elementary School

Third graders in Ms. Dowdy’s class at Rowe Elementary School participated in a Side x Side “Hope and Joy” journaling program led by teaching artists Molly Brown and Jill Osgood that began in December and wrapped up in February. Over a span of five sessions, students worked on developing a daily journal practice with writing prompts for inspiration. Meeting in real time via Google Meet, Molly and Jill introduced pencil sketching and watercolors as tools to communicate emotions to bring stories to life. Throughout the program, students shared their work in weekly discussion break out sessions. The program culminated in a printed collage-style poster featuring watercolor illustrations from every student in the class.



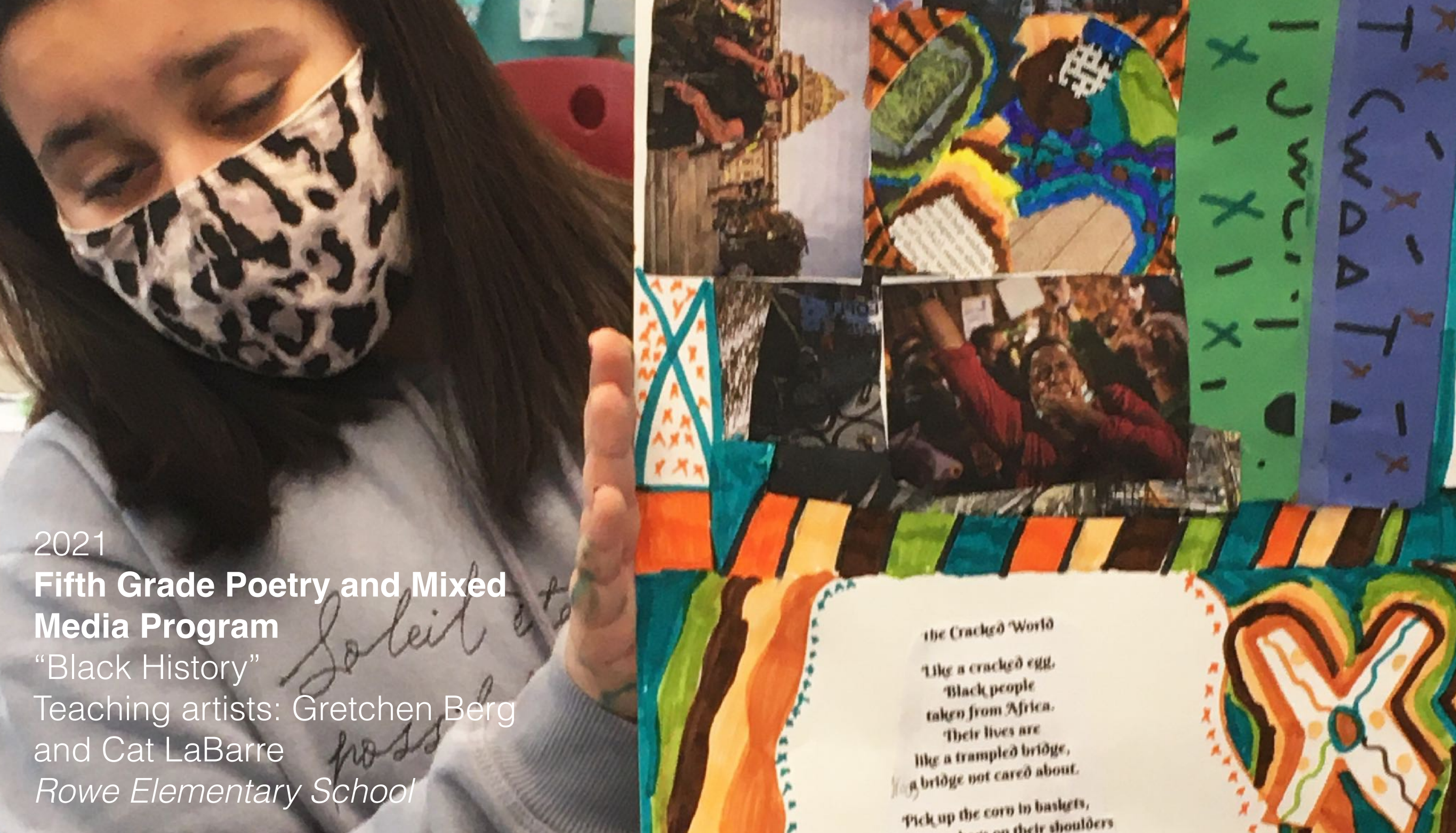


2021

Fourth Grade Collage, Illustration and Realistic Fiction Writing Program

Teaching artists: Karen Brooks, Leah Cross
Connors Elementary School

A Side x Side bookmaking program for fourth graders wrapped up in February at Connors Elementary School in Lewiston. Led remotely by teaching artists Leah Cross and Karen Brooks and integrated with a literacy unit on narrative writing, students learned how various collage artists utilize different techniques, colors, and shapes to create a range of moods and feelings. During the program, students created self-portraits to represent their personal traits and unique identities as well as illustrations that represent the fictional characters they developed for their stories. Students imagined stories from their own lives and stories they wish existed while developing believable characters with struggles and motivations. Each student created a book/journal that used collage and illustration to bring their fictional stories to life.



2021

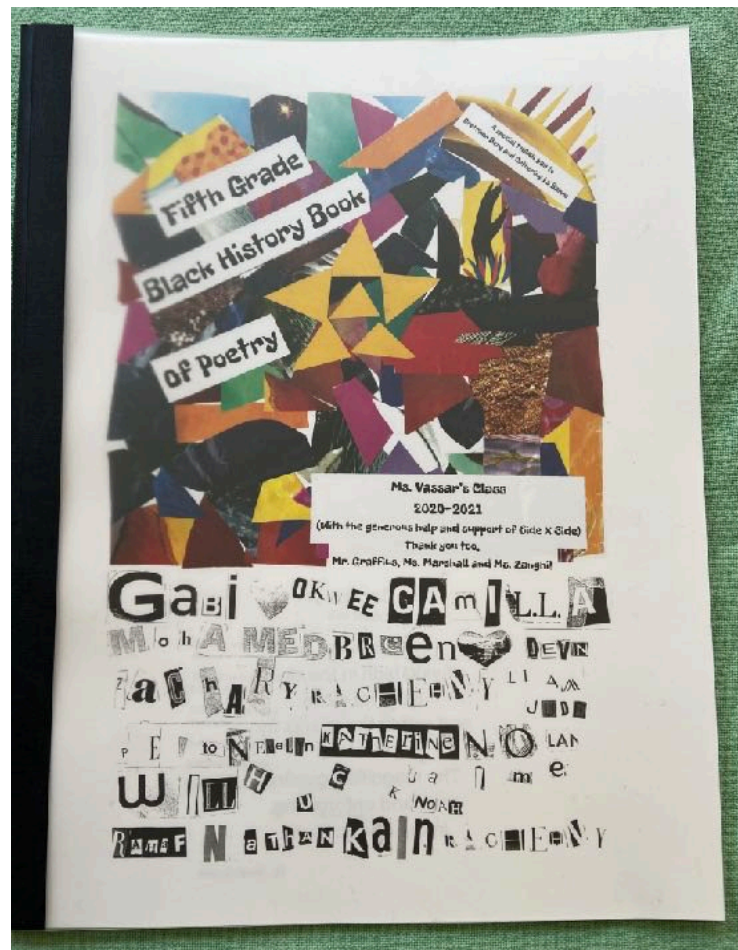
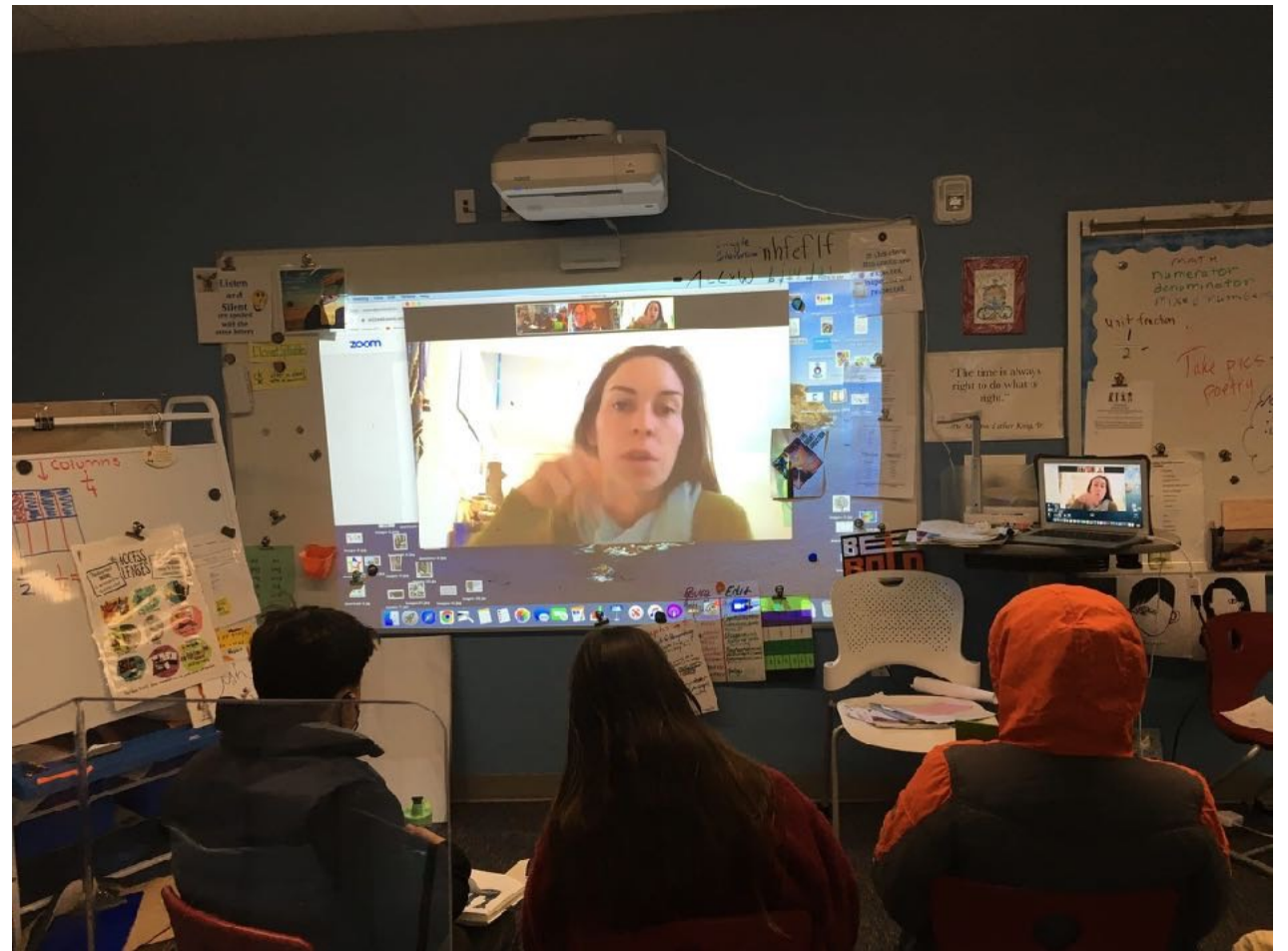
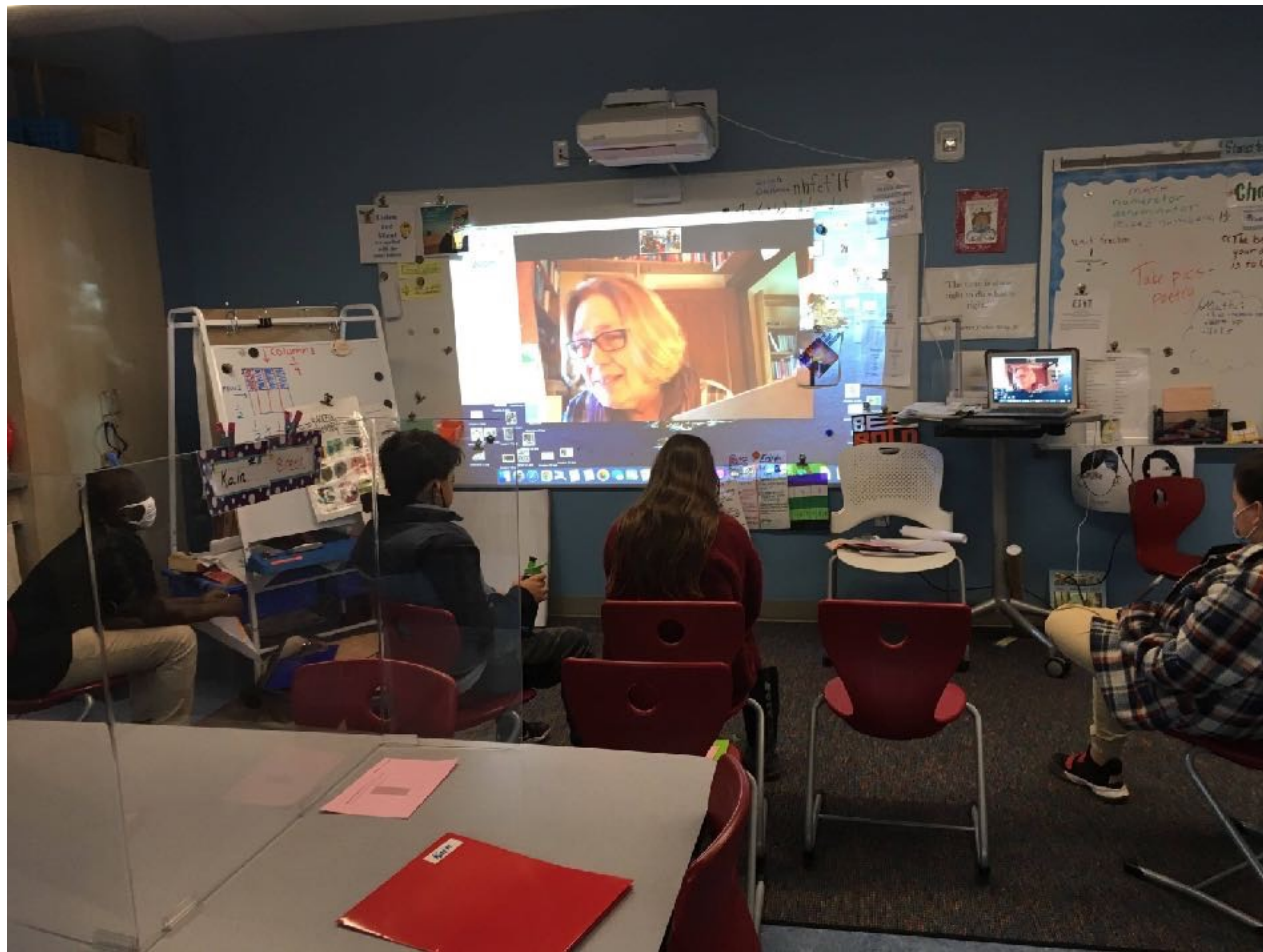
Fifth Grade Poetry and Mixed Media Program

“Black History”

Teaching artists: Gretchen Berg
and Cat LaBarre

Rowe Elementary School

In February, fifth graders in Ms. Vassar’s class at Rowe Elementary School recently participated in a Side x Side poetry and mixed media program integrated with a social studies and literacy unit on Black history and led virtually by teaching artists Gretchen Berg and Cat LaBarre. During the program, each student chose an important moment in Black history to react to through poetry and collage. Students worked with Gretchen Berg to write poems and with Cat LaBarre to create a collage that integrated parts of the poem and a scratch foam print in collaboration with art teacher Mr. Graffius.



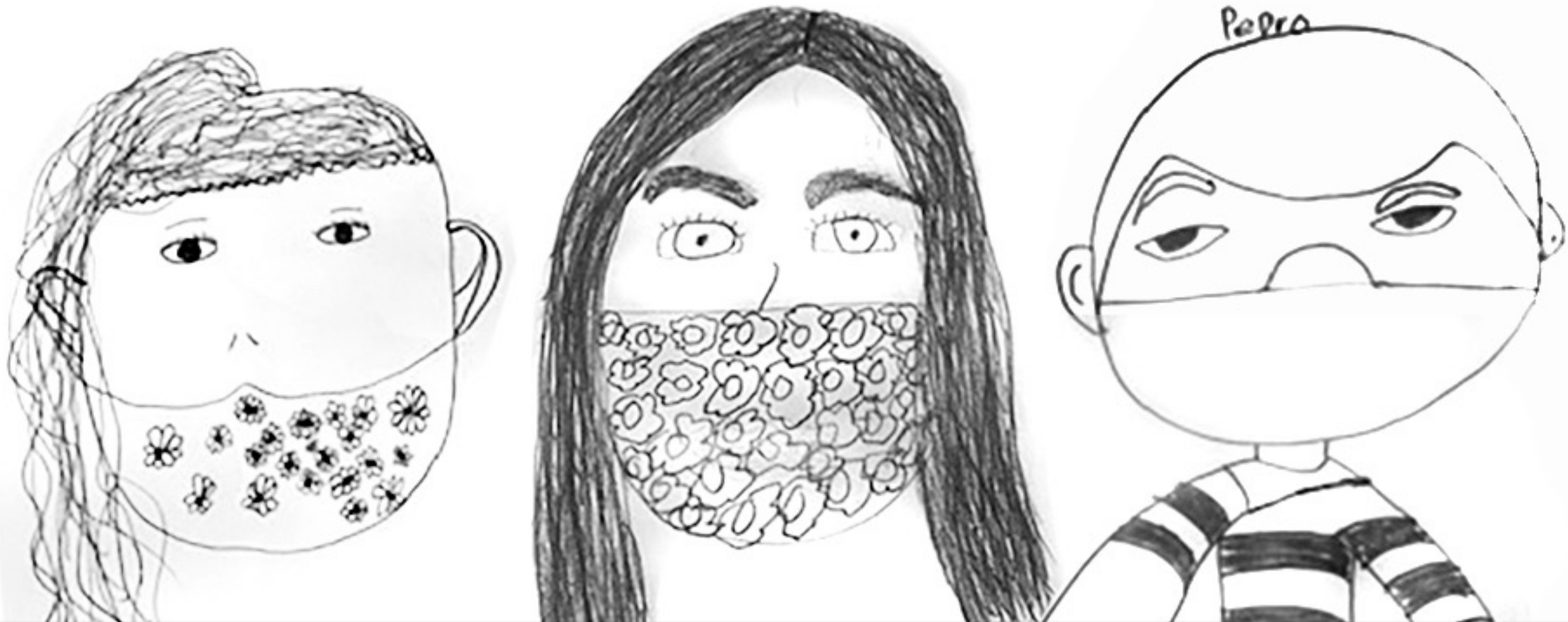
2020-2021

Fourth Grade Journal Program

“I am...”

Teaching artist: Laurie Downey

East End Community School



East End Community School teacher, Ms. Salisbury, collaborated with Side x Side teaching artist Laurie Downey to lead her fourth grade students in lessons using project journals over the course of several months. During an “I Am...” unit, students worked on shape drawings and then created self portraits wearing masks to help document their personal experiences of the historic Covid-19 pandemic.

2021

Fourth Grade Mixed Media Journaling Program

“The Art Check In”

Teaching artist: Cat LaBarre
Rowe Elementary School



Over the course of the winter, fourth graders in Ms. Hazel’s class at Rowe Elementary School participated in a Side x Side mixed media journaling and mindfulness meditation program led virtually by teaching artist Cat LaBarre. Called, “The Art Check In,” the program offered a weekly guided meditation followed by a structured art activity designed to develop self and social awareness through creativity. Throughout the program, LaBarre taught the students to focus on the process rather than the end result and regularly invited them to gather to share their work, process, and emotions. As a final product, each student chose one of their meditation-based creations as a starting point to create a mixed media image with a focus on composition, contrast, and color to share with the group during a Zoom showcase event.





2021

Fifth Grade Illustrated Poetry and Film Program

“What I Believe”

Teaching artists: Anne Ackerman and Casey Ledoux
Ocean Avenue Elementary School

sidex**side**

Fifth graders at Ocean Avenue Elementary School completed a Side x Side illustrated poetry and film program led virtually by teaching artists Anne Ackerman and Casey Ledoux during January of 2021. Integrated with a literacy unit on personal narrative, students created mixed media illustrated poems based on a verse from the book “Brown Girl Dreaming” by Jacqueline Woodson. Using Jacqueline Woodson’s “What I believe” words from the book as inspiration, students wrote their own “I Believe” poems. In response to the reading and class discussions on current events, students created mixed media illustrations that were used as background imagery for individual short films each student created featuring themselves reading their poems. The clips were organized together into one cohesive film by teaching artist and filmmaker Casey Ledoux.





2021

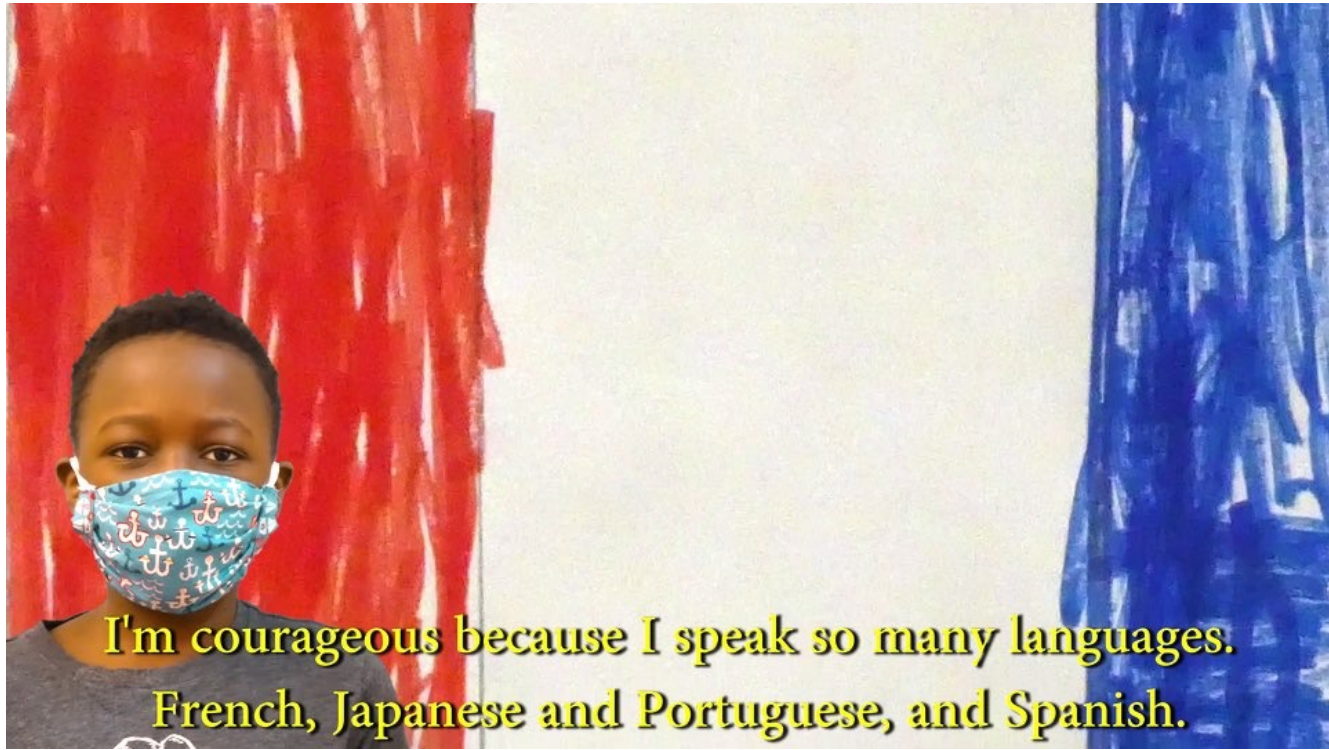
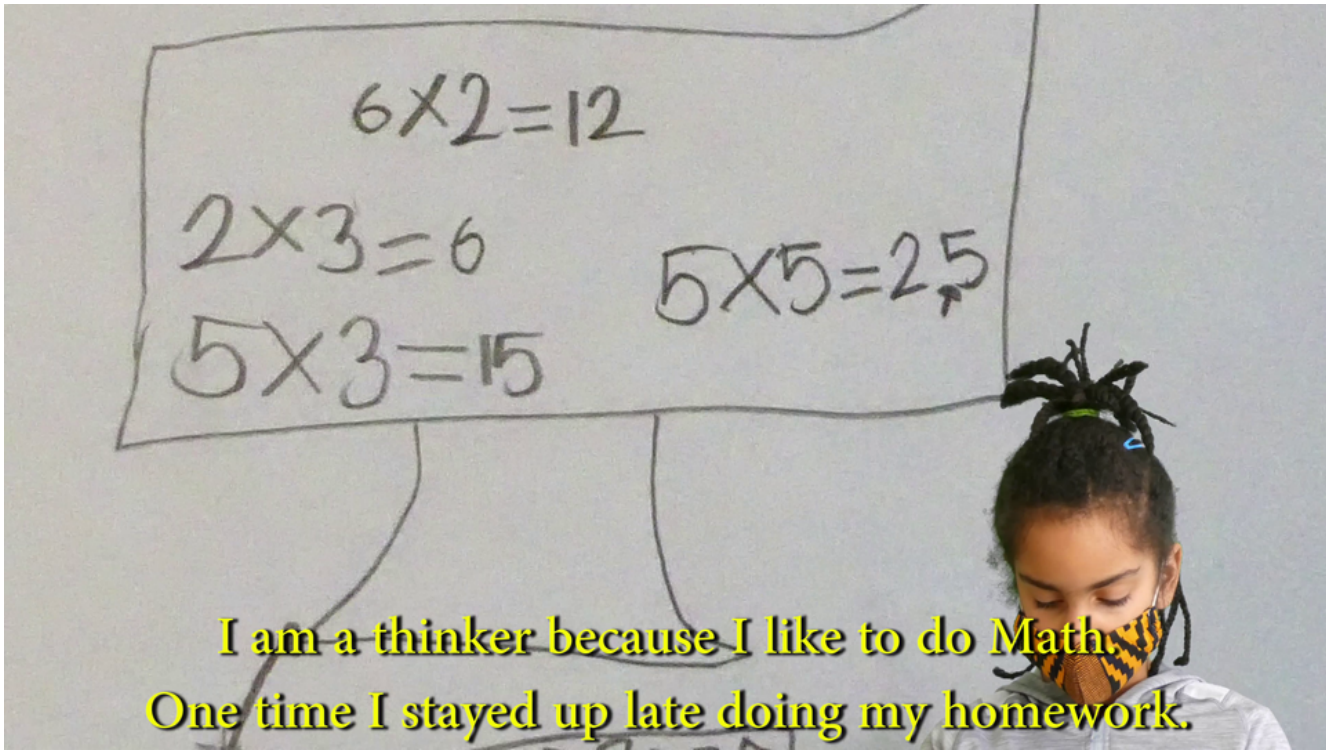
Third Grade Film Program

“Who We Are”

Teaching artist: Casey Ledoux
Ocean Avenue Elementary School

**I think I am courageous because sometimes
I try new things.**

Third graders at Ocean Avenue Elementary School completed a Side x Side video program led virtually by teaching artist Casey Ledoux early in February. The program was integrated with a literacy unit called “Who We Are” in which students wrote scripts that celebrated their cultural backgrounds, chose which International Baccalaureate attributes they most resonated with, and thought about their social and academic goals. Students then worked with Ledoux over Zoom to produce a drawing relevant to their scripts which they used as backgrounds for filming brief dialogues on green screen camera to share their work and thoughts. Ledoux then combined the video footage and artwork to create a film that premiered at the culminating showcase.





2021

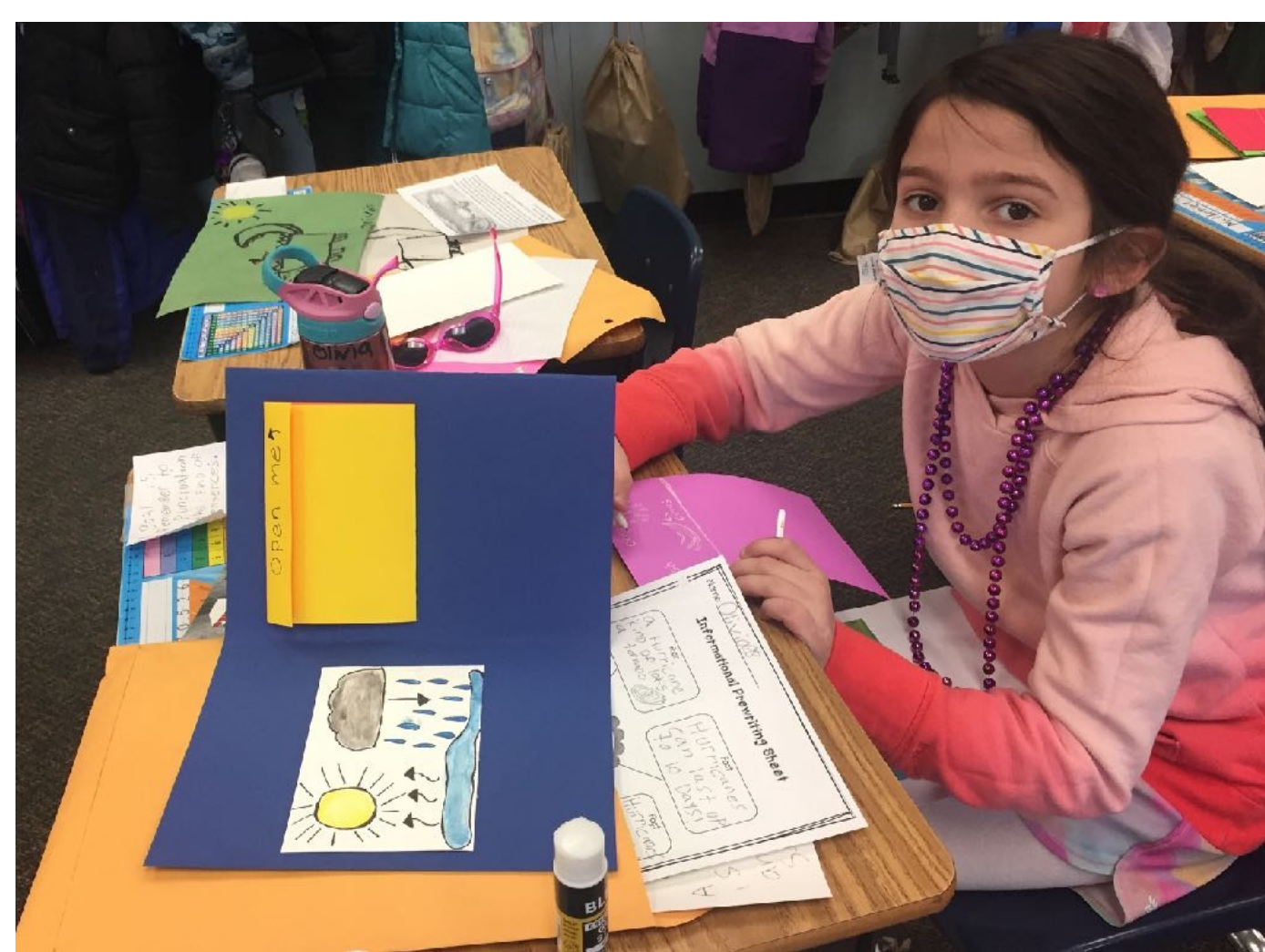
Third Grade Bookmaking and Poetry Program

“Extreme Weather”

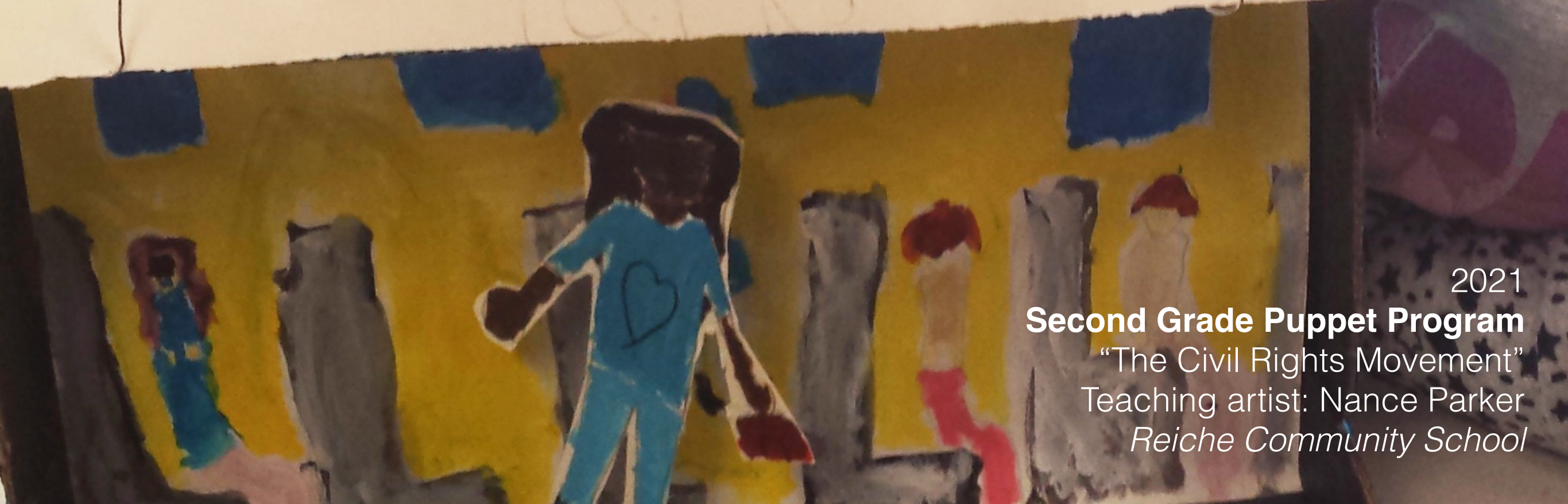
Teaching artists: Anne Ackerman and Gretchen Berg

Lyseth Elementary School

Over the winter, third grade students at Lyseth Elementary School participated in a Side x Side bookmaking program integrated with a literacy and science unit on weather. The program incorporated both poetry and factual information about weather and was led virtually over Google Meet by Side x Side teaching artists Gretchen Berg and Anne Ackerman. With Ackerman, students learned how to illustrate informational writing on how the water cycle works, the difference between weather and climate, the kinds of tools used for measuring weather, and extreme weather. Students also created an illustrated “pocket guide to clouds” to help with cloud identification. In the meantime, students worked with Berg to write poems focused on an element of weather. The poems were then illustrated to become a part of each student’s final book. The program culminated with a pandemic-friendly outdoor visit by the teaching artists who celebrated the students and their completed books through the classroom windows! The books were then exhibited in the school for the entire school community to enjoy



the Story Of Rosa Parks



2021

Second Grade Puppet Program

"The Civil Rights Movement"

Teaching artist: Nance Parker

Reiche Community School

February-March, second graders in Ms. DeRice's class at Reiche Community School participated in a Side x Side program led by teaching artist Nance Parker and integrated with a literacy and social studies unit on the Civil Rights Movement. The program kicked off with Ms. DeRice sharing age-appropriate books that introduced important people from history while discussing the themes of strength and integrity. Using journals to sketch and take notes, students worked with Nance Parker to identify a scene from a historical person's life that was important to who they were. They then designed and built individual box stages and moveable figures to perform their chosen scene for the class.

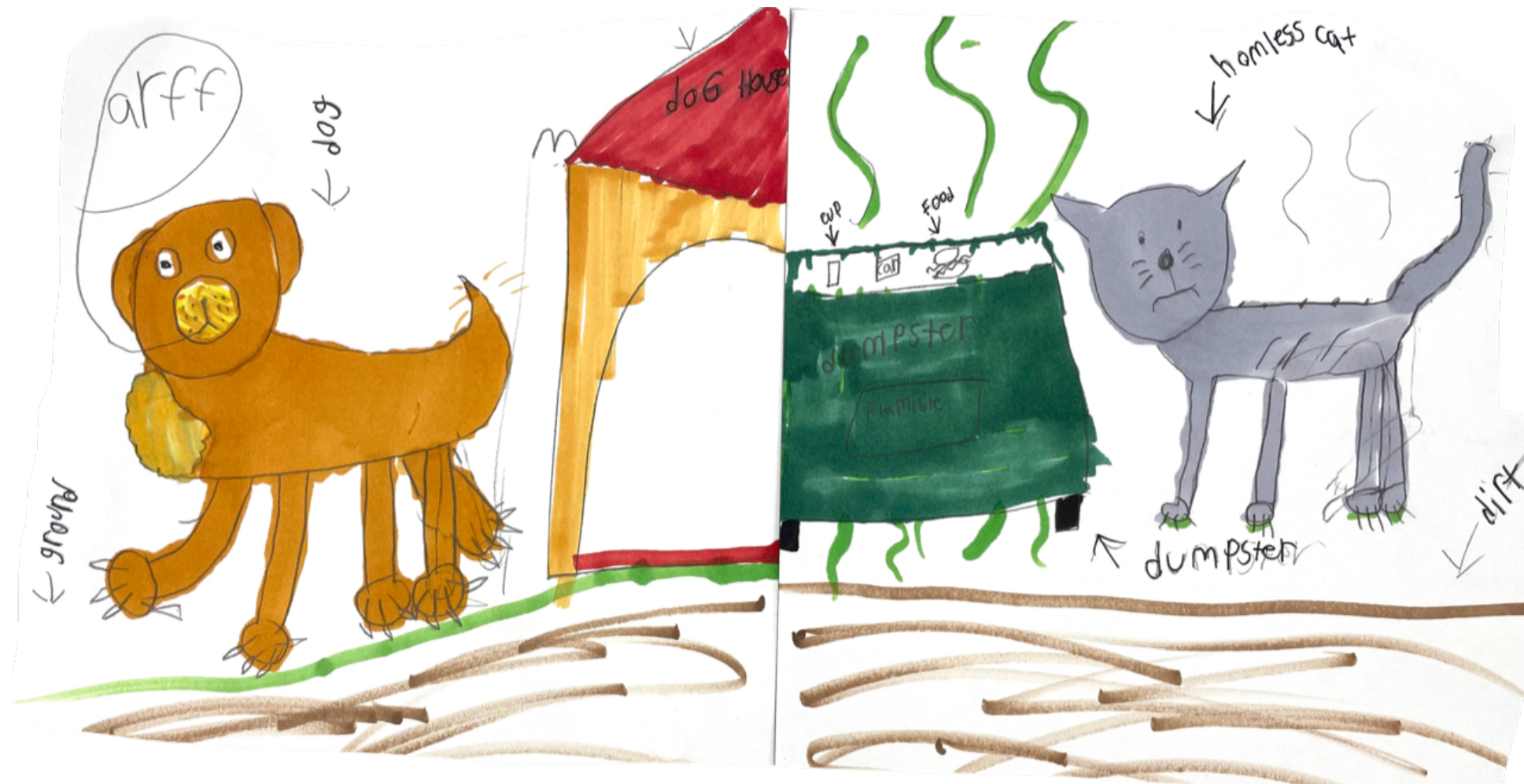
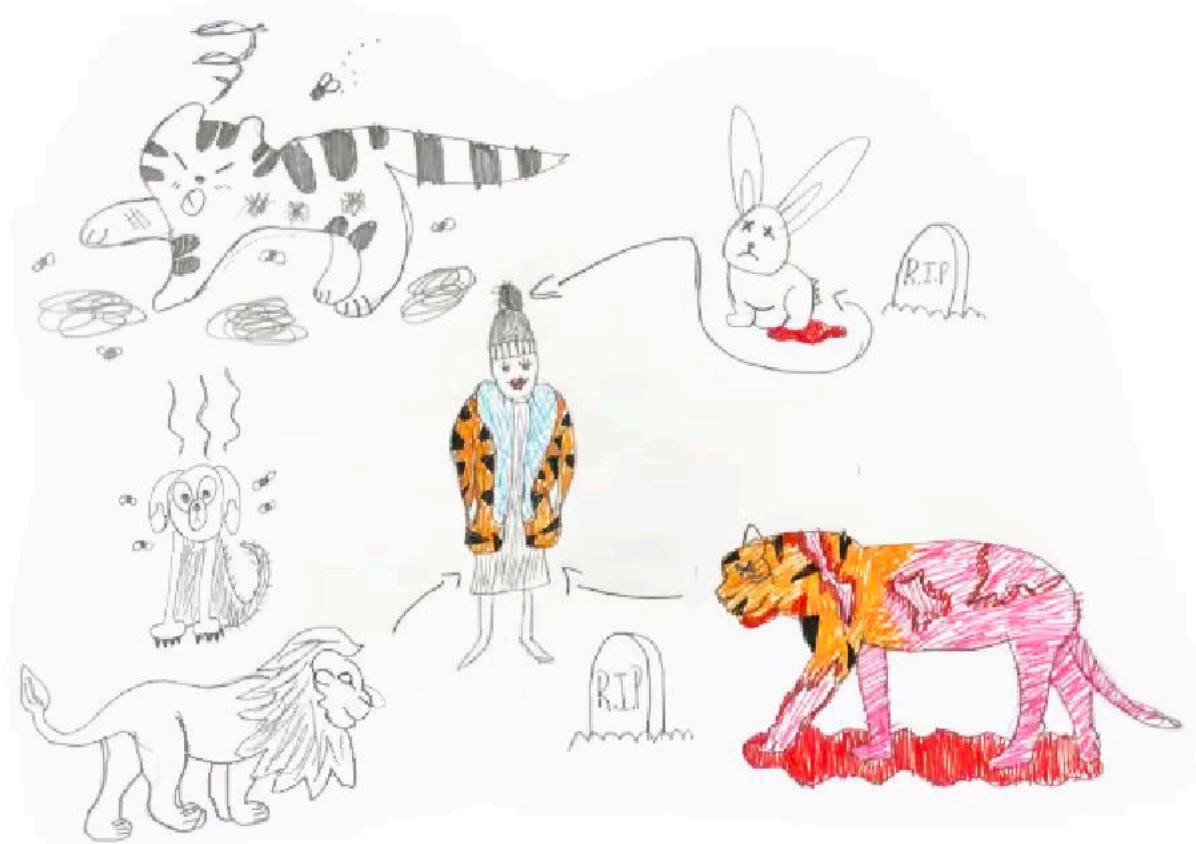





2021
**Sixth Grade Visual
Thinking Program**
Teaching artist:
Molly Brown
*Connors Elementary
School*

Also in February, sixth graders at Connors Elementary School in Lewiston participated in a Side x Side visual thinking program led virtually by teaching artist Molly Brown and integrated with a unit on presenting research. Students learned illustration techniques to create explanatory cartoons, illustrations, and diagrams that were used in their individual research projects.

Animal abandonment is a sad and hurtful thing and I hope that you will never do it. Millions of animals each year are being abandoned and it's very sad. Could you imagine dogs and cats being extinct? If we keep abandoning animals like that, their extinction is gonna be closer than you think. Please love all living creatures like they were one of the most precious animals and keep them safe. Animals All over the world are being murdered to make jackets and hats. We need to have some respect for them. We need them to live!





“Courage is
fire and bullying
is smoke.” Benjamin Disraeli

2021

Sixth Grade Mini-Poster Program

“Information Writing and Activism”

Teaching artist: Laurie Downey

Connors Elementary School

Sixth graders at Connors Elementary School in Lewiston participated in a Side x Side design program led by teaching artist Laurie Downey and integrated with a unit on information writing and activism. During the program, students studied activists who have created positive change and then chose one of three topics to research: bullying, the environment, or equity in education. They then selected a quote, chose an image online, and used Google Draw to combine the two in visually powerful and persuasive ways to create a mini poster.



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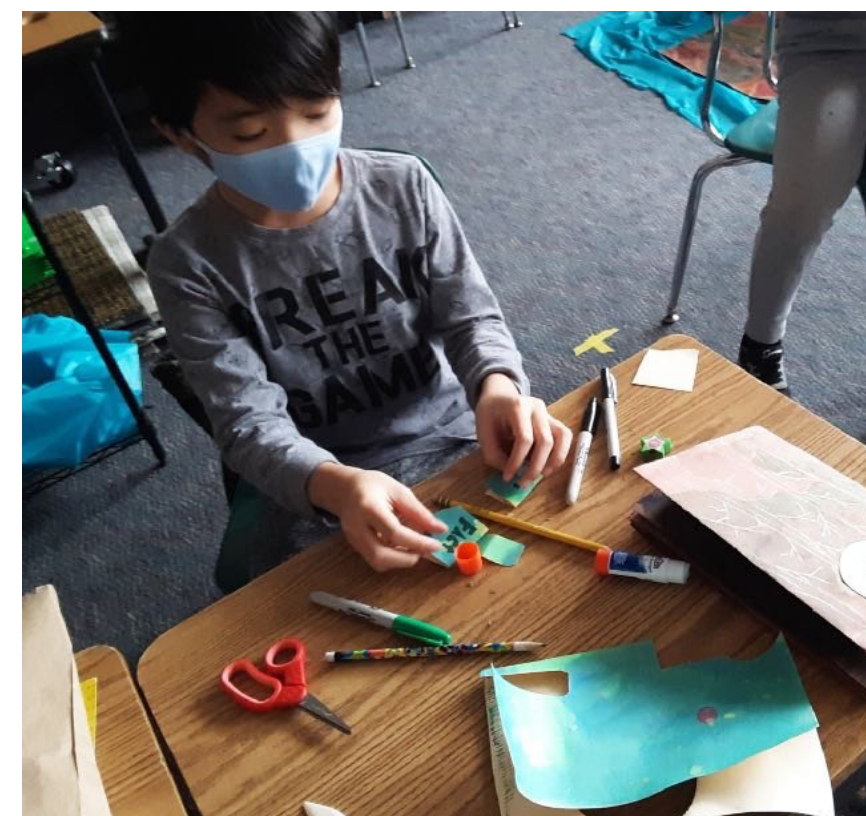
2021

Fourth Grade Bookmaking Program

“All About Owls”

Teaching artist: Jill Osgood
Lyseth Elementary School

Beginning in the winter, and continuing through April, fourth graders in Ms. St. Germain's class at Lyseth Elementary School participated in a Side x Side bookmaking program led virtually by teaching artist Jill Osgood and integrated with a science and literacy unit on owls. The program kicked off in February with a virtual “visit” over Zoom from the Center for Wildlife and its live owl ambassadors. After several outdoor expeditions to look for signs of owls and other wildlife, students developed research questions. Through Zoom sessions with Jill Osgood, students learned illustration, painting, crayon watercolor resist, and collage skills to create books that capture their research on owls including their diet, habitat, behavior, adaptations, and life cycle. An outdoor showcase which included an exhibit and sharing of the completed owl books and journals wrapped up the program.





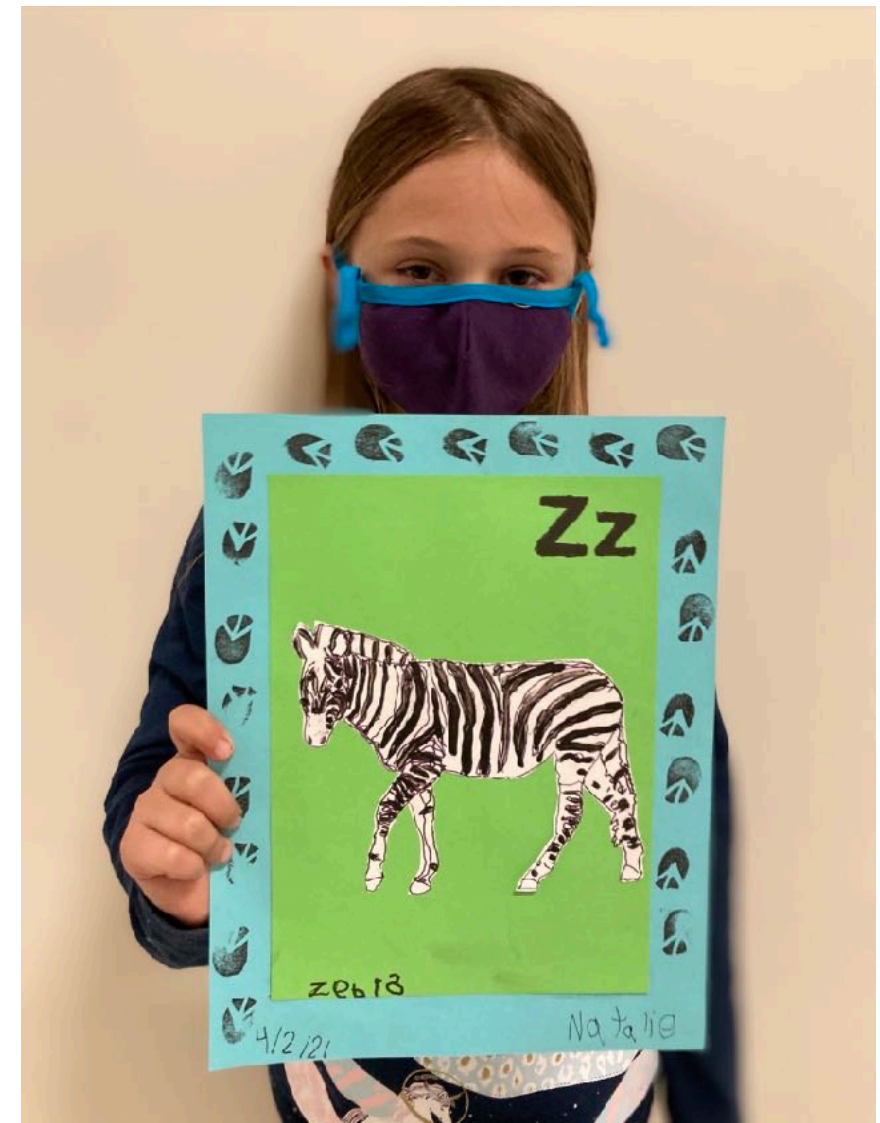
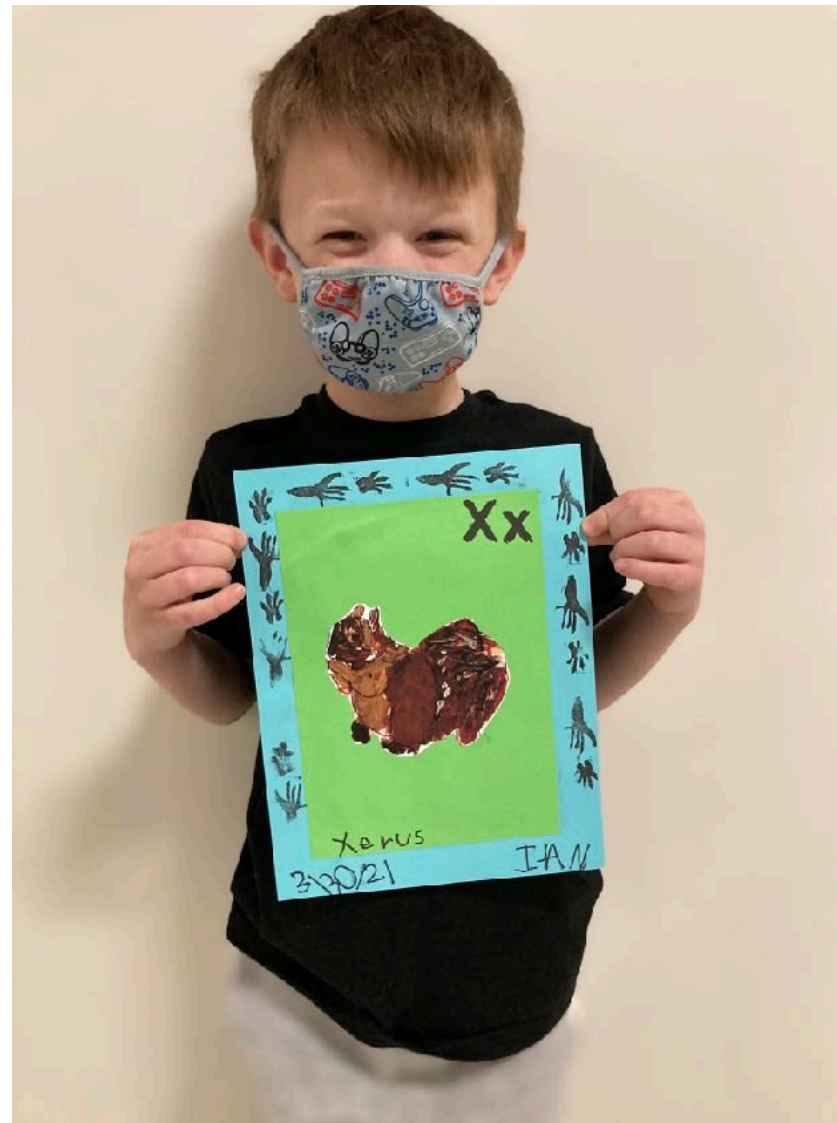
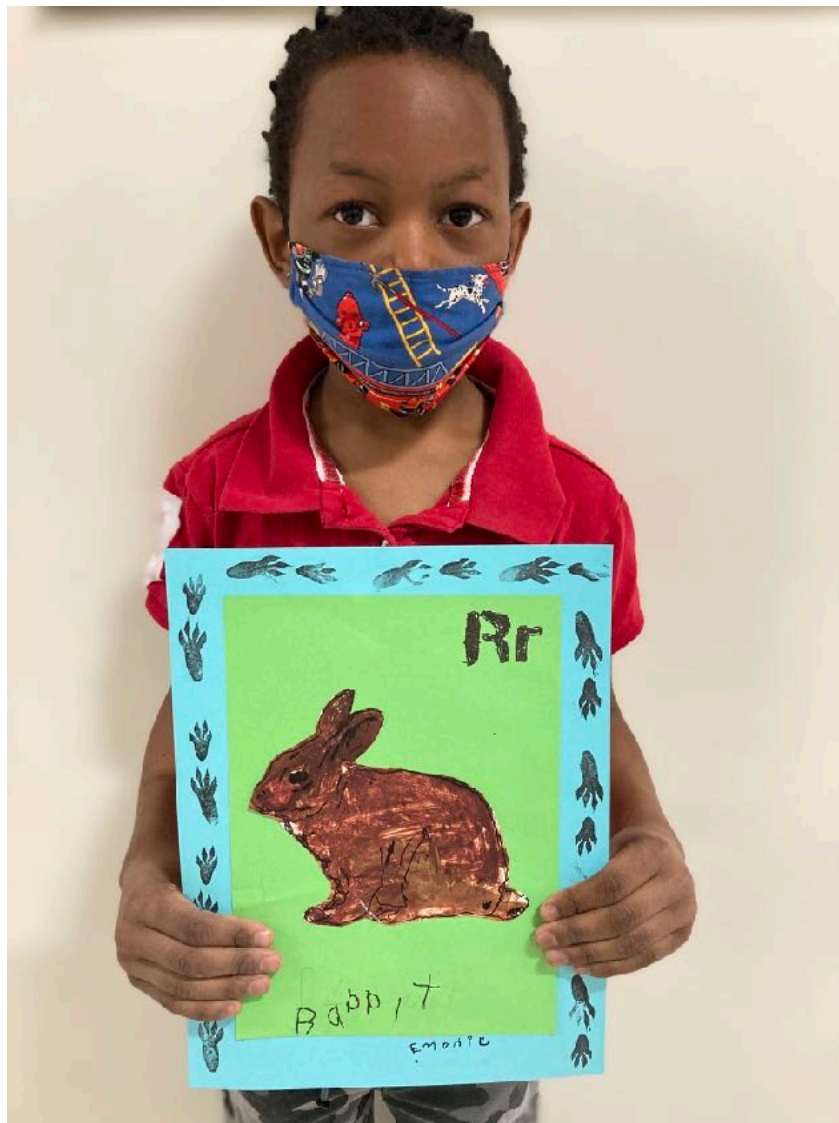
2021

First Grade Illustration Program

“Animal Alphabet”

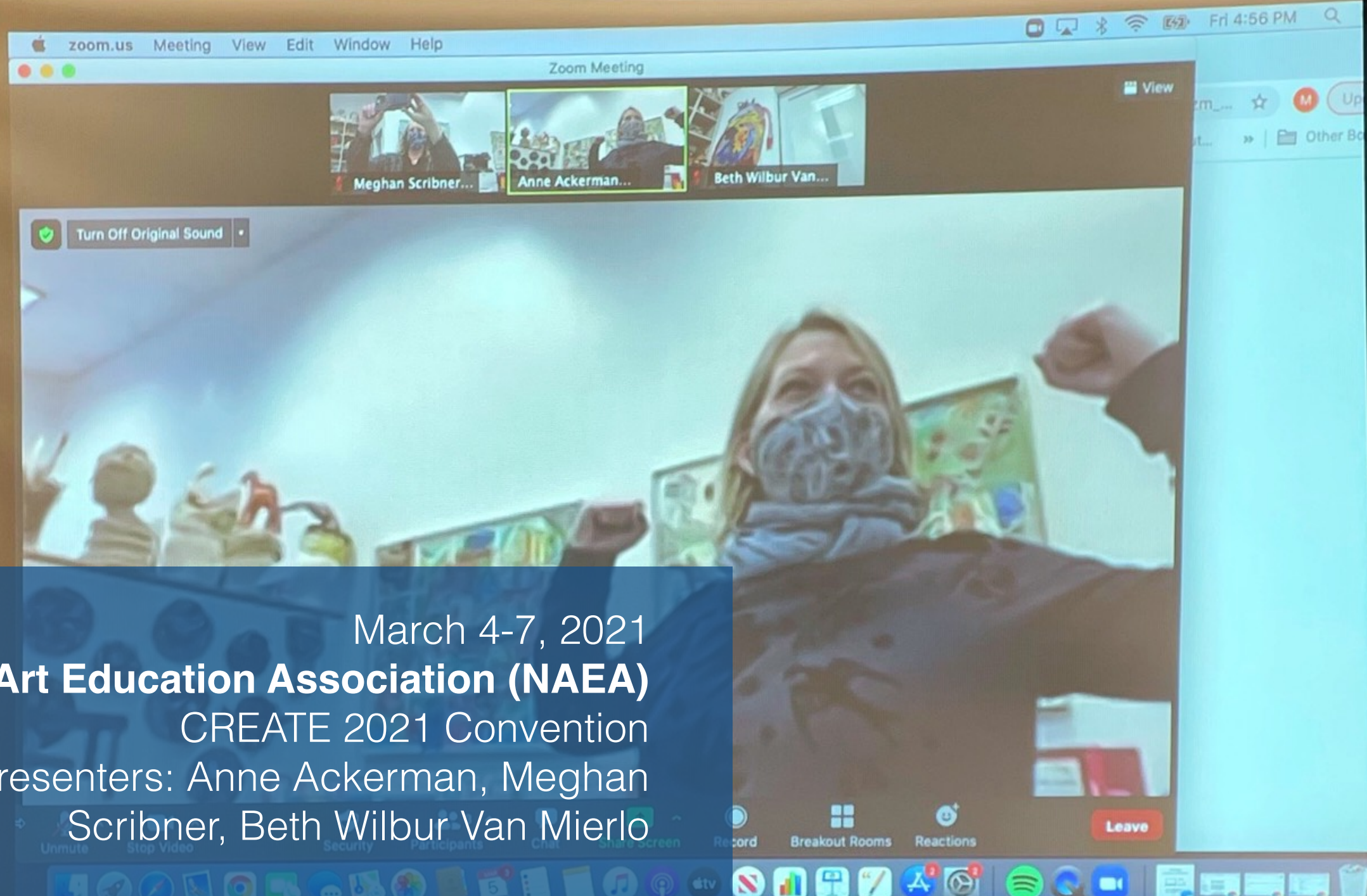
Teaching Artists: Sarah Boyden, Indigo Grey
Connors Elementary School

March-May, first graders at Connors Elementary School in Lewiston participated in a Side x Side program led virtually by teaching artists Sarah Boyden and Indigo Grey. Integrated with a literacy and science unit on animals, students created an animal alphabet in collaboration with art teacher, Kelsey Boucher. During the program, students conducted research on animal tracks and learned scientific drawing, lettering, and watercolor techniques to create their letters and design animal track borders around their cards



side

AWAKENING TOMORROW



March 4-7, 2021
National Art Education Association (NAEA)
CREATE 2021 Convention
Presenters: Anne Ackerman, Meghan
Scribner, Beth Wilbur Van Mierlo

Side x Side's Anne Ackerman presented her workshop, "Illuminated Poetry," with help from coworkers, Meghan Scribner and Side x Side executive director, Beth Wilbur Van Mierlo, during the National Art Education Association's CREATE 2021 National Convention last week. Workshop participants engaged in a hands-on mixed media paper arts project designed to integrate with poetry to provide a successful learning platform for students that is more accessible and expressive. We enjoyed receiving overwhelmingly positive feedback from participants who described the workshop as "Healing," "Mindful," "Phenomenal," "Inspiring," "Invigorating," and "Heartfelt."



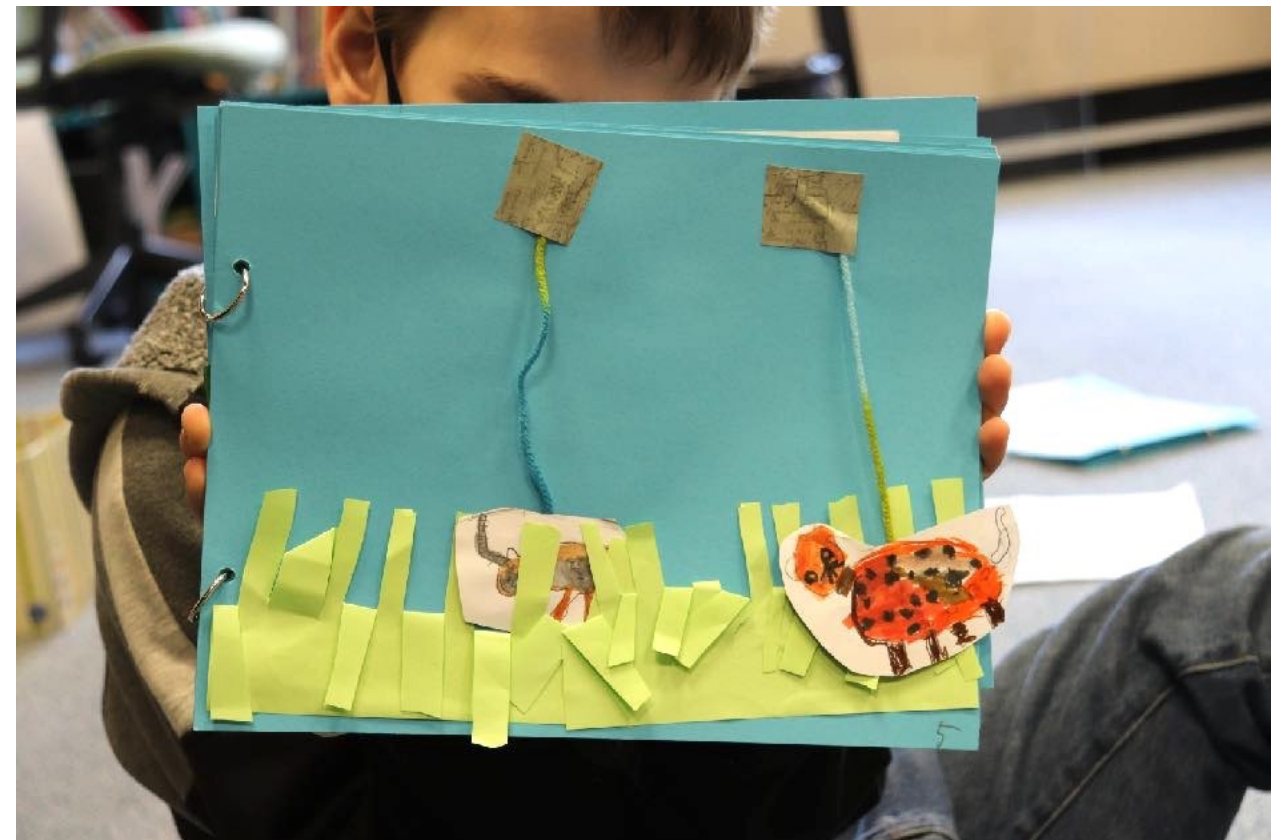
2021

Second and Fourth Grade Special Ed Bookmaking Program

“Animals”

Teaching artists: Leah Cross
Reiche Community School

Also in the spring, second and fourth graders in Ms. Muldoon’s classes at Reiche Community School participated in a virtual Side x Side bookmaking program led by teaching artist Leah Cross. Integrated with a nonfiction writing unit, students researched animals including their habitat, diet, adaptations, and fun facts. Through live Zoom sessions and recorded art lessons with Leah Cross, students learned illustration and collage techniques to create books that incorporated their research on animals.





2021

Fifth Grade Poetry and Visual Art Program

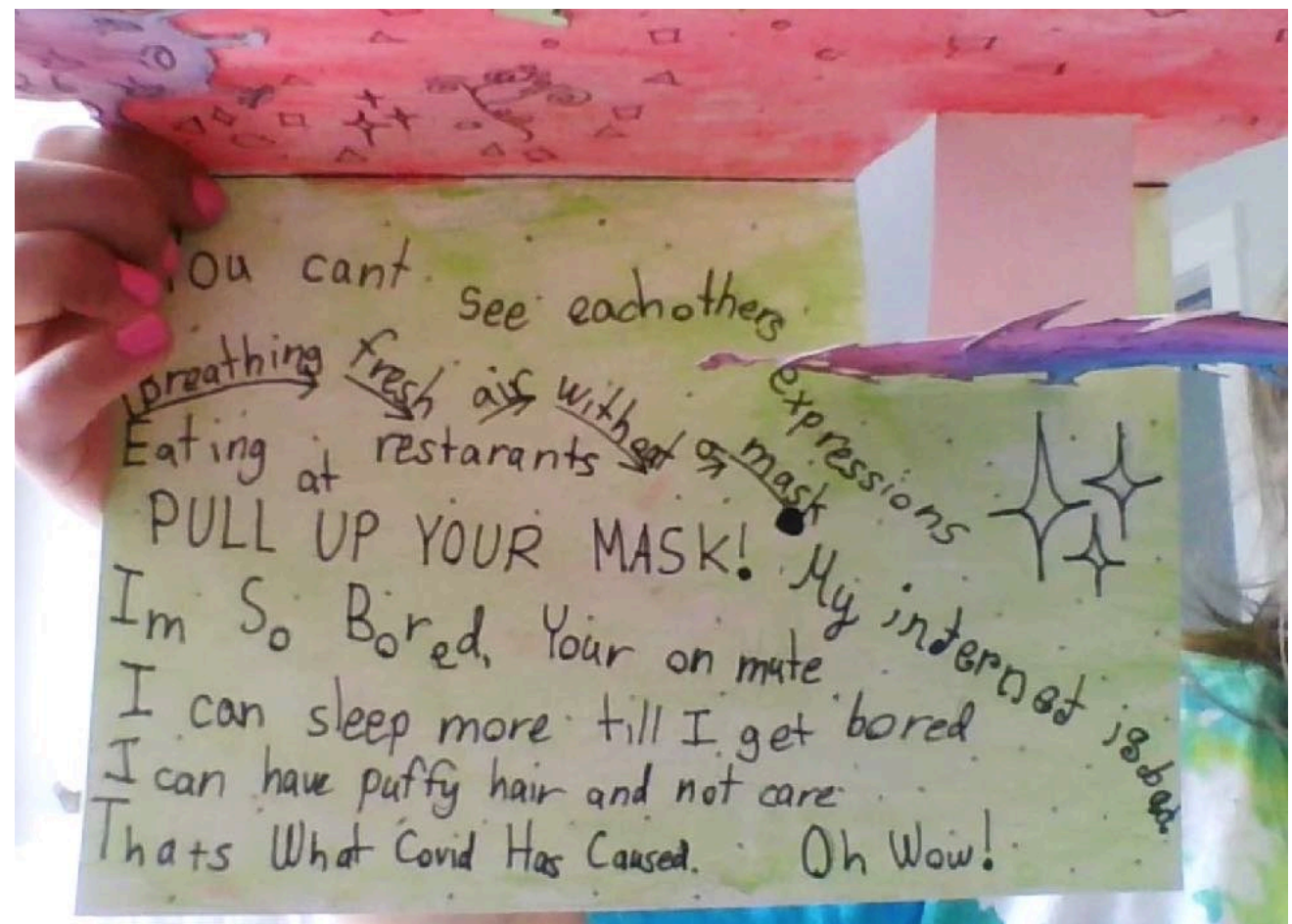
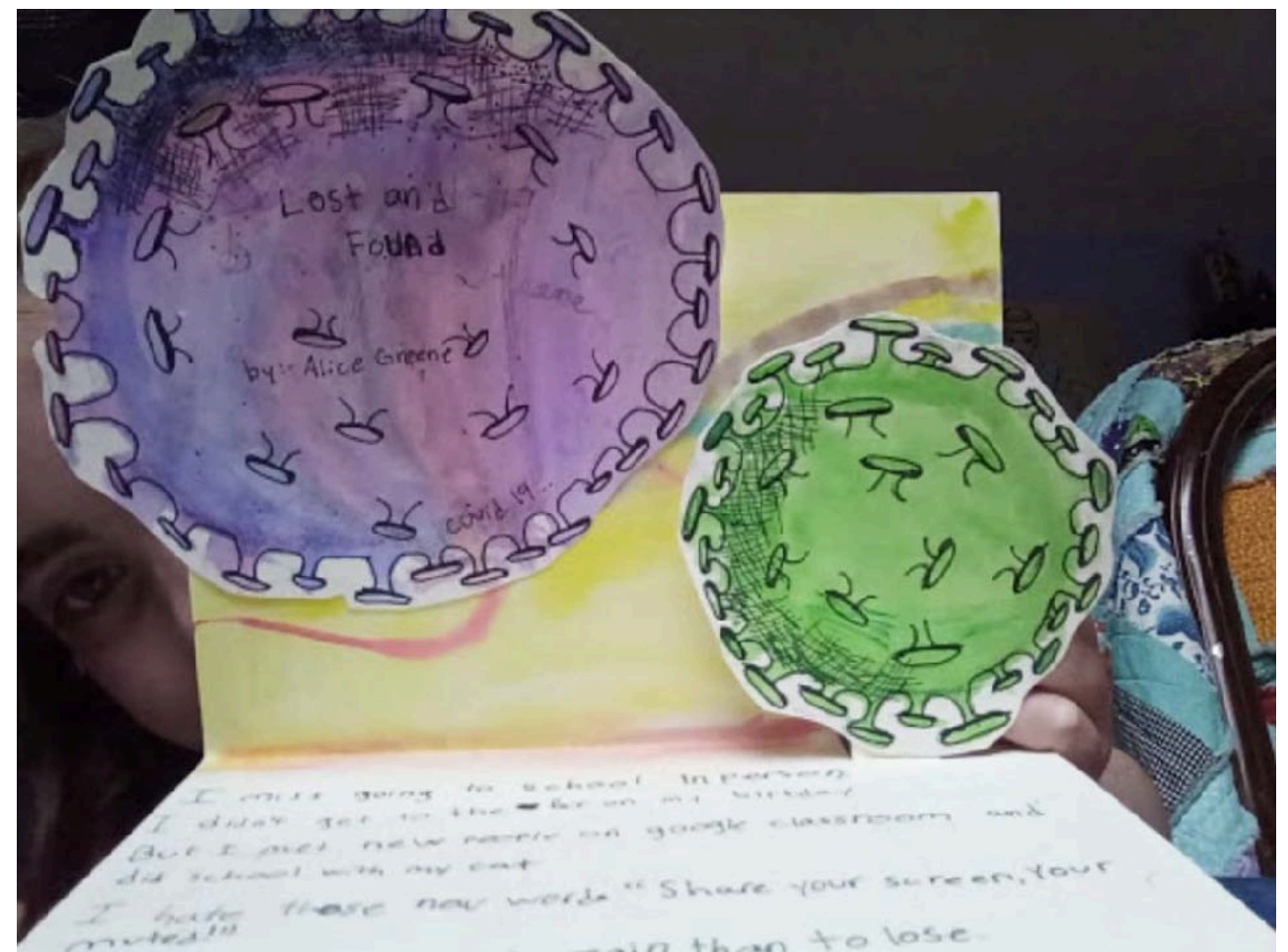
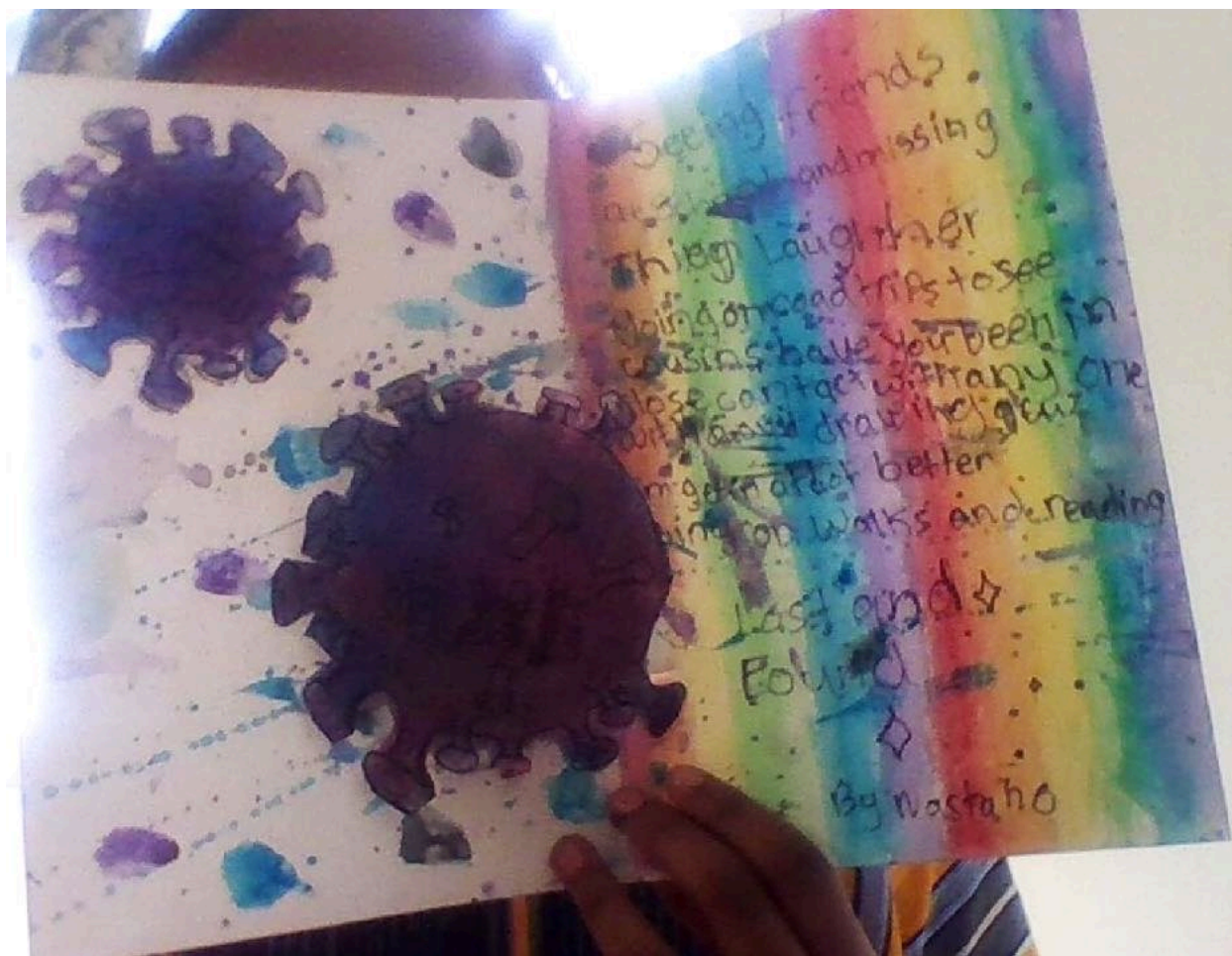
“Lost and Found During Covid-19”

Teaching artists: Anne Ackerman and
Gretchen Berg

Remote Academy

Hey come in my house, - not
we have to distance!
fantasy baseball drafting
now i'm drone maneuvering

In April, fifth grade students in Ms. Harrigan's and Ms. Tevanian's Remote Academy classes participated in a Side x Side poetry and visual art program led virtually via Google Meet by teaching artists Gretchen Berg and Anne Ackerman. The program kicked off with a delivery of art kits for each student. Working with Berg, students wrote poems of things lost and things found, based on their experiences during the Covid-19 pandemic. Using common vocabulary shared between their art and math curriculum such as volume, mass, and symmetry, students then worked with Ackerman to illustrate pop-up Covid-19 viruses and incorporate their poems into their completed artwork.



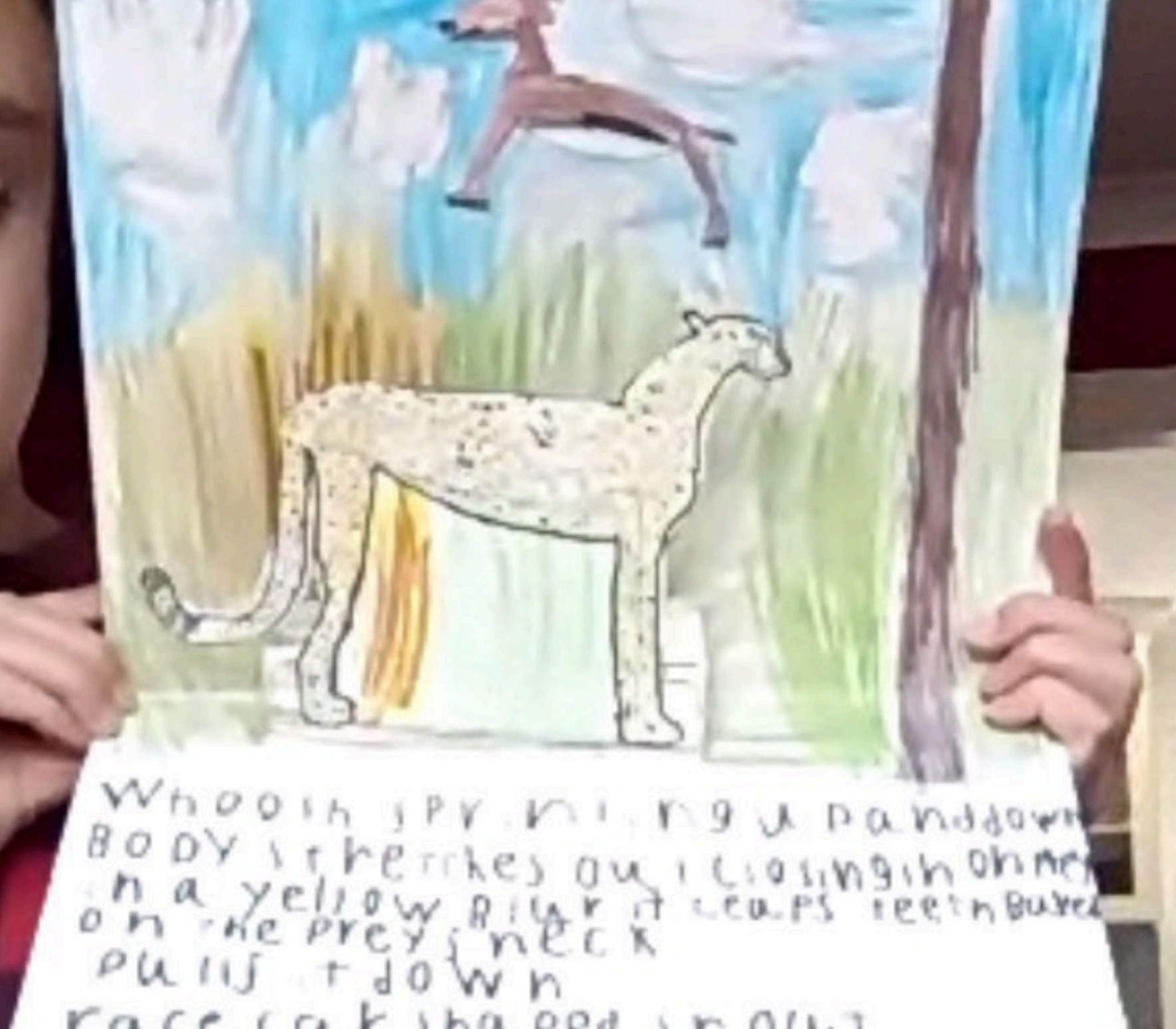
2021

Third Grade Poetry and Illustration Program

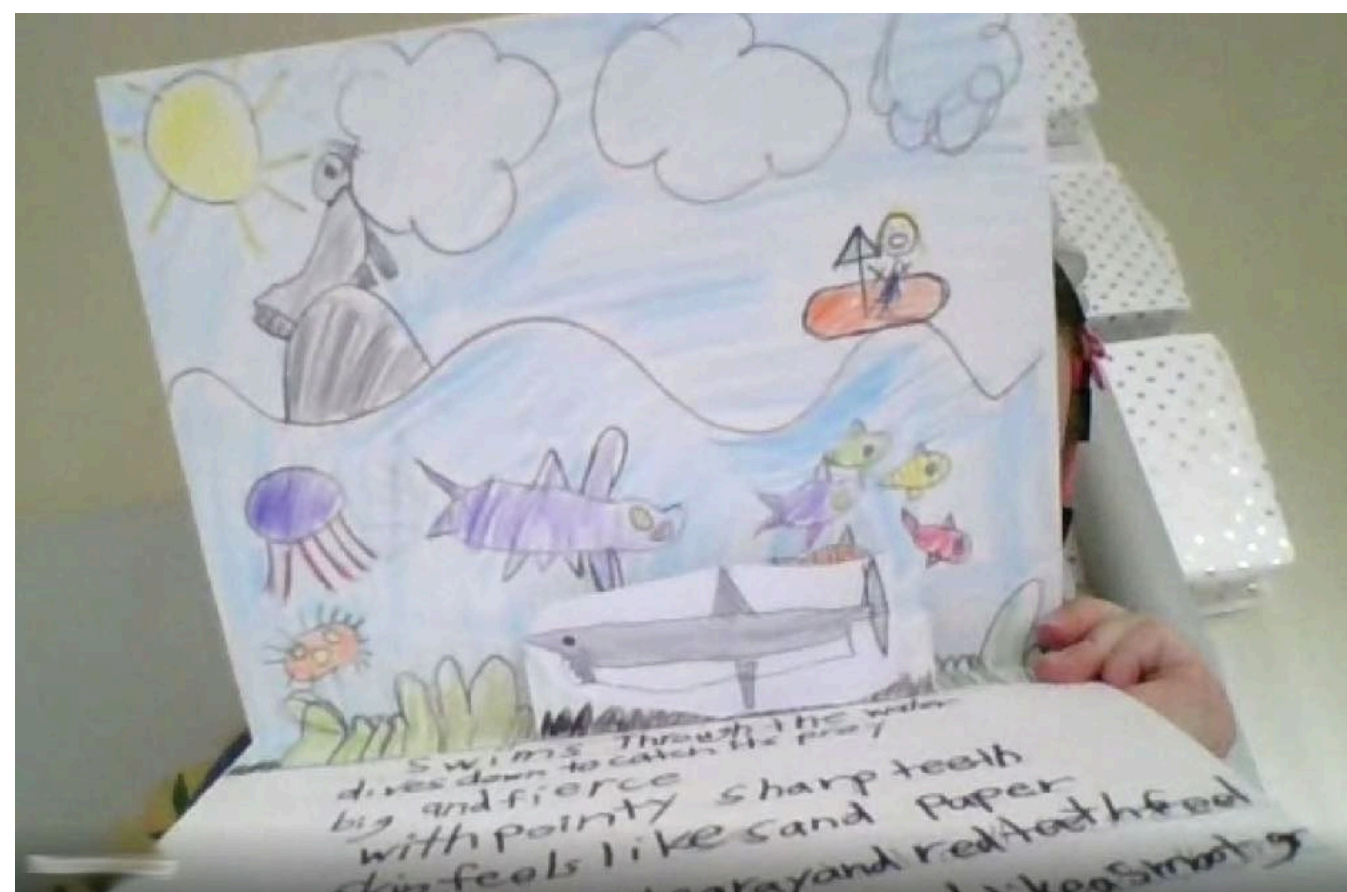
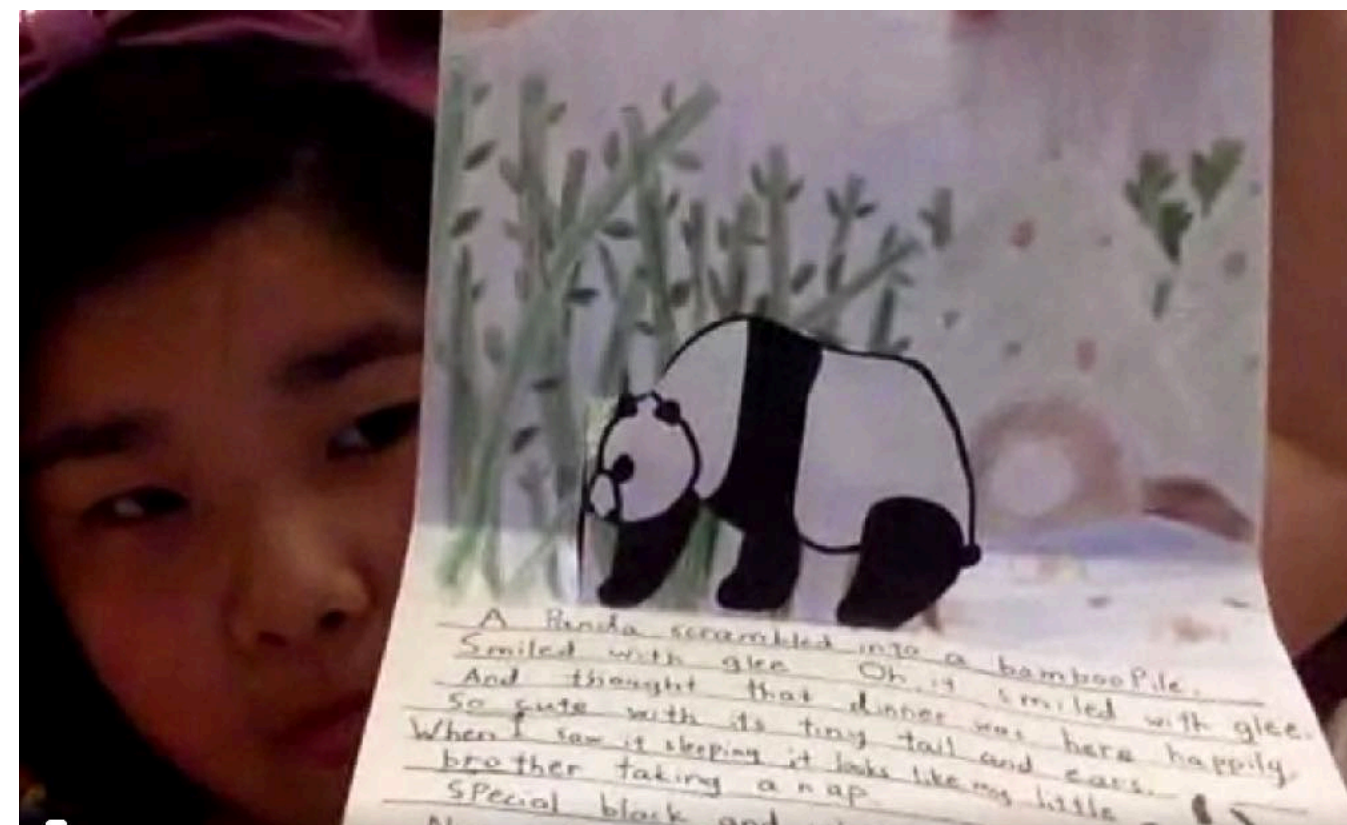
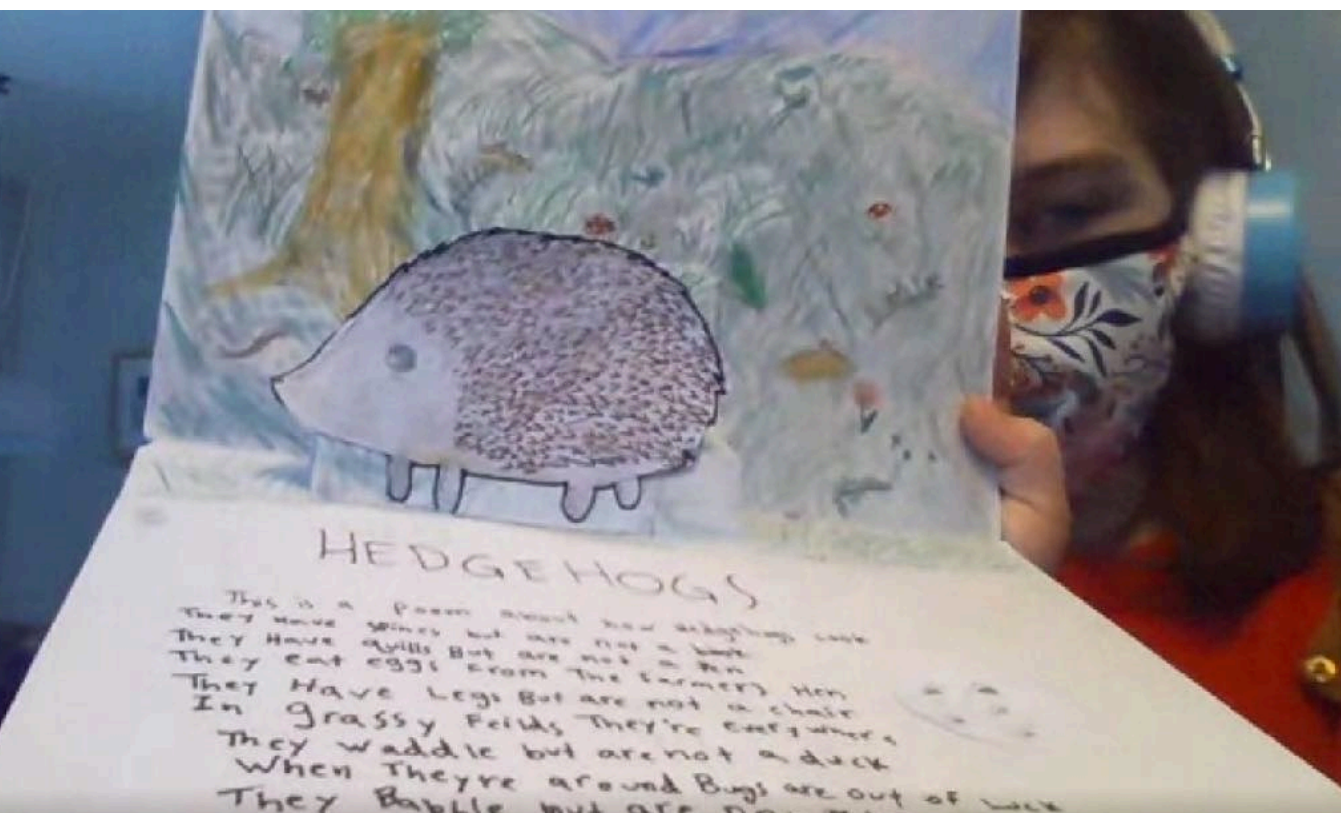
“Animals”

Teaching artists: Gretchen Berg and Laurie Downey

Remote Academy



In April and May, third graders in Ms. Salisbury’s class at Portland’s Remote Academy participated in a Side x Side poetry and illustration program integrated with a science unit on animals and led by teaching artists Laurie Downey and Gretchen Berg. During the program, students learned to use Project Journals to capture their research on animals through writing and drawing. They then wrote poems about a chosen animal and did drawings of the animal and its habitat. The final product was a pop-up art piece that incorporated the drawings and poetry and was shared during a final Zoom presentation..



2019-2020 (installation: May, 2020)

Seventh Grade Mural Program

“What is Biodiversity?”

Teaching artist: Laurie Downey

Lincoln Middle School



A beautiful and educational mural was installed in the stairway at Lincoln Middle School in May! Created by seventh graders during a 2019-2020 Side x Side program, the mural, titled “What is Biodiversity?” was a collaboration between teaching artist Laurie Downey and teachers Ms. Backus, Mr. Lindsay, and Ms. Cabral. The program was integrated with a science unit on biodiversity and engaged students in recording data (using project journals) on species diversity in birds, arthropods, and molluscs. Working with Downey, students then transferred their scientific writing and drawings onto panels to create this community mural.

2020-2021

Fourth-Sixth Grade Civil Rights Team Mural Program

“We Stand Together”

Teaching artists: Sarah Boyden, Indigo Grey, Alicia Uth
Connors Elementary School



In June, a mural was unveiled at Connors Elementary School in Lewiston! The school's Civil Rights Team, which is led by Nesrene Griffin, Allison Lytton, and Kelsey Boucher, collaborated on a Side x Side mural program with teaching artists Sarah Boyden, Indigo Grey, and Alicia Uth throughout this past school year. The team gathered inspiration through virtual visits over Zoom by artist and muralist, Ryan Adams, and muralist, activist, and social worker, Agonza. Gathering weekly over Zoom to discuss the world and their places in it, student members brought their voices to the project to highlight social and racial justice through the arts.



2021

LearningWorks Summer Program

“Dream Park”

Teaching artist: Sarah Boyden

Kaler and Skillin elementary schools in South Portland

Ocean Avenue, Presumpscot, and Rowe elementary schools in Portland



Over the summer, Side x Side once again partnered with LearningWorks to bring LearningWorks students in Portland and South Portland an arts-integrated program on Building Community. With the goal of designing a dream park, students worked with Side x Side teaching artist, Sarah Boyden, to brainstorm the various elements that can make up a park, with each student choosing one or two ideas to expand on. Beginning with pencil, they drew their ideas and then traced them in marker and colored them with watercolor pencils. Displayed together, the collection of individual pieces tells the story of a larger park. This summer program was made possible by a generous grant from the Brick and Beam Society, a giving circle of the United Way of Greater Portland.



sideXside

AWAKENING TOMORROW'S INNOVATORS

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