

PROVIDENCE COLLEGE AND !CITY ARTS!
PRESENT:



MORE THAN
MEETS THE "I"

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PREFACE

The Community Lens is an interdisciplinary team-taught course that focuses on using photography to understand and build communities. The class included a service-learning project with youth at Providence CityArts! for Youth in south Providence. From our time with the young artists we have accumulated a wide variety of amazing artwork. Our time working with this vibrant community of young artists has inspired us to create this exhibition entitled "More than Meets the I." Through photography each young artist has had the opportunity to explore their own identity, as well as work on developing a stronger understanding of their community's identity.

What makes us who we are? Throughout this course, we, both the young artists and Providence College students, have been asking ourselves this very question. The idea behind More Than Meets the "I" is to reveal to ourselves and the world what really lies beneath the surface. How can we show the world our own self-expression? Take a look at our world through our eyes. "Who we are" is not found in how others see us, but how we each uniquely see the world. Take a look at our perspective of the communities that cultivate growth in our character and our bond. The CityArts community, and its strong bond with the Providence College community, have created an environment in which we are free to grow in our own individuality and unique character. That is what we are showcasing here tonight. Join us in our self-discovery through community. You just may find more of who we are than just what meets the "I." Creating artwork exploring ourselves and our surroundings has been a fantastic journey, one which we are now thrilled to share with you all! Thank you for coming tonight, we hope you enjoy our exhibition!



MARIAH AJIBOYE



MARIAH IS 11 YEARS OLD AND IS A 6TH GRADE STUDENT AT HIGHLANDER CHARTER SCHOOL. WHEN SHE IS AT iCITY-ARTS! SHE LIKES TO MAKE ART BY TAKING PICTURES OF THE SKY. WHEN SHE IS NOT AT iCITYARTS! SHE LIKES TO PLAY FORTNITE.





AALIYAH ALVERADO



MEET THE YOUNG ARTIST AALIYAH ALVERADO. AALIYAH IS A 3RD GRADER AT TIMES2 ACADEMY. HER FAVORITE THING TO DO AT iCITY-ARTS! IS TO TAKE PICTURES, AND WHEN SHE'S NOT HERE, SHE LOVES LISTENING TO MUSIC. AALIYAH LOVES TAKING PICTURES OF NATURE!

ELIAS BATTISTON



MEET THE YOUNG ARTIST ELIAS BATTISTON. ELAIS IS AN 8TH GRADE STUDENT AT GRACE BAPTIST CHRISTIAN ACADEMY. WHEN HE IS AT iCITYARTS! HE LIKES TO TAKE PICTURES OF NATURE. WHEN HE IS NOT AT iCITYARTS! ELIAS LIKES TO PLAY VIDEO GAMES AND WATCH VIDEOS ON THE COMPUTER.



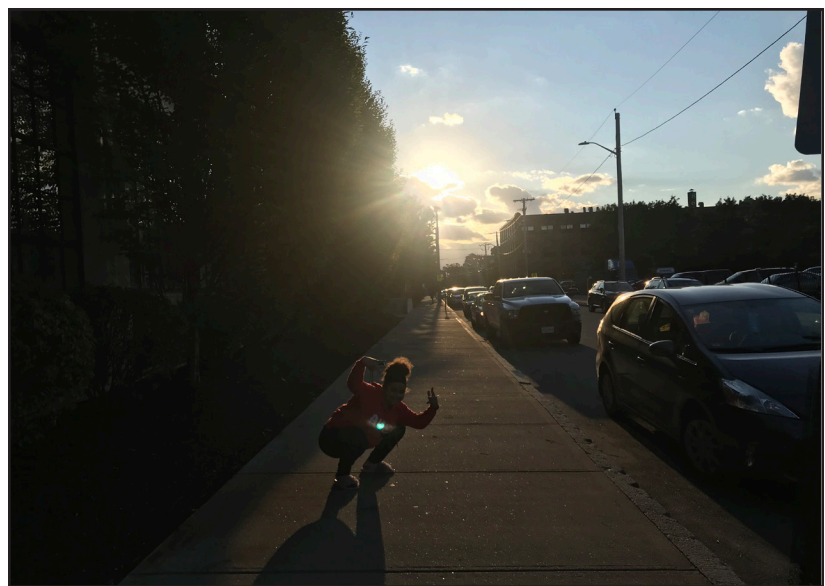
NATALIA BUCHANAN



MEET THE YOUNG ARTIST NATALIA BUCHANAN. NATALIA IS A 3RD GRADER AT MEETING STREET SCHOOL. SHE LOVES LEARNING NEW THINGS AT iCITYARTS!, AND LOVES TAKING PICTURES OF NATURE IN COMMUNITY LENS. SHE ALSO LOVES TO DO GYMNASTICS!



MADÉLINE COLON



Madeline, "Maddy", is a 7th grader at St. Peter School. Her favorite part of iCity-Arts! is making art and seeing her friends. Her favorite thing to do for fun is facetime her friends and her favorite thing to take pictures of is graffiti.

SIMONE CUTHBERT



Simone is a 6th grader at Nathanael Greene Middle School. Simone loves to paint at iCityArts!, and when she takes pictures, her favorite thing to photograph is the beach! Outside of school and iCityArts! Simone loves to travel and see new places.



BENJAMIN DANICHER



Benjamin, "Ben", is a 7th grade student at Paul Cuffee Middle School. He loves EVERYTHING about iCityArts! and especially loves to take pictures of people playing sports or anything related to sports. When he is not at iCityArts! Ben likes to play fortnite and play sports.

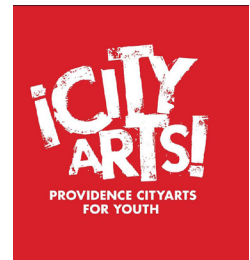


AIDEN DeDIOS



Aiden is a 4th grade student at the Highlander School. His favorite part of iCityArts! is going to different places to take photographs, especially taking pictures of the trees when they are changing colors! When Aiden is not at iCityArts! he likes to think about traveling to different countries for fun.

ROY DEDIOS



Roy is a 5th grade student who loves to come to ¡CityArts! to take pictures of things outside. When he is not at ¡CityArts! Roy likes to play Fortnite.

IBRIANI FARGAS



Ibriani is a 4th grader at Carl G. Lauro Elementary School. She loves ¡CityArts! Because she likes to be a part of something great... and fun! Her favorite thing to do is to play with her friends, and her favorite things to photograph are people and dogs.

ELIJAH HIE



Elijah is a 4th grade student at the Leviton Dual Language School. When he is at iCityArts! he likes to take pictures of food. When he is not at iCityArts! Elijah likes to play fortnite.



NAZIR ISOM



Nazir is a 4th grade student at The Learning Community. His favorite part of iCityArts! is taking pictures and making cool stuff out of clay in clay class. His favorite thing to take pictures of are animals, the sunset, and trees. Outside of iCityArts! Nazir likes to draw for fun!

HADDASHA MOYA



Haddasha is a 7th grader at Times2 Academy. She loves hanging out with her friends at ¡CityArts! And loves taking pictures of nature.

NYALEE VALLEJO



Nyalee is a 3rd grader at Times 2 Stem Academy. Her favorite thing to do at iCityArts! is take pictures of the ground and of the flowers. When she is not at iCityArts! she likes to play with her dolls.

MYA VALLEJO

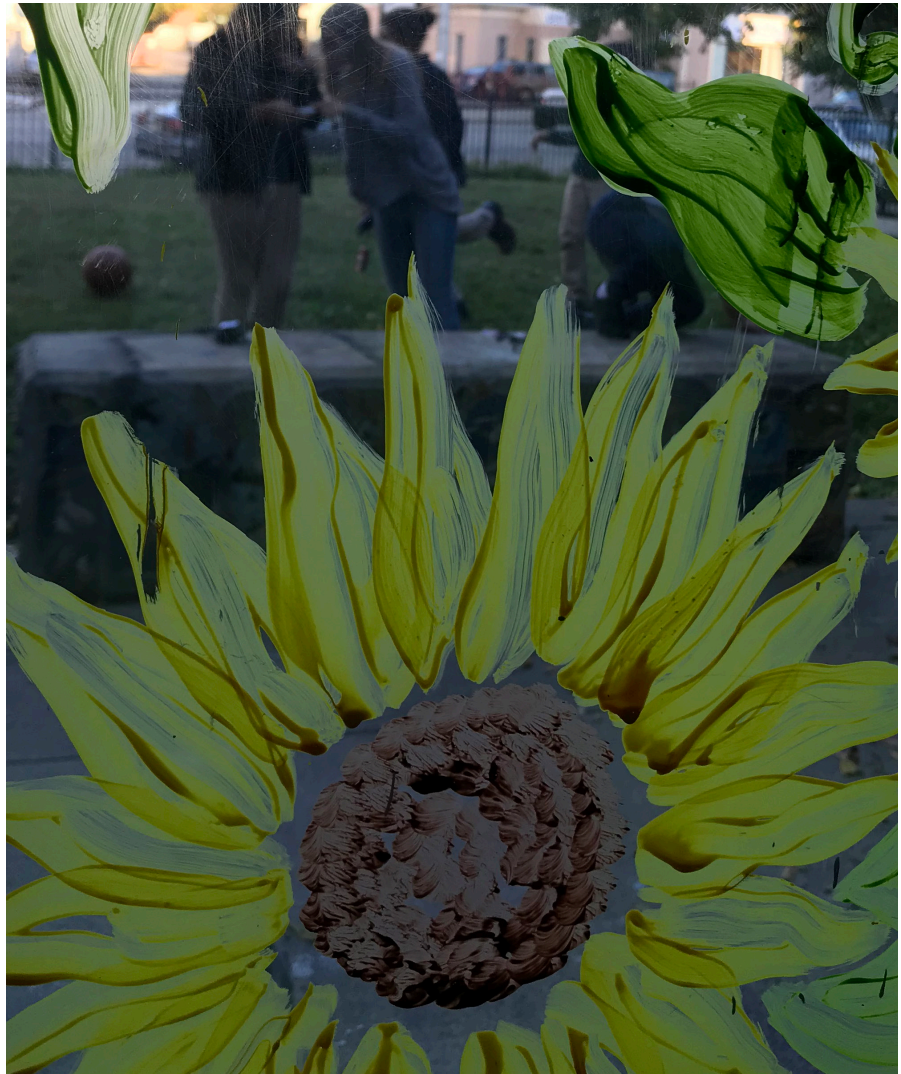


Mya is a 4th grader at Times 2 Stem Academy. Her favorite part about her time at ¡CityArts! is getting to walk around to take pictures of the trees. When she is not at ¡CityArts! she likes to use tik tok.





ALANA VIDAL



Alana is a 6th grader at Highlander Charter School. Her favorite thing about iCityArts! is being able to see her friends. She loves to draw in her spare time, and when she takes pictures she loves taking pictures of trees (especially in the fall)!

PROVIDENCE COLLEGE STUDENTS



Elizabeth Arcand '19

Major: Biology and Psychology

Team: Public Relations

I love watching the young arts describe who they are through photos. Each young artist could think of the same idea, but portray it in unique ways through each lesson and photograph. Their positivity and openness to sharing this part of their lives with us fills me with so much happiness each week!



William Bozian '19

Major: Public and Community Service & Global Studies

Minor: Philosophy

Team: Documentation

Growing up it was spaces like CityArts that allowed me to be my most authentic self and explore avenues of expression that I could not find in a typical academic setting. It is where I learned how to speak my mind and live my truth through my medium. Working with these young artists has been an incredibly inspiring opportunity and reminder as to why I love the arts



Name/Year: Tori Butler '21

Major: Social Work

Minor: Public and Community Service

Team: Exhibition

The young artists at City Arts remind me of why I want to become a social worker. I thrive to see happiness radiate on children's faces when they are doing something they truly enjoy. City Arts has a welcoming environment and a group of kids that will make you wonder why you didn't join in on the teaching and learning earlier!



Catherine Garrett '19

Major: Public and Community Service

Minor: Dance/ Asian Studies

Team: Lesson Planning

Finding a space where you can truly be yourself is really hard, but CityArts has made a place where everyone is accepted, listened and celebrated.

These young artists have fostered a space where everyone is valued. Thank you for learning with us!



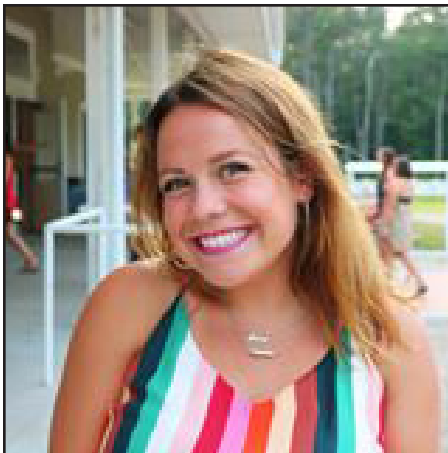
Hannah Mackie '19

Major: Global Studies and Sociology

Minor: Asian Studies

Team: Exhibition

I believe that all people have amazing creative and artistic potential and CityArts creates a space that empowers youth to develop and define what that looks like in their own unique expressions. Learning alongside the young artists has reconnected me to a fearlessness and confidence in my creative ability that has not been supported since I was their age. It's refreshing and inspiring.



Erin McCarthy '19

Major: Public and Community Service Studies

Minor: Sociology

Team: Lesson Planning

City Arts is such a special space in which these young artists are free to express themselves and grow alongside their peers in a meaningful way.

I am so incredibly proud of the young artists in Community Lens and their genius vision of themselves and their community! I feel so lucky to have had the opportunity to get to know them all over the past several months.



Brigid McGrath '20

Major: Public and Community Service

Minor: Business and Innovation

Team: Public Relations

Getting to see people laugh, smile and share in beautiful moments of art has truly been such a blessing this semester. Laughing and learning with the Young Artists has brightened up each week and given me a deeper appreciation in the art all around us.



Kincaid McLaren '20

Major: Marketing

Minor: Studio Art - Photography

Team: Public Relations

The inviting vibe I received from City Arts is what made me excited for each week. Every young artists had a unique personality and positive energy to bring to class each week that I always appreciated.



Deirdre McMahan '21

Major: Health Policy and Management

Team: Exhibition

Being able to bring the Providence College and CityArts communities together has been a true gift. CityArts has such a wonderful environment and the Young Artists never fail to bring smiles to our faces!



Natalie Phelps '19

Major: Psychology

Minor: Public and Community Service

Team: Lesson Planning

Nothing brings more joy to my life than being inspired by young people. These young artists are incredibly fun-loving, creative, and confident individuals and it is such an honor to work alongside them. They are our future!



Lauren Sideravage '19

Major: Psychology

Minor: Studio Art

Team: Lesson Planning

My favorite part of the day is when the young artists storm into the room at the start of programming. Just to see the pure excitement they have to learn something new and get started on a project is a feeling like no other. Their desire and ambition is infectious, making me want to approach all of my future endeavours through the eyes of the young artists. I am thankful for the opportunity to work with them and will cherish all of the things they have taught me in these past few months.



Isabella Simone '20

Major: Business Management

Minor: Finance

Team: Documentation

Going to CityArts brings me happiness. I love being able to teach the young artists photography, while I learn alongside them. It has been an amazing experience, being able to take a break from normal classroom learning and get to be apart of something that not only changes my perspective but allows the young artists to learn about a subject they are passionate about.



Megan Socha '19

Major: Global Studies

Minor: Spanish and Latin American Studies

Team: Exhibition

Coming to CityArts is the highlight of my week! I love spending time with the Young Artists and watching them be inspired by their surroundings. Their passion when they share and describe their work is something that I am very grateful to be a part of, and I love how the environment at CityArts encourages them to cultivate their talents.

THANK YOU

The students of Community Lens would like to offer our greatest thanks to all of the individuals who have helped make this experience and exhibition possible. First, we thank the young artists of ¡CityArts! for allowing us to be a part of their class, their process and show them the ways of photography. Although we were the instructors, we quickly found that the students became our teachers. They were eager to show us around their neighborhood and help us to see their community through their eyes. Working with the young artists, being able to develop friendships with them and watching them develop friendships with one another, was truly a gift for which we are all incredibly grateful. We also would like to acknowledge and thank the families of the youth for bringing them to their classes and allowing them to further their education in art.

For preparing us for the service learning the class would like to thank you and pay our gratitude to our facilitators Michelle Nugent, Nick Longo and Eric Sung. They have helped us to grow in our knowledge of community-based arts and allowed us to build our own minds as artists and individuals. Thank you all for helping us believe in our abilities and making our ideas come to life. They were not our only teachers, though. In preparing for our service we give great thanks to Bert Crenca, who allowed us to explore his organization AS220. Without such an amazing trip to his facilities, we would not have seen the tremendous power of community passed arts and its ability to transform young people.

Also, great thanks towards the Global Studies, Public and Community Service, Art and Art History Departments for supporting our class and making it a great experience. Finally, we thank our school, Providence College, for allowing our class to reach the level of amazing art and service that it has achieved.

SIGNATURES AND COMMENTS

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