Welcome to the Richmond Heights Middle School Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month Celebration

Spartan Virtual Art Gallery

In our virtual art gallery you will find the artwork and tattoo designs of our Richmond Heights Middle School students, which were inspired by the tattoo traditions of Asian and Pacific Islander communities of the world. Follow the links on the bottom to move between rooms. Click on the artwork to learn more about it.
Vote for a Winner
Here
The Blooming Flowers

Inspired by
Symbols: Asian: Japanese
The flowers represent to me like life.
The color orange represents to me the color of being strong.
The color purple represent to me it being who you are.
The color light green represents to me for a new life.
The color dark green represents to me green of the plant.
The color pink represents to me a girls.

- Mariam Ahmed
I chose the Maori Moko tattoo for the lion’s nose because that tattoo is specialized and when I have all the things I love around me I feel really special too. These tattoos stand for pride and with my family crown, the shoes, football, money, I have full respect and I take pride in all those things like a lion.

The reason why I have a lion is because that’s my favorite animal and sometimes I feel like even though I’m the young cub and my dad the leader I’m getting older so I feel like I have to take care of my family like a male lion. Next is that crown on top of the lion, that’s on there because a lion is always king. If you look closely in the crown, you will see Peep for peeper my dad, NaNa for my sister, and Cierra for my mom. Their names are in the crown, because if I’m the lion I need the people I love most over my head. The Jordan 4’s were the first shoes I ever wore. Football is so special to me and my team is like another family.

- Ma’kye Smith McCord
Never Ending Time

Kalingas tattoo culture inspired my design. I chose Kalingas tattoo culture because it is inspirational to me how dedicated and committed Apo Whang-Od is with doing these tattoos. She has been doing tattoos like this since she was fifteen and she is now more than a hundred years old and still tattooing. I chose sand timers because of how long people in that culture have been working with tattoos. These symbols mean a lot to me because it shows how valuable time is. It is something that you can never get back. The sand timers symbolize for me how long the people have been tattooing and spending years perfecting their craft. They have been able to share their talents with many people and tell stories at the same time.

- Hayden Smith
It is never too late to fulfill your goals or wishes in life.

Inspired by Samoan tatau, my drawing represents a clock with all the pieces mixed together. Its meaning is that it does not matter the age or economic position of a person and that it is never too late to achieve goals or objectives because everything is possible with effort and that time will never stop because all the clocks in the world have their feet mixed.

It has no color because there are people who go through dark moments and stop dreaming of a goal or objective because they feel that it is too late and they do not fight for their dreams. When they should never stop dreaming, no matter how much they feel that it is too late, it is never too late to achieve a goal or objective.

- Karen Hernandez Zetina
This tattoo design is named bold because of how the Samoan Tatau made males and females look so brave. Also, the dark shading with ink you can get shows how the tattoo is deep and dark. Since this design is for men and women, it doesn’t have a feminine or masculine pattern. The shape for this tattoo is good as a rim on the thigh or even on the arm by your elbow. All cultures have a different way of expressing themselves and their culture, and with these designs they can show how brave and bold they are.

- Camora Walker
This design is inspired by a Samoan tatau. I picked this tattoo because I’ve seen something similar on Dwayne “The Rock” Johnson and Jason Momoa (Aquaman). I like this type of tattoo because it seems like there is strong meaning behind it. This Polynesian design is more traditional.

- Ajibola Adio
The Cross

This is the cross, a design I drew myself. I tried to make it look like a chin tattoo in the Maori Moko with some Samoan influence in the design. The reason I'm calling it cross is because of the many overlapping Samoan symbols and crosses on the design. To me, this design symbolizes peace and equality throughout the nations. I hope everyone likes this one.

- Levelle Harris
Vote for a winner by clicking the link below to cast your vote.

You will only be allowed to vote one time.

https://forms.gle/n1MZDD4 HvWEvtNcu6
Traditional Maori Moko:

Maori facial tattoos have specialized meanings for each individual.

Each family has their own lineage, as such each has their own facial tattoo designs as well.

These tattoos are outward reminders of the importance of family, culture, and pride.

If you are strong enough, any Maori person may receive one.
Traditional Samoan Tatau:
These Designs are called the Pe’a and Malu.
Pe’a is for men.
Malu is for women.
Traditional Japanese Irezumi
Thank you for viewing our AAPI Month Virtual Art Gallery!