

Cambridge Preschool of the Arts

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Thursday, March 2nd, 2023

### Our Inspiration: Artists and Movements

This year our Art Auction was inspired by the theme of exploring a wide variety of famous individual artists, and the art movement that was representative of their work. Children were engaged with the style, material, format, and meanings behind what their class's artists represented, and investigated various ways to incorporate their learning into their final collaborative pieces.

### Our Artists:

Gan Harvard Square- Henri Matisse **Toddler 1 Harvard Square- Carolyn Galvin Toddler 2 Harvard Square- Andy Warhol** Preschool Harvard Square- Neri Oxman PreK Harvard Square- Eduardo Kobra Tamim Academy- John Stezaker Infants Inman Square- Helen Frankenthaler Toddler Inman Square- Claude Monet Preschool Inman Square- Vincent Van Gogh Toddler 1 East- Eric Carle Toddler 2 East- Phillip Mastracola Preschool 1 East- Franz Marc **PreK East- Rosalind Hobley Toddler 1 West- Sonia Delaunay** Toddler 2 West- Jackson Pollock **Toddler 3 West- George Seurat** Preschool 1 West- Andy Goldsworthy Preschool 2 West- Giuseppe Arcimboldo PreK West- Pablo Picasso

## "Pieces of Matisse"

Gan Harvard Square



Our art this year was inspired by the remarkable career of Henri Matisse, one of the most influential artists of the twentieth century, whose stylistic innovations fundamentally altered the course of modern art and affected the art of several generations. In 1904 while visiting a small fishing village in Provence, Matisse discovered the bright light of southern France, which contributed to a much brighter palette. In 1940 Matisse began using a new technique - that of building up the composition from cutout shapes of previously colored paper, which became Matisse's favorite exploratory medium. Acknowledging all the phases and creations of Matisse, we decided to incorporate the brighter palette and the cutouts into our art piece. It was important to us to incorporate the children's interests into our piece. One of the children's favorite times in our classroom is when we have magna tiles on display for them to build or play with. They love to observe the pieces by looking through the shapes and noticing that they can see their friends and how they look from a different perspective and color. The central themes that we utilized in their art mirrored this same theme; first, we have shapes, and second, we have colors! We introduced a brighter palette of neon colors, which eventually we cut out into different shapes for the friends to explore.

## "Flowers"

Toddler 1 Harvard Square



Our Toddler 1 friends have been exploring various ways to create flower art, with inspiration taken from Carolyn Gavin, who is well known for her very colorful and bright flower paintings.

They were introduced to many types of trees, their leaf formations, construct and colors. Naturally, our friends drew creativity from exploring using different styles and techniques such as straws, natural elements,, tissue paper, sponges and moss. Throughout this exploration process, our toddlers noticed how some colors, when mixed, created a whole new color which changed the aesthetic and further challenged their imaginations, giving the art a more realistic appearance and look. Each color selected was a child's choice to give their piece a unique perspective seen only through their eyes.

## "Literary Pop!"

Toddler 2 Harvard Square



Toddler 2 friends took a time machine to the 60's and focused on Andy Warhol! First, we read age appropriate books about his life. Friends kept referencing the book "Fabulous! A Portrait of Andy Warhol" by Bonnie Christensen where they learned specifically about the screen printing process. We first practiced the swiping motion that is typically done with screen printing. They did this by having a stencil taped down and then using a piece of cardboard with paint dabbed on the bottom. From there, the friends would "swipe" the paint and then lift the stencil, showing their work. Next, friends made their own stamps! For over a month, the class focused on a specific children's author and illustrator. Each friend then chose a specific character that they liked. We used sponges, paper towels and water to make a temporary tattoo effect with their literary character onto foam. Then, they traced their character outlines with either a pen or a color pencil. Next the children painted on their class colors with brushes and sponges in different ways. Next, friends rolled, brushed, sponged or finger painted their stamps with the color they chose. Lastly, they stamped their characters onto card stock paper. Each child was able to press their stamps down in different ways, exercising their gross motor skills. Some did light taps while others stood up and used their whole bodies to tap their stamps. Each child used their skills, love of color and their character to make the piece truly child made and child inspired.

## "Moon Tree"

Preschool 1 Harvard Square



Our class chose to feature Neri Oxman. as our feature artist, because she incorporates biology, technology, and design to create nature-centered art. We were inspired by Neri's use of various materials, visuals, and textures and so planned to use primarily wood, wire, and clay to construct a collaborative sculpture of a tree. Friends worked with play dough, ceramic clay, and air dry clay to practice making texture. They used natural materials such as sticks, sweet gum balls, and beeswax and pressed, scraped, or rocked these objects onto the clay to create a texture. The base and trunk of the tree were made with the help of all the friends in our class. Each of the fourteen branches on the tree were chosen and made by each friend individually. They each used clay to mold their branch and created texture by using their hands to press the clay as close as they could to the branch. Finally, once our branches were dry and ready, we worked together to attach them to the trunk of the tree. Each friend chose where they would like their branch to be, and helped Morah to wrap the wire around the end of the branch and the trunk. The friends made sure the wire was wrapped tight so their branch would stay securely on the tree.. Through the creation of our tree our friends learned how to interact with many different forms of nature and how they could highlight the art and beauty that is found in nature. The Morahs appreciate that this piece embodies both the independence and uniqueness of each of our friends as well as the constructive teamwork that all of our friends have worked so hard on all year long!

## "Rainbow Helping Hands"

Prek Harvard Square



Our Artist of focus for our Art Auction piece was Eduardo Kobra from Sao Paulo, Brazil. We looked at and studied Kobra's large scale murals from around the world in great detail for many weeks and they truly inspired us with their messages of love, acceptance and peace. We really wanted everyone's individuality expressed in our art so voted on using our hands as the base of the art. Next we brought in a printer and scanned and printed each friend's hand. Once we scanned and cut our handprints, each friend took a turn gently using clear glue to place their hands on the clear acrylic, and then decided exactly what pattern, color and shapes to use on top of their individual hand! Once all the hands were covered with different shapes, we decided on triangles for the middle and worked hard to create the patterns and colors before we glued them on. It was a slow and thoughtful process which really brought out the individual artistic style of each friend.

This piece of art is best hung near a window and will bring light, brightness and joy into your home!

## "Tamin around the World"

Tamim Harvard Square



We drew inspiration from the visionary artist, John Stezaker, whose captivating collages using vintage imagery challenge our perceptions and evoke contemplation. In our pursuit of a similarly compelling piece, we dedicated ourselves to mastering the basics of photography and honed our skills by experimenting in our homes. Finally, we journeyed through Harvard Square, where we immersed ourselves in the atmosphere and captured the essence of the place through our lenses. We are eager to share our resulting work, which pays homage to Stezaker's ingenuity and reflects our own creative evolution. We invite you to join us in exploring the intricacies of our piece and discovering the impact of Stezaker's influence on our vision.

## "Colors Galore!"

Gan Inman



Helen Frankenthaler was an American abstract expressionist painter whose techniques and methods have spanned the last 60 years. From her start in the 1950s until 2011, her paintings were enjoyed by many. We really enjoyed exploring Helen Frankenthaler's art and after reviewing some of her pieces, we found that her painting, Tutti Frutti, would best represent all of the friends' colors in our class. Helen used a method called the Soak Stain Technique. This unique method involves pouring watercolor paint and letting it dry where it lands. It is a very abstract and unique design. To practice the Soak Stain Technique, we experimented with scooping and pouring with different materials in the sensory bin with water. First, we used cups to scoop the watercolor and then we poured it. Second, we used squeeze bottles so that we could see what happened when we squeezed watercolor instead of pouring. Thirdly, we used mini beakers to watch where the watercolor paint would land. We painted many drafts, fine tuning our pouring method and our water and paint ratio. Finally, we decided that the most effective and fun way to include each of our friends and their class colors in the final painting was to guide them with pouring the paint in select areas and spreading around the excess paint with our hands to fill up as much white space as possible. We then let it lay flat to dry so we could come back and see the process of the abstract paint drying on our canvas paper.

# "Ocean" Toddlers Inman



As our class began thinking about creating a piece inspired by Monet, we were drawn to the colors that are frequently used in his works. We began our exploration by learning about colors and how to combine them. We have worked to understand what colors make other colors when they are mixed together, and we had a lot of experimentation with what colors of paint make different colors appear. Another aspect of Monet's style of painting that we aimed to emulate was the long strokes indicative of impressionism. While our final piece was made using a squeegee typically used to clean windows or other smooth, glass surfaces, we practiced swiping with lots of other materials as practice. Several morning centers involved spreading paint with cardboard and seeing how the colors moved and mixed together. We spent a lot of time trying to determine how much paint was the ideal amount and what direction and number of strokes resulted in the most Monet-like product. To create our final canvas, we started out by splitting it into three sections, and each section was painted by three of our artists. They helped to use the squeegee to spread the paint down the canvas to blend the colors. After this layer was complete, we decided to add another layer, this time encouraging our artists to place the paint anywhere on the canvas, not just in their section. Instead of swiping the paint in three separate sections, the second layer involved swiping the whole canvas at once to mix all the colors. Once this layer was dry, we thought of adding some pink and purple going in the other direction from the way we had been swiping until this point, as Monet's paintings have strokes in both directions. Initially, this was too bold, but after adding one more layer of horizontal strokes, our painting was complete!

## "A Boston Starry Night"

Preschool Inman



Inspired by Van Gogh's "A Starry Night", the Inman Preschool class created this masterpiece in a series of carefully thought out steps. First, we painted the base by adding shades of blue acrylic paint to the canvas. We mixed different amounts of white and black with blue, observing what made a lighter or darker blue paint. Then, we made the horizon by painting a darker layer on the bottom half of the canvas, to show the distinction between sky and land. Next, we used round brushes with white and gold paint to create the swirly night sky. We practiced our swirling techniques the weeks prior to prepare us for this big moment. We also made small brush strokes throughout the swirls in the sky to create the same look of texture used by Van Gogh. After that layer dried, we added the bright yellow moon and stars by using the round sponge brushes. While we were looking to Van Gogh for inspiration, we wanted to add our own special twist. The Morahs drew the outlines of 14 unique city buildings in the foreground of the painting, and each child got to paint their own building. Our final and favorite step was using toothbrushes to flick silver paint onto our building to create the look of ambient city light while staying true to Van Gogh's love of small paint strokes.

# "Small Circle, Big Circle" Toddler One West



Our inspiration was the great Sonia Delaunay, a painter, illustrator and designer. We began our process with pure warm colors like red and orange and added layers with cool colors like blue and green. Our drawing palette was our canvas- with every layer we attached wooden circles and arcs in order to create our shapes, and taped them down to create a line that would not be affected by the current layer. Before each new layer was added, we changed the location of the wooden shapes and the tape. Every Toddler One friend added their very own special touch in each layer, using different brushes, rollers and handmade stamps, as well as pouring and mixing our paint directly onto the canvas. At the end, we attached our wooden shapes to a different location on our canvas- with each small circle representing one of our friends in the Toddler One classroom!

## "Color in Motion" Toddler Two West



Toddler 2 West decided to go on a journey to explore action based art. Jackson Pollock taught us to use lots of our senses to create a masterpiece and we learned a lot about team work, movement, and how to truly listen to our surroundings! We started practicing using different tools such as a parachute, dancing ribbons, scarves and even moving our bodies, imitating a splatter motion. We listened to different kinds of music- each type of music set us on a journey into different moods and feelings, which changed the way we moved. When we started to use paint, we tried conventional & nonconventional brushes including paint brushes, sticks, branches, rubber bands, balls and more to get that splatter effect while incorporating movement. For our final piece- each day was dedicated to a different moodand with it- a different splatter style. We used turquoise shades with calming instrumental music and a rubber band snapping technique, blue shades with sad music and a ball to move the paint around, and yellow shades with happy music and sticks/branches to splatter and gold/silver shades with fancy, classical up beat music using different sizes widths and lengths of sticks to explore with. To add a special touch to our final layer, we took our painting outside. This time we encouraged friends to listen to the sounds of nature. Friends heard the wind blowing in the trees, and birds chirping and singing their songs. Each time, friends let the music guide them, which made their bodies move differently. We are so excited about how our final piece has turned out and all of our friends were so amazing at participating and doing their part to make this collaboration piece truly come to life.

# "Storybook Tree" Toddler Three West



While on a walk around our beautiful Cambridge neighborhood, friends began identifying how the trees in the park, the grass blowing in the wind, and the blue sky above were all similar to the paintings of our selected artist, Georges Seurat. Coupled with the plethora of books about forests and far away lands, as well as our very own POTA emblem, it became clear that our classroom family was inspired by the nature surrounding us so we decided to make a tree! For several weeks prior to starting on our piece, students used Qtips and individual canvases to create different images from dots. What started as unidentifiable shapes naturally transformed into clouds, a sky, and a world reminiscent of the one around us. We mixed various shades of blue and green and allowed the students to paint the base colors for the background. Next, using Q-tips and cookie cutters to help outline the section in need of dots, friends used their "press and lift," method to dot various colors over the dried foreground. It was an incredibly rewarding experience to watch how well a toddler class could create beautiful art, listen to directions, and use teamwork to create a collective image that is truly magical. We are so proud of their creativity, dedication, and imagination. They truly immersed themselves in the technique of pointillism, even requesting books about Georges Seurat himself from the Cambridge Public Library!

# "Lathering Tree" Preschool One West



Andy Goldsworthy was such a natural fit as the artist for Preschool One friends, making connections with his artwork including some of the natural materials that we have in our very classroom. We began our journey by being introduced to loose parts and natural materials which our friends have loved exploring since the beginning of school. Using small trays with rocks, twigs and leaves we made our own smaller creations. The class hand picked their materials outside to enjoy and create on our tables! In addition, our friends worked with different types of art materials. We were given a variety of materials such as a wooden tray and nature objects that we had gathered from outside, such as pinecones, leaves, sticks, and colored pebbles. First, we took turns picking some of the nature objects and placing them onto our wooden tray. After, we all worked together to arrange our pieces on the tray.. We also had a special liquid called resin, which we watched a Morah carefully pour all over the pieces on the tray. Finally we gave our tray 24 hours to set and lock in place. This preserved our nature artwork just as Andy Goldsworthy was known for preserving his temporary and time sensitive nature art through photography. We had such a blast working together to prepare our art show project and hope you enjoy a little piece of our nature experiences from our time exploring our outdoor world together!

## "Salad Yuy" Preschool Two West



Our artist Giuseppe Arcimboldo, of Milan, Italy (April 5, 1526 - July 11, 1593) was famous for creating portraits out of fruits, flowers, and vegetables. Our approach to understanding this style of portraiture was a multi-step process that occurred over a period of 5 weeks. We started by comparing our facial features to shapes, shapes to fruit, then fruit to facial features. After discovering patterns in our applied what we learned comparisons, we by practicing observational art. The vision for our piece was for the children to create a variety of fruits and vegetables, then collage them into a portrait. During this process, we celebrated the holiday of Tu B'shevat which moved us to implement more Earth conscious practices inside of our classroom. From composting in our own compost bin, to recycling, and ecobricking, Preschool 2 friends were inspired to create our very own paper out of paper scraps we'd been collecting throughout the year. By ripping paper into smaller pieces and blending it with water, and then dyeing it from the juices of the fruits and vegetables themselves, we were able to create enough paper to assemble our very own portrait.

#### "Us" Pre-K West



Inspired by the works of artist Pablo Picasso, friends spent the past month carefully studying and practicing self portraiture. They spent days and weeks perfecting the art of replicating their facial features in their drawings- observing their own faces in mirrors and in Picasso's work. They studied the shapes in each part of their faces and practiced spatial recognition identifying where each of our features lays in relation to the rest. After this careful and in depth study into portraiture, PreK friends decided that using a large mirror as their canvas would serve as a way for them to create their own reflections, and for others to see themselves through the art of their self portraits. We also learned that Picasso portrayed his portraits in a very unique way- through lots of colors and through a special art technique called cubism. We decided to enclose our portraits in small, colorful square tiles to reflect this aspect of Picasso's work, and to tie our piece together with a unique aesthetic.

# "A Very Helpful Turtle" Toddler One East



Our classroom's art piece was inspired by the famous Eric Carle! This artist represents our classroom and our toddler friends as he is all about the process of creating art as opposed to prioritizing the end product. Carle is known for his collages, many of which are in our classroom books such as The Very Hungry Caterpillar. He used collages to portray vivid colors and many abstract color themes. The first steps our toddler friends made in our art piece were by painting various pieces of large scale paper to be ripped and used for the collages. Friends used all different types of art materials to explore their sensory creativity from rollers to roll the paint, stampers to create circular shapes, sponges, and different sized paint brushes to apply the color to the paper. Each toddler was so intrigued with how different each tool felt in their hands and applied the paint! The second step to the art piece was ripping the paper and assembling the loose pieces into the canvas. Each toddler was so empowered to rip apart the paper to create the waves on the canvas. For the final step, the friends glued the cut out and ripped pieces of paper to the canvas to create the shape of the turtle, the sand and the waves. Then they all worked together to modge podge the piece together to create their beautiful masterpiece. Our toddler friends, like Eric Carle's collages, are made up of all the special parts of them that make them who they are!

## "Clementines Way"

Toddler Two East



Toddler 2's art piece was inspired by Philippe Mastrocola, who is known for his street art, which usually consists of bright colors and waves. The friends of Toddler 2 used all different methods and tools to create bold, colorful swirls all over our canvas. We started out by painting using different tools. We used our feet to paint by dancing on paper, we used dough to paint our own paintings, we practiced with spray paint and stencils, and we used all different kinds of brushes. We spent our time in class talking about different colors, what our favorite colors were, and what colors we saw in Philippe Mastrocola's works. Then, with that knowledge, each friend made their own personal color by mixing acrylic paints of their choosing into paint cans. Each color was unique, just like our friends! We used brushes, sponges, rollers, and our fingers to add layers of paints as we followed the waves outlined on our canvas. As we started painting, though, we started to find our own way! We let the pattern guide us, but we ended up created waves in all directions, colors and sizes. Our Morahs taped off some sections as we added layers on layers to make textured, flowing waves throughout our piece. As we kept painting, our piece truly became a reflection of our vibrant class, where each and every one of us shine in our own way!

### "Princess Lila, the Star Unicorn"

Preschool 1 East



Franz Marc believed that animals held great power, elegance and grace, and through his paintings he expressed his emotions. He used vivid colors to paint all sorts of animals to bring joy to the world! For our art piece we wanted to express how we feel in our class so we voted on what colors we should use and the winners were purple, blue, pink, silver, white and gold. It is not a secret that we love animals in Preschool One East, so we got super excited and started thinking about all the possible animals we could use for our art piece. First we used sponges and acrylic paint to paint the background, making small swirls to add some texture; once we were done with the background, Morah Karana helped us to trace our beautiful unicorn so that we could fill it in using our solid tempera paint sticks. We used white, blue and purple for the body and all different tones of pink for the mane! We wanted to add more color to our art piece so we used our solid tempera paint sticks to add more swirls to our background, this time we used gold, silver, purple and pink. Our beautiful swirls ended up looking like shiny galaxies! Finally, we used some white paint to make some stars by splashing our paintbrushes all over our canvas! We even added a constellation that friends chose to be the Big Dipper as a class. The friends also explained how this combination of colors in their piece makes them feel safe and happy- and reminds them of our safe space in the classroom, where all the worries in the world go away!

## "Everything Blue, Ocean and Sky" Prek East



The artists of PreK east took inspiration from the artist Rosalind Hobley, a master in the craft of cyanotype prints, observing one of her artworks in particular, Agapanthus II. Together we focused on the steps we could take in how we could make our own cyanotype print. We prepared the solutions, and arranged the flowers on the canvas, each friend placing it where they desired! As we enjoyed the sunny day we saw how, over time, underneath the flowers, the print began to prepare! But this wasn't all, we knew we wanted to add a little more to our print by making it three dimensional! Using fabric, we learned together how to roll fabric flowers and then add gold leaf on top, (something that always makes a piece pop!). Our final product came out in beautiful hues of blue, while adding a flare of the PreK magic touch.



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A PRACTICAL AND NECESSARY BUNDLE FOR A NEW PARENT:

I) CPR CLASS FOR INFANTS AND CHILDREN
THIS CLASS IS TAUGHT BY A NAPS REGISTERED NURSE AND FOLLOWS THE
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THIS PACKAGE INCLUDES A MONTH OF SWIM LESSONS, A WAIVED MEMBERSHIP FEE, A PAIR OF GOGGLES, A TOWEL, AND A TOTE BAG.





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&

\*TWO TICKETS TO A PERFORMANCE DURING THE 2023 SEASON AT THE LYRIC STAGE THEATRE, THE OLDEST PROFESSIONAL THEATRE COMPANY IN BOSTON!





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PLUS THEY'RE ALL PROFESSIONAL MUSICIANS, SO THEY

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CHILDHOOD MUSIC DEVELOPMENT AND OFFER
RESEARCH-BASED PROGRAMS, SO YOU KNOW YOUR
CHILD IS LEARNING IN THE BEST POSSIBLE WAY.
PLUS THEY'RE ALL PROFESSIONAL MUSICIANS, SO THEY
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SET OF GIFT CARDS FOR CAMBRIDGE CROSSING'S BEST RESTAURANTS, INCLUDING:

\$50 FOR TATTE. DELICIOUS COFFEE AND PASTRIES.

\$150 FOR CAFE BEATRICE, THE LEXINGTON AND GEPETTO.

LOCAL CAFE, BAR + RESTAURANT WITH ROOF DECK, AND

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A LITTLE REFRESH, FROM AN MGH DERMATOLOGIST





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THIS IS THE PERFECT PLACE TO TAKE A FAMILY SKI VACATION OR A ROMANTIC COUPLES TRIP. JUST A 2 HOUR DRIVE FROM CAMBRIDGE. 4 BEDROOM, 3 BATH.

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BOOKABLE FOR APRIL, MAY AND NOVEMBER 2023.

AGAINST THE BREATHTAKING BACKDROP OF NEW ENGLAND'S GREEN MOUNTAINS, TUCKED INTO A 120-ACRE WOODED GLADE AT THE FOOTHILLS OF MOUNT MANSFIELD, THIS IS THE NEW ENGLAND GETAWAY YOU ARE LOOKING FOR!

WHETHER YOU WANT TO SKI AT STOWE MOUNTAIN RESORT
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DRAWN SLEIGH RIDE, SEEK A MASSAGE IN THE TOPNOTCH SPA -- THERE
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PLEASE NOTE THAT RESORT ACCESS WILL BE AT THE BIDDER'S EXPENSE
AS WELL AS AN ADDITIONAL CLEANING FEE





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SO DATES TO BE CONFIRMED





### Majestic Yoga Studio 5-Class Package

UNWIND AND GET SOME DESERVED "YOU" TIME WITH THIS 5 CLASS PASS TO MAJESTIC YOGA IN HURON VILLAGE.

BOTH IN-PERSON AND VIRTUAL CLASSES AVAILABLE!

MAJESTIC YOGA IS COMMITED TO EMPOWERING STUDENTS, BUILDING SELF AWARENESS, AND SHARING KNOWLEDGE IN A PLAYFUL AND LIGHTHEARTED ATMOSPHERE.

