



2022–2023 Side x Side arts-integrated programs were made possible by these generous supporters:

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2022

First Grade Puppet Program

Who We Are

Teaching artist: Sarah Boyden

Ocean Avenue Elementary School

First grade teachers at Ocean Avenue Elementary School collaborated with Side x Side on a “Who We Are” International Baccalaureate (IB) unit. Working with Side x Side teaching artist Sarah Boyden, students created inquiry notebooks with self-portrait puppets and puppet theaters to use throughout the school year.



2022

Fourth Grade Drawing Program

Identity

Teaching artist: Anne Ackerman

Ocean Avenue Elementary School

Fourth graders at Ocean Avenue Elementary School participated in a Side x Side program led by teaching artist Anne Ackerman and integrated with an IB and narrative writing unit on "identity." Each student created a 2-dimensional art piece that demonstrated parts of their identity without using names or physical descriptions. The program began with students creating identity webs which they then expanded to include illustrations, designs, colors, silhouettes, and words.



2022

Fifth Grade Program

Matter

Teaching artist: Anne Ackerman

Ocean Avenue Elementary School

Fifth graders at Ocean Avenue Elementary School participated in a Side x Side program led by teaching artist Anne Ackerman and integrated with a science unit on matter. During the program, students experimented with three different art mediums (chromatography, suminagashi paper, and wax resist) to help understand solutions, their components, and how they interact. The final art pieces were assembled into circles to represent particles and molecules as part of a large wall installation. Text boxes written by students helped explain the reasons why materials acted as they did. The program culminated with a gallery walk to share the student work with family and the school community.



2022–2023

Eighth Grade Program

Intercultural Resilience Development Through the Arts

Teaching artist: Antonio Rocha

Lewiston Middle School

Middle school eighth graders worked with Side x Side teaching artist Antonio Rocha and art teacher Tracy Ginn to explore and express feelings of transition as they move on to high school. Working with restorative justice coordinator James Ford and intercultural community coordinator Marie Sheffield, LCPC, students created visual images and poetry, and combined their work to create a collaborative art piece. [This program was made possible by the Elmina B. Sewell Foundation.](#)



2023

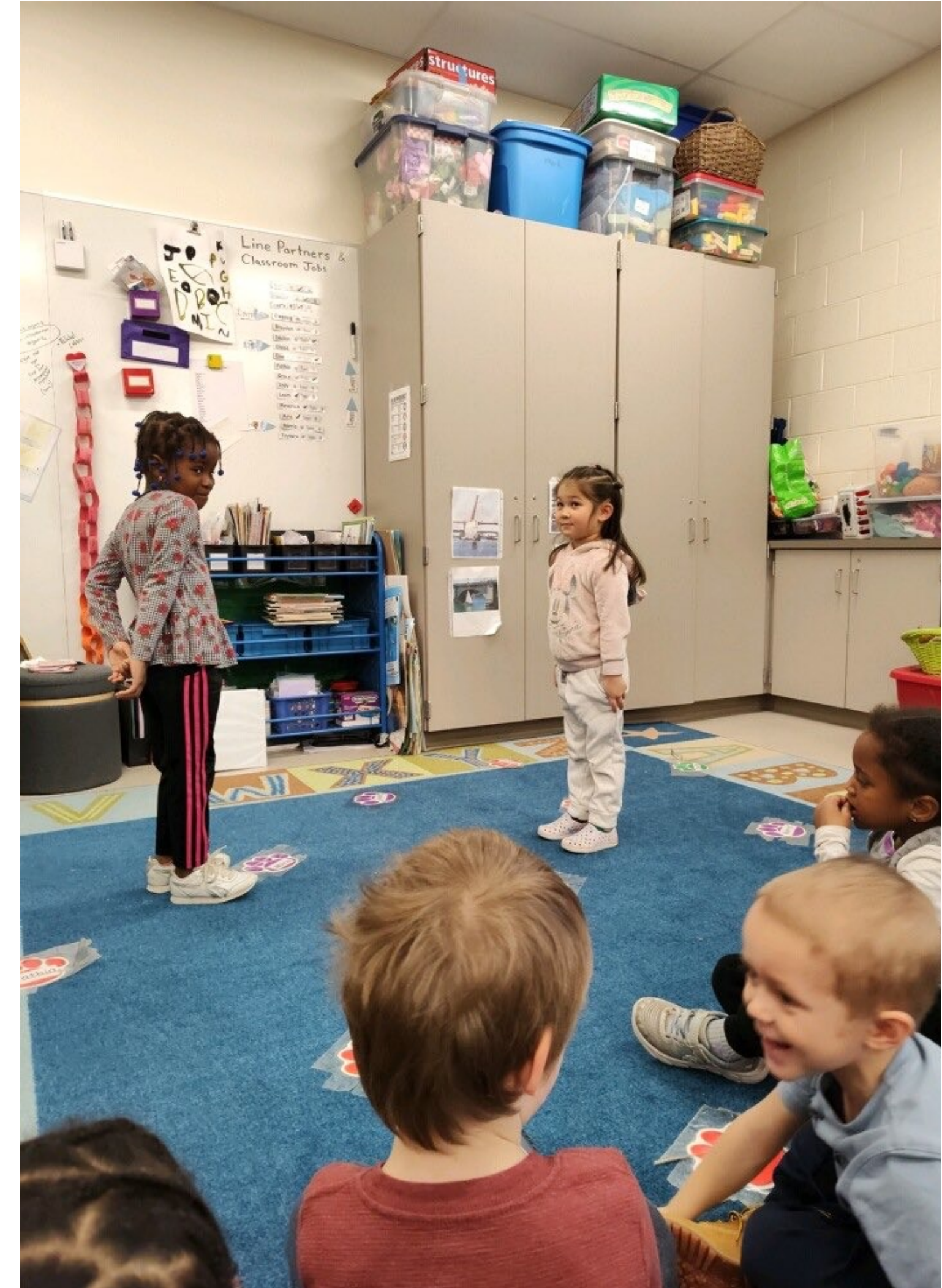
Pre-K Improv Program

Matter

Teaching artist: Meg Christie

Lyseth Elementary School

Pre-K students at Lyseth Elementary School recently wrapped up a Side x Side improv program led by teaching artist Meg Christie. Integrated with a literacy unit and titled, "I've got your back!" students worked on emotional awareness through stories, movement, and improv activities and games. Students focused on awareness of others, responsibility and accountability, kindness, taking turns, and gratitude. Concepts and activities from this unit were incorporated into the students' daily schedule.



2023

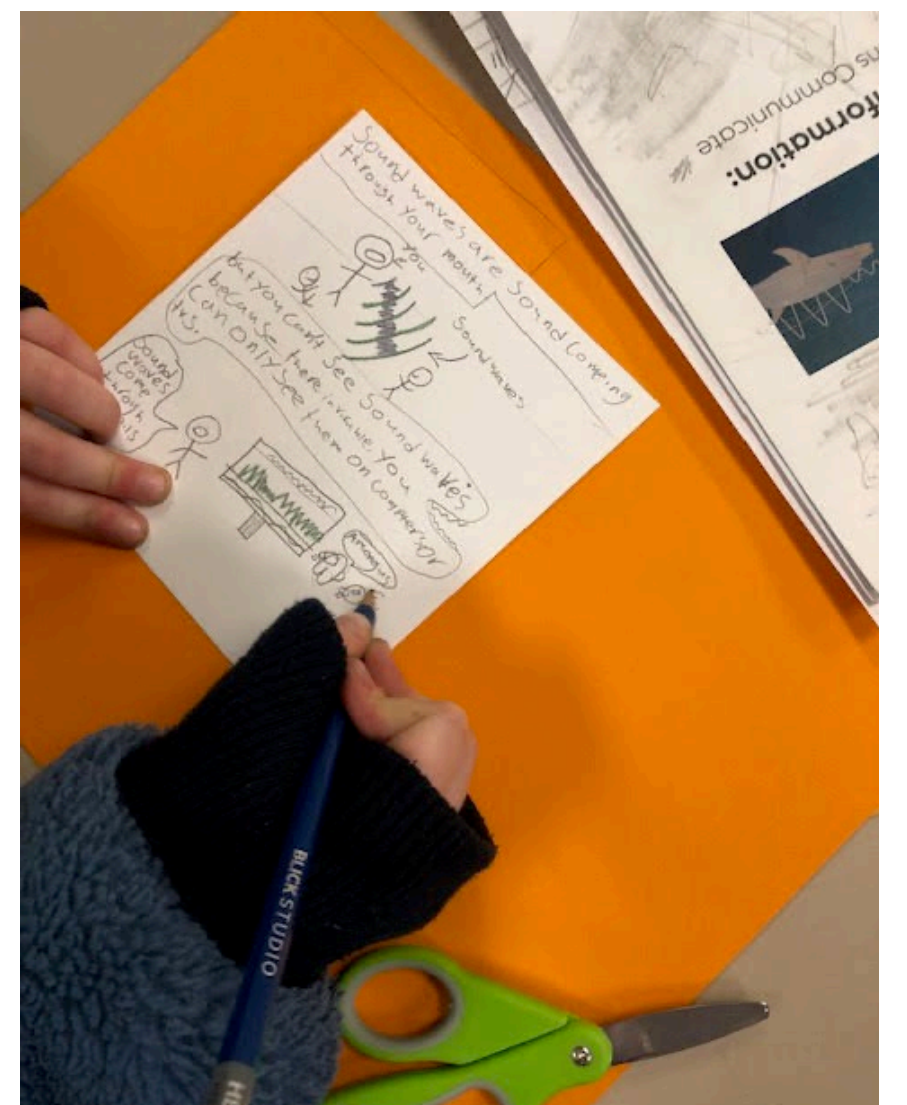
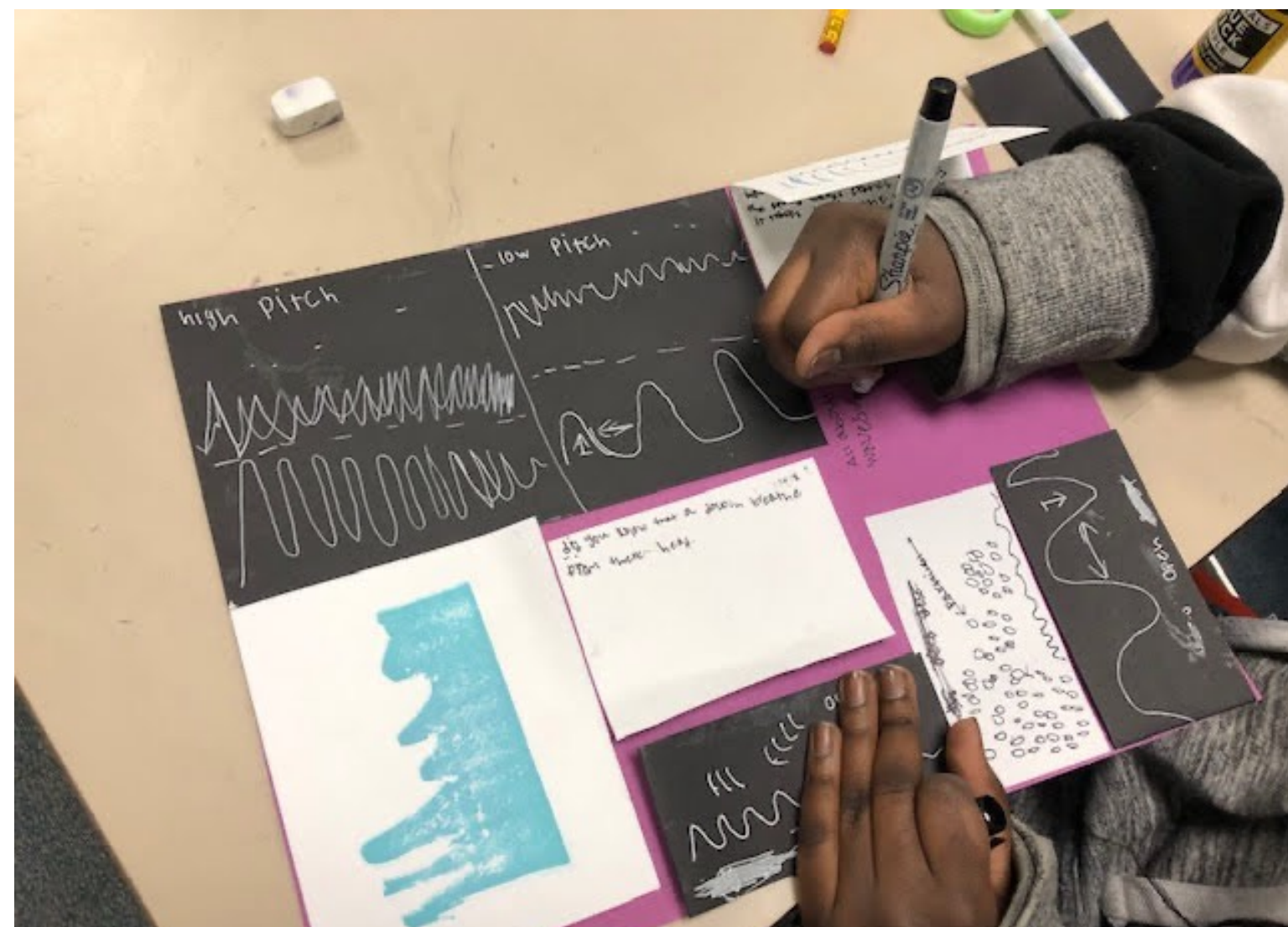
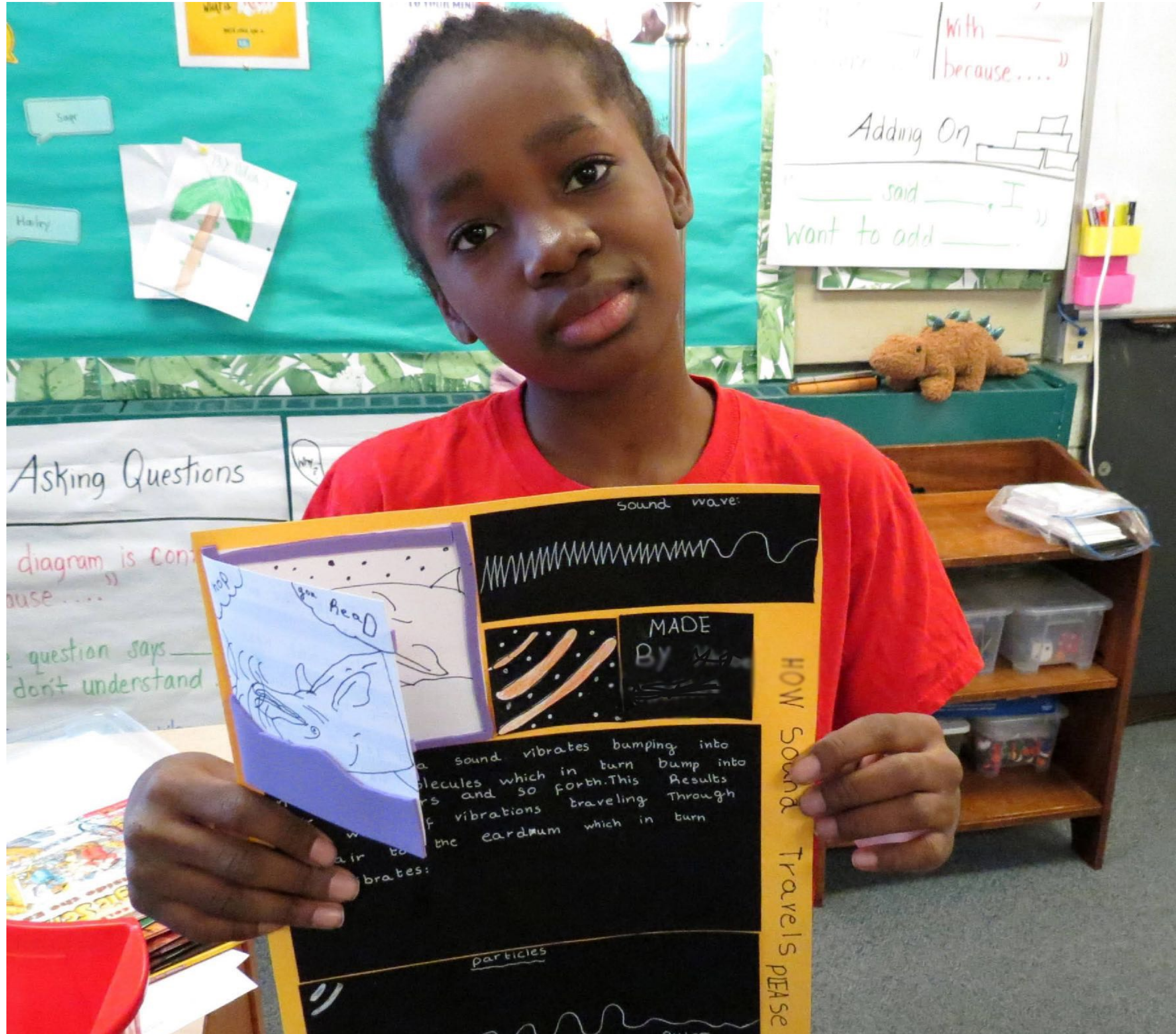
Fourth Grade Program

Soundwaves

Teaching artist: Anne Ackerman

Talbot Elementary School

Fourth grade students at Talbot Elementary School participated in a Side x Side program led by teaching artist Anne Ackerman that integrated art making with a science unit on sound waves. Students used printmaking and illustration to create “mega pages” to artistically capture their research on sound waves, how they travel, and how they are used to communicate.



2023

Third Grade Program

Fairytales

Teaching artists: Cat Labarre and Antonio Rocha

Rowe Elementary School

Third graders at Rowe Elementary School recently participated in a Side x Side program that helped to teach a literacy unit on fairytales through art and storytelling. Students worked with teaching artist Cat Labarre to create fairytale characters and turn them into hinged puppets. They then learned storytelling techniques from teaching artist and master storyteller Antonio Rocha to bring their fairytale characters to life. The program culminated in an Author's Tea celebration where students enjoyed iced tea and lemonade and shared their puppets and stories in small groups.



2023

Sixth–Eighth Grade Mural Program

Growth

Teaching artist: Rachel Gloria Adams

Lyman Moore Middle School

Students at Lyman Moore worked with teaching artist and muralist Rachel Gloria Adams during a Side x Side program in collaboration with art teacher Jessica Crowley. Students reflected on their individual growth journeys that, like the squares of a quilt or plants in a garden, are the pieces that come together to create their vibrant middle school community. They also created plant drawings centered around observation and the parallels of growth between a plant and a middle school student. The student art will be on display throughout Adams' permanent mural in the hallways of the school. [This program was made possible by the Davis Family Foundation.](#)



2023

Sixth–Seventh Grade Mural Program

Finding Our Way

Teaching artist: Molly Brown

Lincoln Middle School

Students at Lincoln Middle School participated in a Side x Side mural program in collaboration with art teacher Sara Gimeno and teaching artist, mapmaker, and geographer Molly Brown. With the theme: Finding Our Way, students reflected on what made them feel grounded in the local landscape and community and worked diligently to mix colors that represent school diversity and inclusivity. They then helped Brown to design and paint a permanent mural in the hallways of the school. [This program was made possible by the Davis Family Foundation.](#)



2023

Third Grade Sculpture Program

Sustenance: River Ecology and Migratory Salmon

Teaching artist: Pamela Moulton
Talbot Elementary School

Students at Talbot Community School recently participated in a Side x Side program which was facilitated by teaching artist Pamela Moulton and third grade teacher Jes Ellis. Students explored the concept of **sustenance** during a science and social studies unit on food systems, river ecology, and migratory salmon, and then worked with Moulton to create mixed media salmon sculptures and a river installation using recycled denim. They also enjoyed a visit from teaching artist and improv expert Meg Christie who led them in movement exercises and improv games. This program is part of a larger art exhibit, community conversation, and performance called *Sustenance* taking place at the Portland Public Library's Lewis Gallery May–July which includes the student artwork alongside well-known national artists.

[This program was made possible by the Maine Humanities Council.](#)



2023

Fourth Grade Bookmaking Program

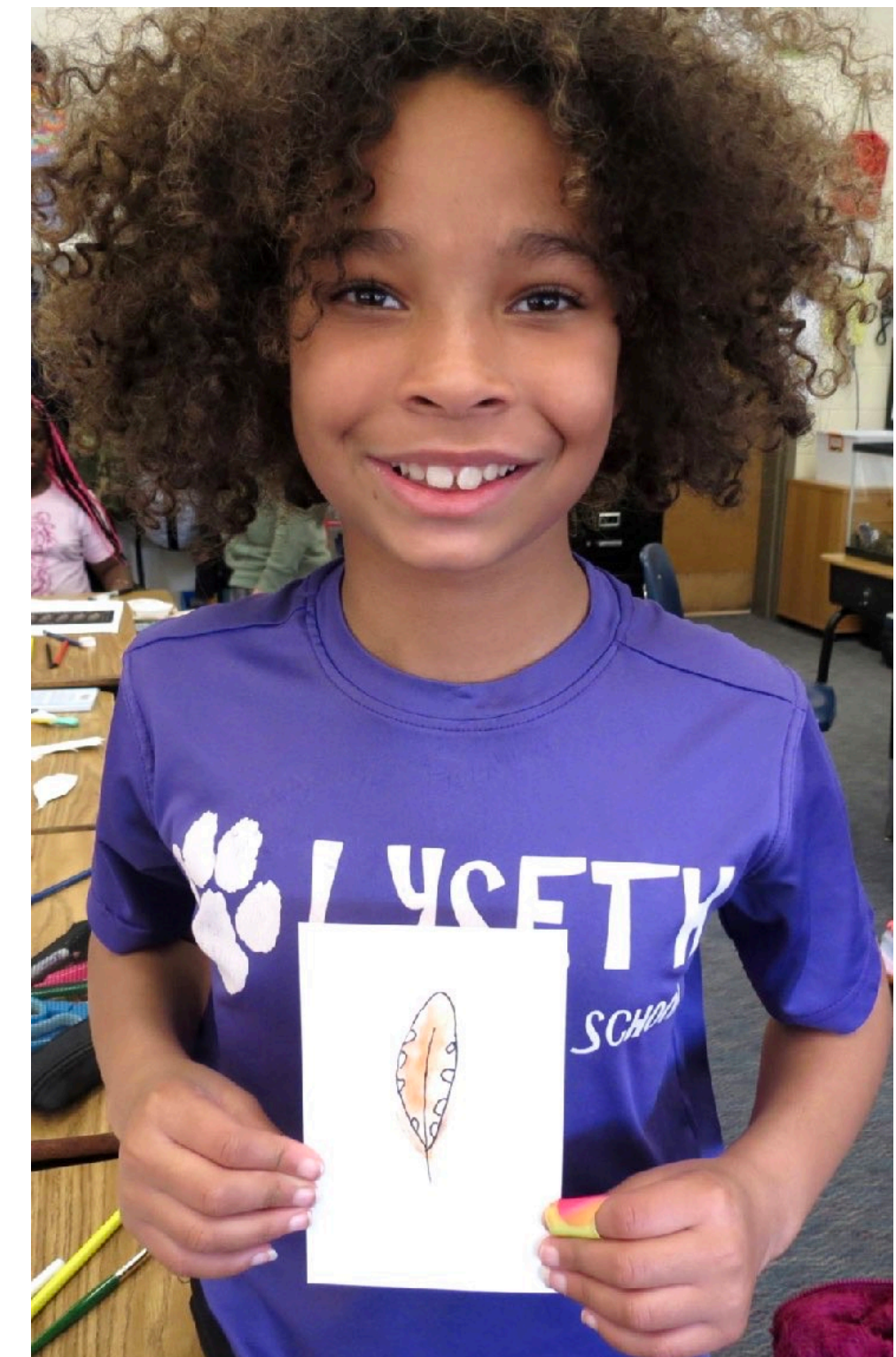
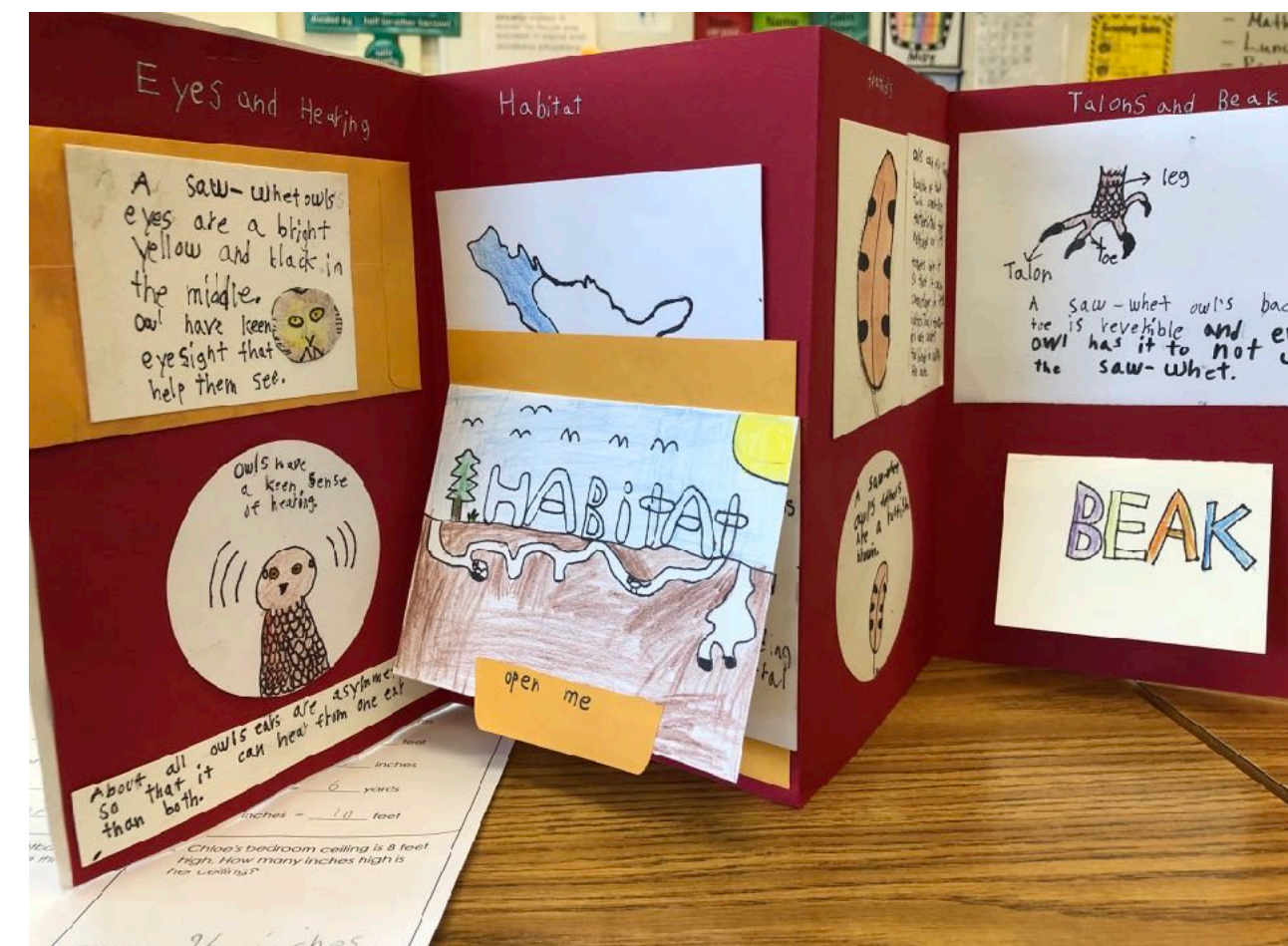
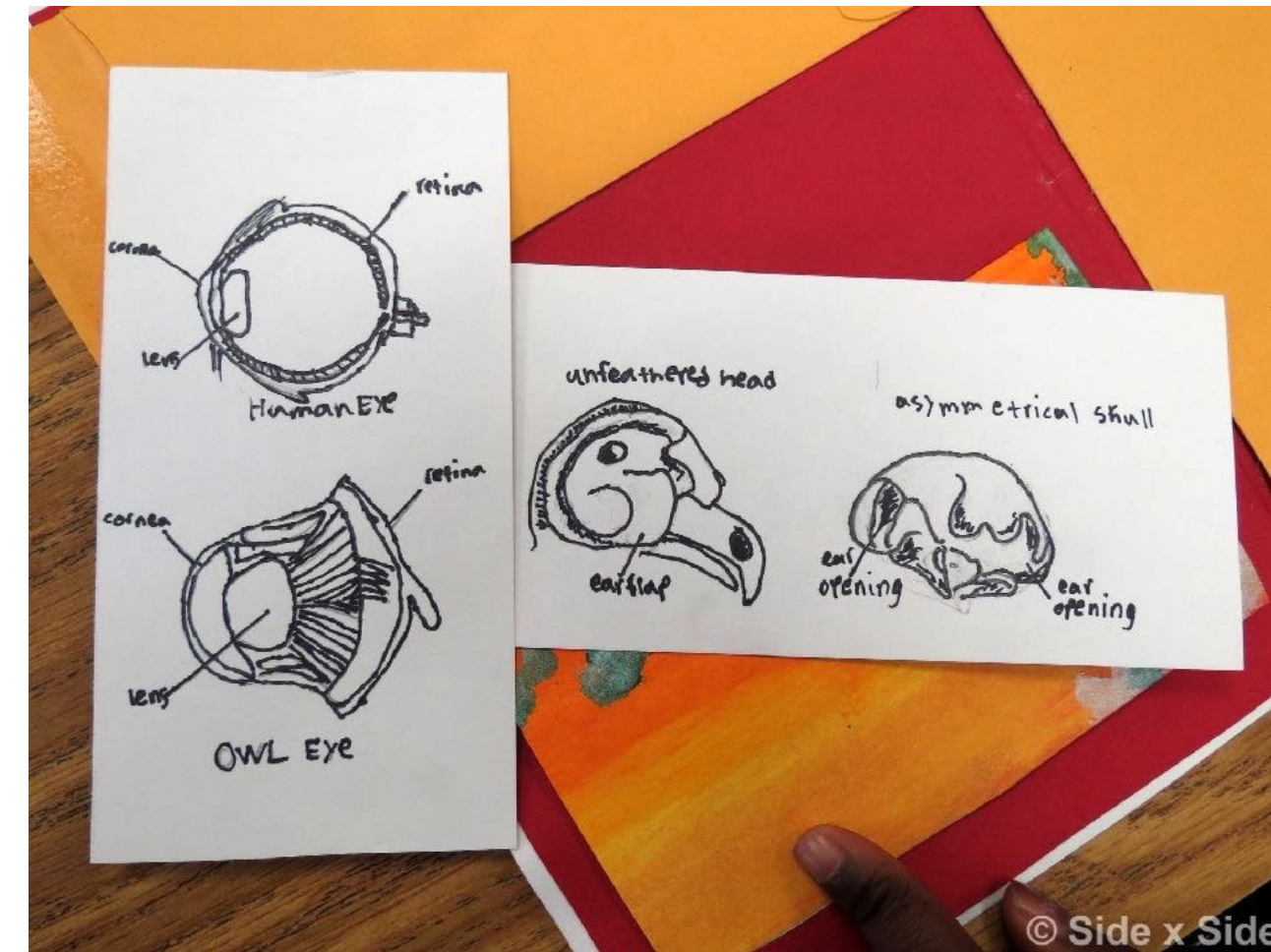
Maine Owls

Teaching artist: Anne Ackerman

Lyseth Elementary School

Fourth graders in Ms. Keleher's and Ms. Ladero's classes at Lyseth Elementary School participated in a Side x Side program integrating a science and literacy unit on owls with mixed media bookmaking. After studying owls in Maine including the Great Horned, Barred, Saw-Whet, and Snowy owls, students focused on the adaptations that allow owls to survive: hearing, eyes, talons, beaks, and feathers. Led by teaching artist Anne Ackerman, students then chose a particular owl to illustrate and research while drawing their adaptations, a small map of Maine, and a self portrait to incorporate into handmade books. The program culminated with a celebration of learning where students shared their owl books with their peers and families.

This program was made possible by the Maine Arts Commission.



2023

Fourth Grade Bookmaking Program

Maine Owls

Teaching artist: Jill Osgood

Lyseth Elementary School

Fourth graders in Ms. St. Germain's and Mr. Stygles' classes at Lyseth Elementary School participated in a Side x Side program integrating a science and literacy unit on Maine owls with mixed media bookmaking. Led by teaching artist Jill Osgood, students learned observational journaling, sketching from life, and how to illustrate owl body parts and adaptations. They then created a large-format single sheet book to display their research and artwork. The program culminated with an outdoor celebration of learning where students shared their owl books with peers, family, and friends.

This program was made possible by the Maine Arts Commission.



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2023

Second Grade Collage Program

Landforms

Teaching artist: Pamela Moulton

Ocean Avenue Elementary School

Second graders at Ocean Avenue Elementary School participated in a Side x Side program that integrated a science unit on landforms and a literacy unit on poetry with art. Led by teaching artist Pamela Moulton (aka Ms. Posey!), students learned drawing and collage techniques to illustrate individual letters and then poems that they wrote about landforms and their emotions.



2023

Third Grade Physical Theater Program

Extreme Weather

Teaching artist: Gretchen Berg

Ocean Avenue Elementary School

Third graders at Ocean Avenue Elementary School recently wrapped up a Side x Side program led by teaching artist Gretchen Berg that integrated a science unit on extreme weather with physical theater. Students learned to use physical theater to tell global stories about the science and mythology of extreme weather and its impact on the community.



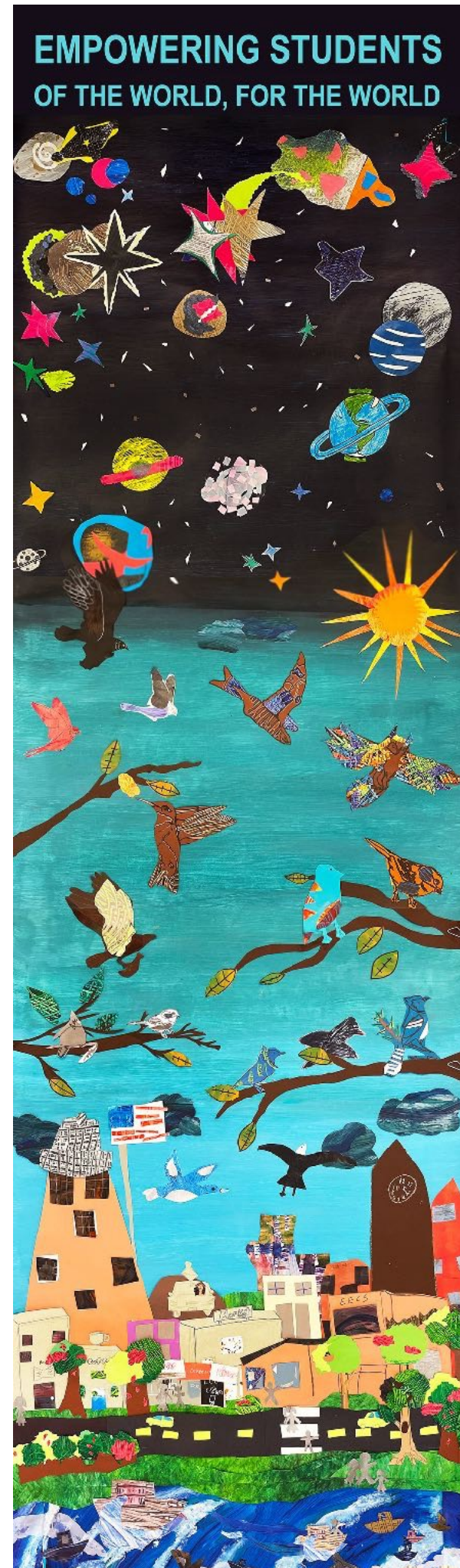
2023

Fifth Grade Banner Program

Public Art

Teaching artists: Leah Cross & Meghan Scribner
East End Community School

Fifth graders at East End Community School participated in a Side x Side program that is a collaboration between teaching artists Leah Cross and Meghan Scribner and art teacher Melissa Maher. During the program, students learned about public murals, composition, and design. Using handmade collage paper, they created visual components to convey empowerment, inclusion, and community, settling on the stars and universe, birds found in the school yard, and the cityscape around them. They then worked together to combine the imagery to create a welcoming banner to be displayed in the main entrance of the school.



2023

Seventh Grade Mural Program

Public Art

Teaching artist: Alicia Uth

King Middle School

King Middle School seventh graders recently wrapped up a Side x Side mural program that was a collaboration between classroom teacher Mindy Allen, art teacher Rachel Maloney-Hawkins, and Side x Side teaching artist Alicia Uth. During the program, students researched global perspectives on public art, activism throughout history, and how art can positively impact the community. They then designed and painted outdoor murals on boards, picnic tables, and a lighthouse, with the goal of conveying positivity and inclusion in the school community.

This program was made possible by the Davis Family Foundation.



2023

Fifth Grade Self-Portrait/Collage Program

Identity

Teaching artists: Leah Cross & Meghan Scribner

East End Community School

Fifth graders at the East End Community School participated in a Side x Side program integrating a poetry and figurative language unit with self-portrait drawing and collage. Led by teaching artists Leah Cross and Meghan Scribner, students created identity flags that represent qualities and characteristics they see in themselves. Each student then proudly carried their flag as they marched in a parade to honor these elementary school "graduates" as they head off to middle school next year.



2023

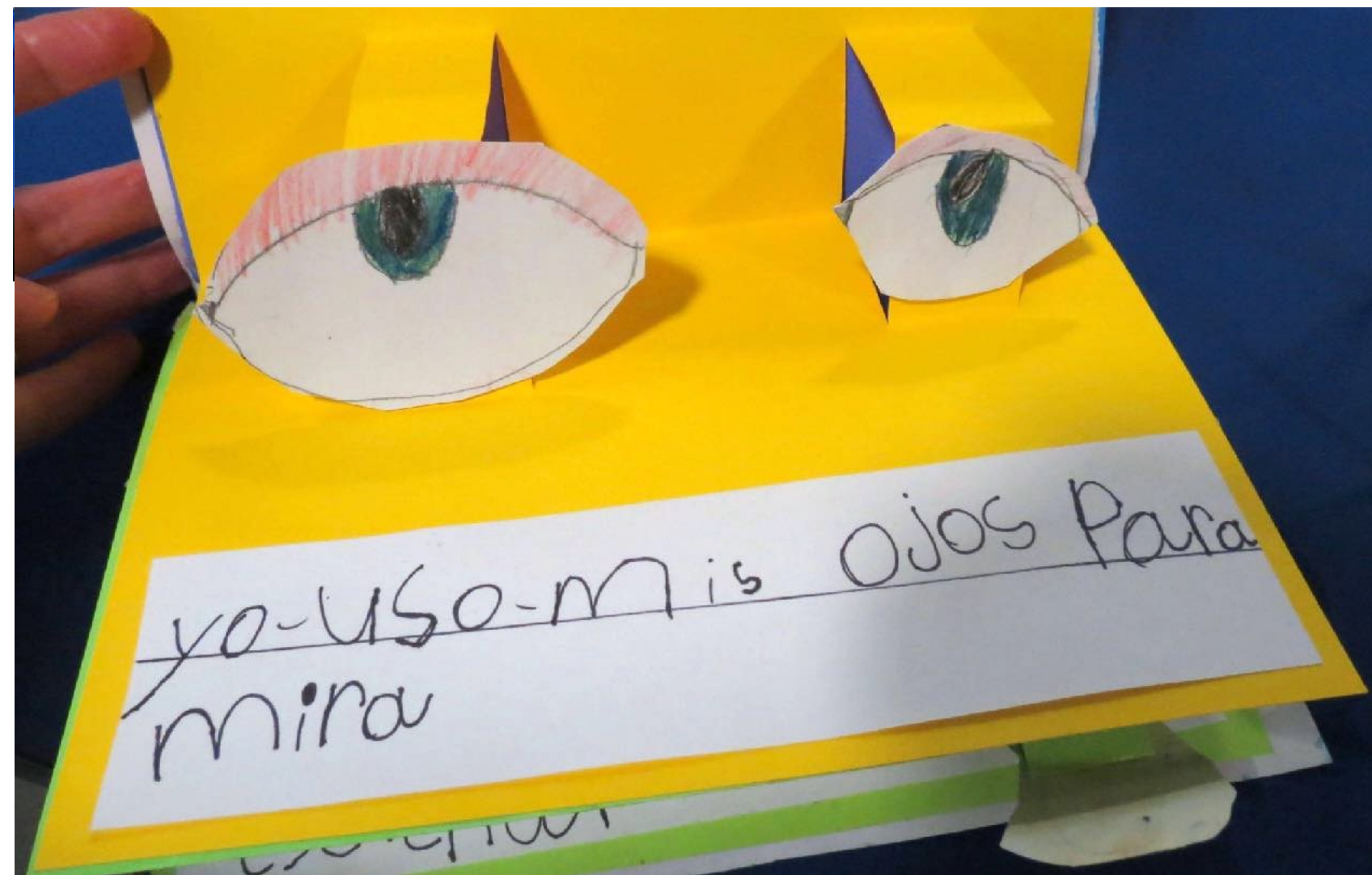
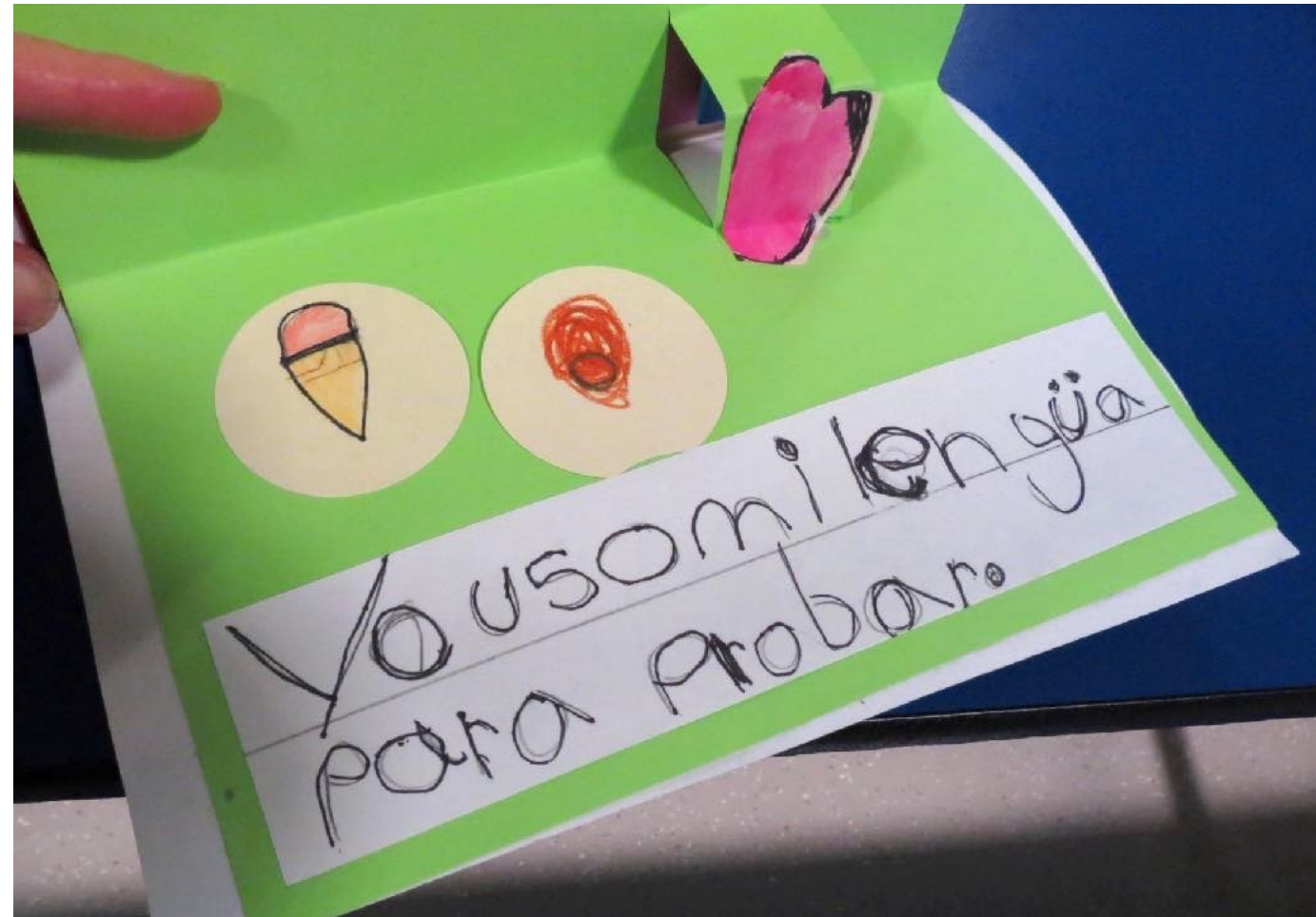
Kindergarten Bookmaking Program

The Human Body: The Five Senses

Teaching artist: Meghan Scribner

Lyseth Elementary School

Kindergartners in Maestra Mejia's Spanish emersion class at Lyseth Elementary School participated in a Side x Side program that integrated a science unit on the human body and the five senses with drawing, painting, and bookmaking. Led by teaching artist Meghan Scribner, students began by using wax resist and watercolor to create covers for their books. They then drew their five senses and affixed them as pop-ups while adding sentences and illustrations to describe each sense. The program culminated with a Celebration of Learning where students shared their books and what they learned about the five senses with their families and classmates.



2023

Sixth Grade Drawing, Painting, and Collage Program

Pollination and Decomposition

Teaching artist: Sarah Boyden

McMahon Elementary School, Lewiston

Sixth graders at Thomas J. McMahon Elementary School in Lewiston participated in a Side x Side program that was a collaboration between FoodCorps service member Ms. Guion, sixth grade teacher Ms. Stambolis, and Side x Side teaching artist Sarah Boyden. Students learned about pollination and decomposition and used drawing, watercolor, and collage to create characters for stories about pollination and decomposition. The bees, worms, trees, and flowers they created were collaged into two large banners that showcase student learning and serve as a teaching tool for future lessons. [This program was made possible by St. Mary's Nutrition Center.](#)



2023

Second Grade Sculpture Program

Pollinator Bugs and Birds of Maine

Teaching artist: Nance Parker

Reiche Community School

Second graders at Reiche Community School recently wrapped up a Side x Side program that integrated a science unit on pollinators of Maine with papier-mâché sculpture. Led by teaching artist Nance Parker, students designed, built, and painted papier-mâché pollinator bugs and birds to share with their classmates.



2023

Third Grade Physical Theater Program

Maine Rivers and Salmon

Teaching artist: Gretchen Berg

Lyseth Elementary School

Third graders at Lyseth Elementary School participated in a Side x Side program that integrated a science and social studies unit on Maine rivers and salmon with physical theater. Students worked with teaching artist Gretchen Berg on a performance showcasing their learning on the Presumpscot River and its connection and importance to Indigenous and non-Indigenous people.



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AWAKENING TOMORROW'S INNOVATORS

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