

AAJH Virtual Art Gallery

Presented by Ms. Goodman

Junior Visual Arts Scholastic Event

On Saturday March 25th, 22 of Aguirre's visual arts students competed in a UIL competition known as JrV.A.S.E (Junior Visual Arts Scholastic Event). For the past few years, our students were not able to sit down with their judge to explain the process and meaning behind their work due to covid restrictions. This year was the first time since 2020 that our students were able to talk about their artwork in a professional setting - where they got meaningful feedback about their techniques, styles, and overall ideas.

I watched our students create their work with a lot of heart, and I am so happy to announce that 7 out of the 22 students received a 3 (second highest rating), 16 out of the 22 students received a 4 (highest rating), and 1 out of the 16 fours received a platinum medal (4's are rated twice and given an extra distinction if selected as a platinum winner)!

Please enjoy the slide show of the work our students did this year. You won't be disappointed.

Their rating is posted under my (their teacher's) name.

Giana Cortez

“I Am The Soldier, Poet, King”
8th Grade High School Credit

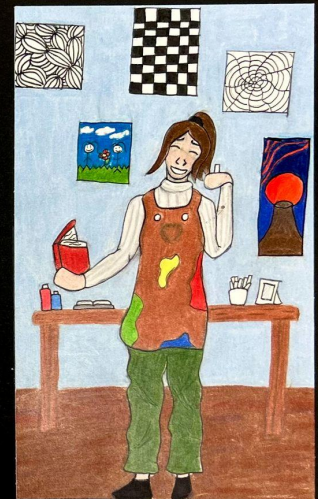
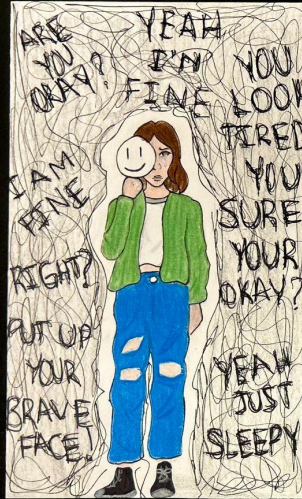
Artist Statement

The purpose behind my art is to talk about the different character traits that I possess, and their effects on my day to day life. I chose to make this the leading topic of my art because the older I have gotten the more burdens I feel like I keep taking on. Whether its homework, or relationships, or just getting any amount of sleep, I just feel like I have so much riding on my shoulders. And the song I was inspired by, articulated that so well.

Art Teacher: Dylan Goodman

Rating: 4

Also a Platinum Winner



Victor Avila Sanchez

“Toxic”

8th Grade High School Credit

Artist Statement

This was an important topic for me to express because as a middle schooler we are constantly surrounded and exposed to toxic people, behavior and environments. Most of the time...its our own fault, and sometimes we ourselves are the toxic person...So that's why I wanted to bring more awareness to this topic and let this be a conversation piece to openly talk about uncomfortable truths.

Art Teacher: Dylan Goodman

Rating: 4



Yoraldi Baltodano

“Abuela’s Kitchen”
8th Grade HS Credit

Artist Statement

The whole purpose of my art is to show off, and to pay respect to one of my favorite places in the world, my abuela's kitchen. It is a place of great comfort for me, as well as the rest of my family. The smells, the food, the company, all of them make it my safe place.



Art Teacher: Dylan Goodman

Rating: 3

Angelica Barbosa

“Disassociation”

8th Grade High School Credit

Artist Statement

This artwork is a visual representation of what it feels like when I am in a state of disassociation. It is a peaceful feeling, even though it's not what my reality normally looks like to me. The purpose of this artwork is to help the viewer understand a completely different perspective when it comes to consciousness.

Art Teacher: Dylan Goodman

Rating: 4





Liberty Bell

"Desire For Growth"

7th Grade

Artist Statement

The purpose of my artwork is to encapsulate a period in my life where I struggled with anorexia. Anorexia is so much more complex than just not eating - overall it is the constant and desperate need for control. I wanted my message to highlight that period of time in my life, but more importantly how I overcame that, and experienced a lot of growth.

Art Teacher: Dylan Goodman

Rating: 4

Liberty Bell

“Daylights”

7th Grade

Artist Statement

This piece is about being in a state of mind where you know you're still anchored to reality, but your mind is scattered like a kaleidoscope of consciousness. One of my inspirations for this piece comes from the artist, Natalia Martinsson, who was the leading creative artist for the indie video game, Fran Bow. The creatures she created, Luciferns, were a subtle inspiration during the making of my piece.

Art Teacher: Dylan Goodman

Rating: 4





Alyssa Benitez

“In Awe”

8th Grade High School Credit

Artist Statement

As a teenager it is difficult to find places in this world that can fully bring me peace. Especially the type of peace that you can get only by being in nature even when I'm not an "outside person". This artwork is about finding that inner peace and wanting to share it with the world. The artist I was inspired by was Frida Kahlo.

Art Teacher: Dylan Goodman

Rating: 4

Jennifer Delgadillo

“Drowning”

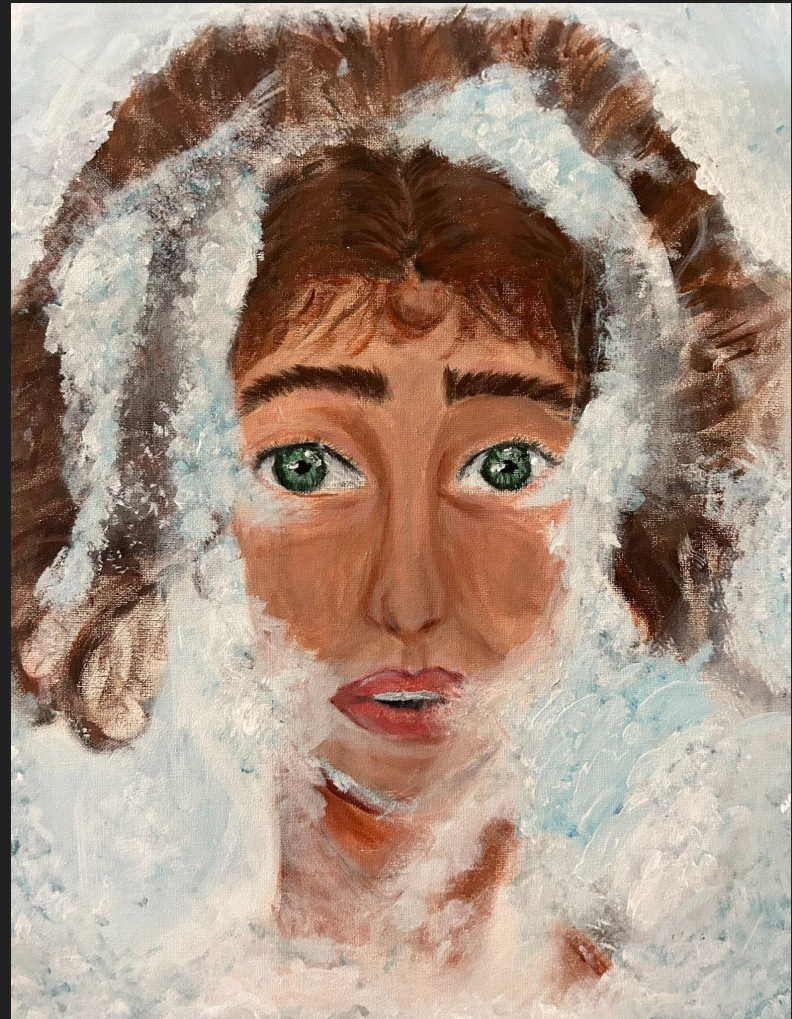
8th Grade High School Credit

Artist Statement

The message behind my work is a message about the weight of guilt and shame I feel when I let someone down that I care about. The artist I was inspired by the most was this hyper realistic artist named Alyssa Monks. She has a series of people in the rain or under water.

Art Teacher: Dylan Goodman

Rating: 4





Karime Estrada

“Juntos Para Siempre”

8th Grade High School Credit

Artist Statement

Since Covid happened, it has become more and more clear to me how little control we have over the outcomes of our future, our family's health, and their happiness as a whole. This piece was and is supposed to be an expression of if I were given ultimate control, how I would use that power to make sure my family is safe and happy and together.

Art Teacher: Dylan Goodman

Rating: 3

Valeria Flores

“Las Flores”

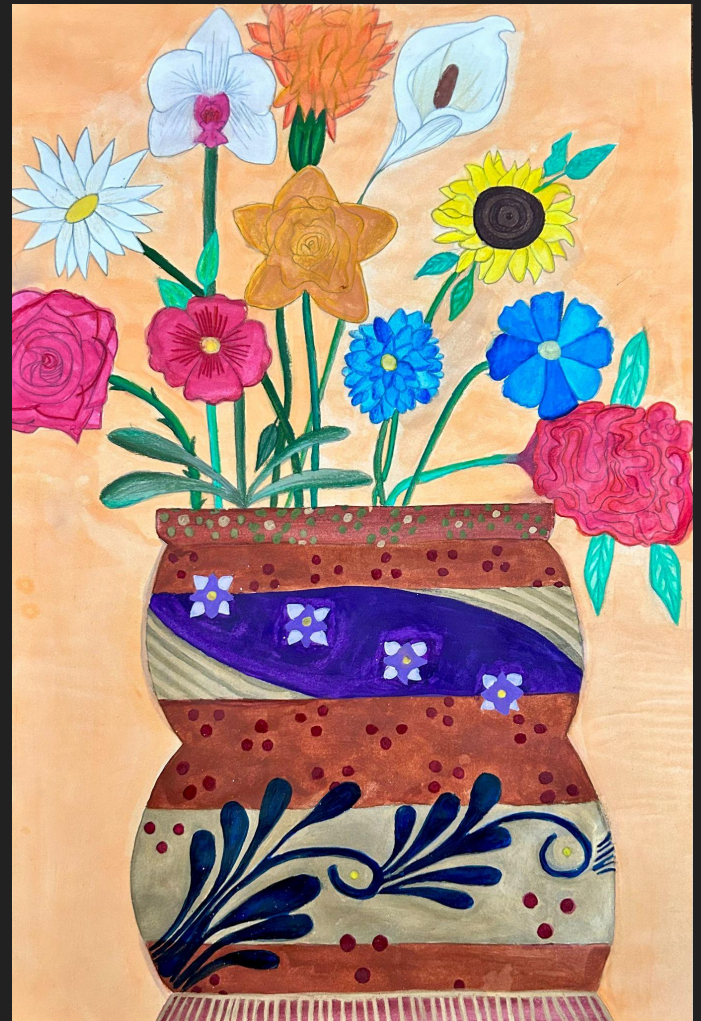
8th Grade High School Credit

Artist Statement

The purpose of my artwork is to celebrate, honor, and recognize the different members of my family who have worked incredibly hard so that I may flourish and grow up happy and healthy. The artist that I was inspired by for this piece is Georgia O'Keeffe.

Art Teacher: Dylan Goodman

Rating: 4



Alexandra Hankins

“Burdened”

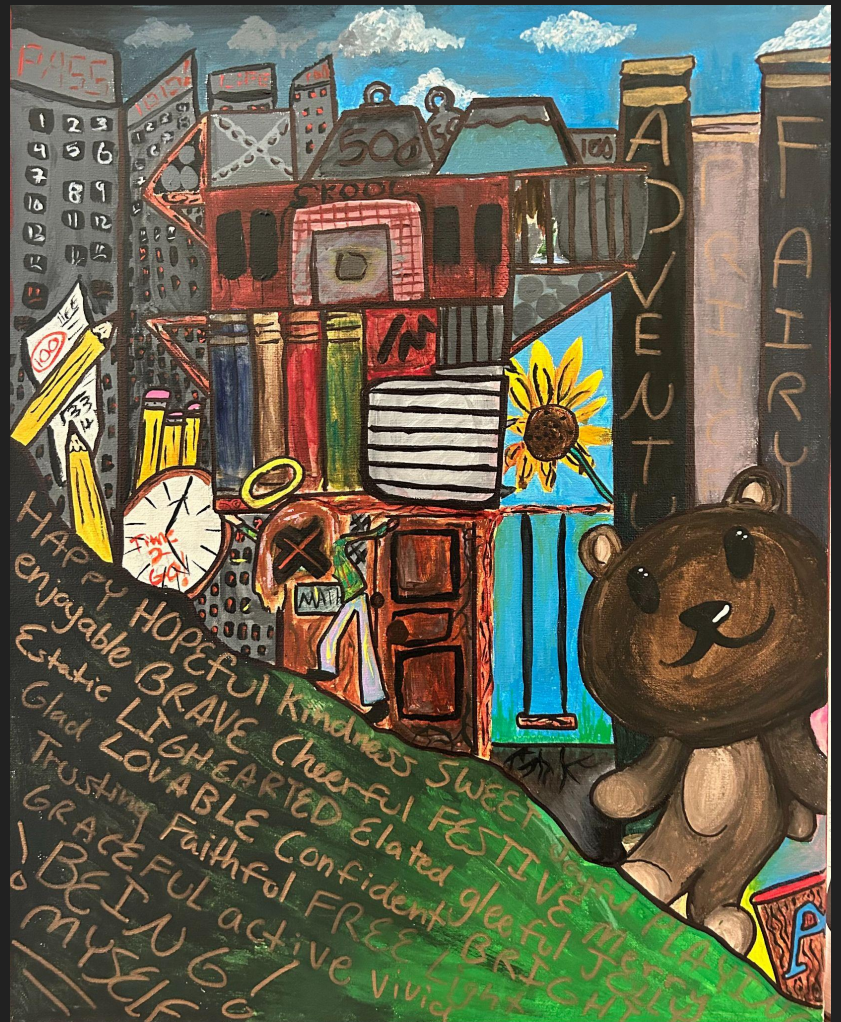
8th Grade High School Credit

Artist Statement

Sometimes life is just really hard. Sometimes it feels like nothing I do matters, but then on the other hand it feels like I'm not allowed to make mistakes, and there are not only consequences directed at me, but I also feel like I let everyone down. Sometimes it's just way too much. I wanted to express that frustration and the weight of it all the best way I knew how.

Art Teacher: Dylan Goodman

Rating: 4



Jade Haynes

“Ka Mokupuni (The Island)”

8th Grade High School Credit

Artist Statement

I wanted the idea behind my piece to be relatable to the viewer. We live in a broken world with broken people who then turn around and continue hurting others. We are all affected by the bad things that happen in this world, whether it be loss, or a heartbreak, or sickness, or have experienced a toxic relationship/friendship. I know we would all like to be able to protect ourselves from that hurt. And that's what this is about.

Art Teacher: Dylan Goodman

Rating: 4



Alexandra Leon

“The Hospital”

8th Grade High School Credit

Artist Statement

As someone who has experienced a lot of the different feelings and emotions that come with being at the hospital, for me and those that I have loved, I really wanted to share this relatable experience with others. It's difficult for me to talk about my own grief, but I know there is someone who could relate to this message.

Art Teacher: Dylan Goodman

Rating: 4



Adabella Lara

“Mama Maria”

8th Grade High School Credit

Artist Statement

The purpose behind this artwork is to express the deep love and respect I have for a very big figure in my life, my Mama Maria, who is my grandma. She is a very special person to me and my mom. The artist that inspired me the most was the artist Diego Rivera.

Art Teacher: Dylan Goodman

Rating: 3





Ashley Moreno

"Secrets"
8th Grade

Artist Statement

I wanted to do this piece to express something that I think teenagers struggle with every single day. Will I be accepted for who I really am? It was important for me to create this art because I think most of us fear rejection, when really the things about yourselves we think we should be ashamed of are really beautiful parts of who we really are and we should not be afraid to share them.

Art Teacher: Dylan Goodman

Rating: 4

Sherlley Perez Pineda

“A New Set Of Wings”

8th Grade High School Credit

Artist Statement

The message behind my art work is change, and embracing that change the best way you can. You will experience a lot of change in your life and if you are constantly fighting the change, you may not grow or learn from the things you really need to.

Art Teacher: Dylan Goodman

Rating: 3





Shalom Rivera

"Pandora's Box"

6th Grade

Artist Statement

The objective of my artwork is an interpretation of the myth "Pandora's Box" - in an effort to show the ugly reality of what true, unfettered curiosity can bring you. I drew inspiration from the saying from the actual myth, "...it came forth like a hornet's nest of entanglements." As for my style, it's another interpretation of the complexities that come from giving in, and opening the box.

Art Teacher: Dylan Goodman

Rating: 3

Alannah Rodriguez

“Spaced Out”

8th Grade High School Credit

Artist Statement

The message behind my work was to represent the incredible beauty and show a sense of adventure the universe has to offer. We sometimes forget that there is so much more going on outside of our world that we have barely understood.

Art Teacher: Dylan Goodman

Rating: 4





Brian Romo

“Lost Romance”

8th Grade High School Credit

Artist Statement

The message behind my art is about isolation, and heartbreak, and how those moments in our lives really test our character. Your mind and your heart are like a garden that needs to be taken care of, and the effects of a lost romance spreads like a weed if you let it.

Art Teacher: Dylan Goodman

Rating: 4

Juan Salcedo

“Wasted Time”

8th Grade High School Credit

Artist Statement

The purpose of my artwork is a reminder to me personally, as well as the viewer, that time is always running out and that you shouldn't hold yourself back or waste any of that time. And also how you spend your time is a personal matter, so you are only hurting yourself if you don't spend your time wisely.

Art Teacher: Dylan Goodman

Rating: 4





Stephany Tapia Rubio

“Journey Forward”

8th Grade High School Credit

Artist Statement

My mindset during the making of this artwork was about doing things for the first time, and going ahead in life not knowing what to expect next. My family and I have always traveled everywhere and anywhere in my mom's old car, so I wanted to include it symbolizing everything that we've gone through, and everything we are going to live by. The background in my artwork means that even after all the hard times, you'll end up in a better place in the end. My inspiration for the style in the sky was Vincent Van Gogh's *Starry Night*.

Art Teacher: Dylan Goodman

Rating: 3

Alana Tunink

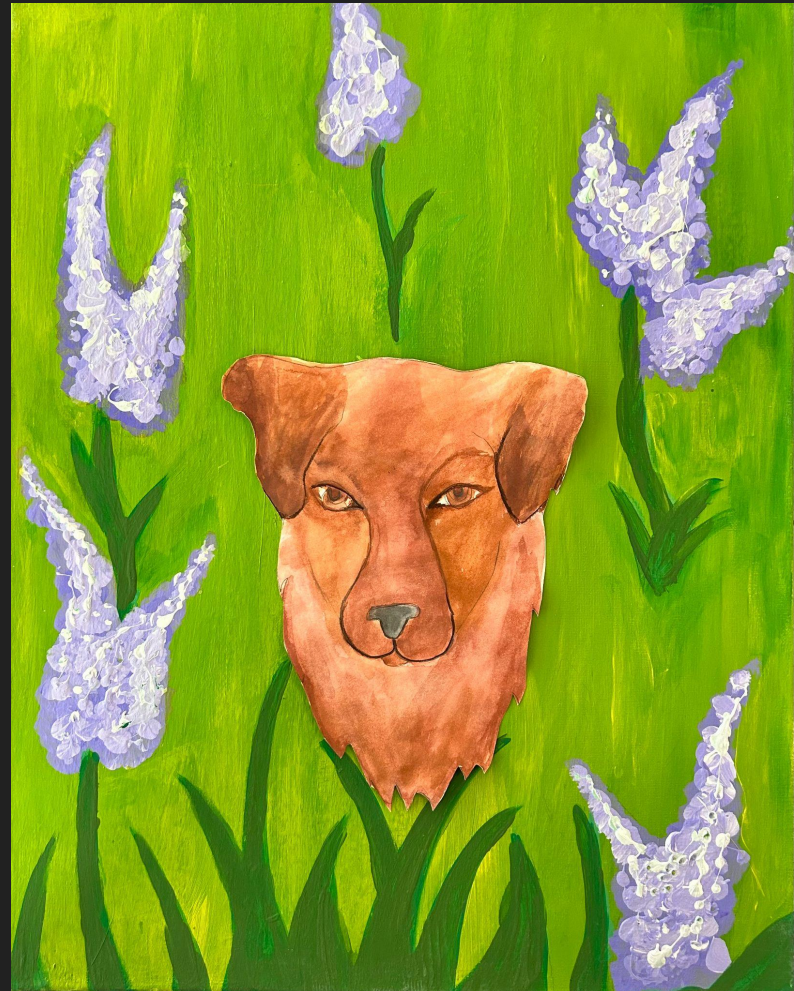
“Frankie”
6th Grade

Artist Statement

This artwork that i did is about my dog Frankie who has brought joy to my family through all our struggles. He inspired me to do this artwork to show the relationship between humans and animals - and everything we can learn from them as we go through each and every day.

Art Teacher: Dylan Goodman

Rating: 4





Sophia Zamudio

“Hostage”

8th Grade High School Credit

Artist Statement

The purpose of my artwork is to express a deep anger and sadness I possess because of a condition I have been diagnosed with that even though it only flares up when I am sick, it still has drastically affected my life, especially going into my teen years. An artist I found inspiring for this piece was Francis Bacon (the younger one).

Art Teacher: Dylan Goodman

Rating: 4