

2021-22 Parent Newsletter #7

This past Friday ushered in the month of April. That means that Poetry month is upon us! We all have a poet in us. Aligned to Poetry month Ms. Nicoletta and Ms. D facilitated a poetry slam event on April 1st. Thank you Ms. Nicoletta and Ms. D, for spearheading!!!

Have you ever wondered about the history behind Poetry month? If so, read below...

National Poetry Month, April, is a marvelous opportunity to celebrate the expressiveness, delight, and pure charm of poetry. It is a special occasion that reminds us of the integral role of poets and poetry in our cultures. Poetry helps us appreciate the world around us and empathize with one another. Typically, we think of poetry as boring and nerdy but this month allows us to change our perspectives and look upon poetry as a rhythmic art of expressing one's love and thoughts.

HISTORY OF NATIONAL POETRY MONTH

The success of Black History Month in February and Women's History Month in March led to the initiation of National Poetry Month in April by the Academy of American Poets. The first-ever National Poetry Month was celebrated in 1996, but the history of poetry itself goes back to about thousands of years ago.

Dating back to 2100 B.C., the "Epic of Gilgamesh" is cited as the first-ever written piece of poetry, which tells an epic tale of a hero in ancient Mesopotamia.

Storytelling about history was quite popular until the 20th century but is rarely used nowadays. Ballads were a common way of capturing history during the Middle Ages. They were also used to announce news to kingdoms. An ode was a lyrical poem that glorified an event or person. It was also used in the past to tell stories about victories.

Aristotle described three genres of poetry: epic, comic, and tragic. This paved the way for poetry to flourish throughout Europe and the Middle East. However, these three genres were changed by aestheticians to epic, lyric, and dramatic. The genres of comic and tragic identified by Aristotle were combined into subcategories of the dramatic.

Modern Western poetry comprises various forms and genres from different cultures and pasts. (Source: <https://nationaltoday.com/national-poetry-month/>)

SLAM! Club and Smash Arts present...
**JKO's First Annual
Poetry SLAM!**
Calling all lyricists, poets, rappers, and writers-
if you've got the gift of words and are ready to
share it with the world.
Participants may rap, recite original poetry, or a
favorite poem from another poet. We will have
after school sessions to write and practice.
Teachers and staff can participate as well! We
look forward to you showing off your amazing
talent.

Show Dates:
March 31, 2022
April 1, 2022

Sign up
here!!



PARENT COORDINATOR CONNECTIONS

From the Desk of the
Parent Coordinator
Ms. Bernabel
ABernabel@schools.nyc.gov
Tel #646-265-5169

101 #949-392-2198
COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Announcements

- Reminder: Tuesday's after school we have parental engagement time. Feel free to reach out to your child's school counselor or Ms. Bernabel to set up meetings with your child's teachers during that time.
- There will be no school from Friday, April 15th, to Friday, April 22nd for spring break.
- Please reach out to Ms. Bernabel in the case you feel that your child needs social emotional support. We have an abundance of services for students at the school.
- Reach out to Ms. Bernabel if you have not registered for your NYC Myschools account. This is very important for parents to receive information regularly from the DOE and to be able to access certain services available online.
- This week students will be engaging in Spirit Week. The themes are listed below:

MONDAY: PAJAMA DAY (WEAR YOUR BEST SLEEP WEAR!)

TUESDAY: TWIN/SQUAD DAY (SQUAD GOALS!)

WEDNESDAY: TACKY TOURIST DAY (GIVE TIME SQUARE REALNESS)

THURSDAY: SPORT JERSEY DAY (TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALL GAME BY REPPING YOUR TEAM)

FRIDAY: CLASS COLOR DAY (9TH (WHITE), 10TH (BLUE), 11TH (PURPLE) AND 12TH (SENIOR HOODIE))

- AP exams will be administered in May. Please review the schedule below if your child is currently enrolled in an AP class:

AM Exams – arrive to the testing room by 7:30 am. AM exams will begin at 8 am

Date	Morning 8 a.m. Local Time
Tuesday, May 3, 2022	Environmental Science
Wednesday, May 4, 2022	English Literature and Composition
Friday, May 6, 2022	United States History

Date	Morning 8 a.m. Local Time
Tuesday, May 10, 2022	English Language and Composition

Please be sure your child brings the following items on the day of exam:

- Several #2 pencils with erasers (NO mechanical pencils)
- Pens (blue or black ink ONLY)
- Photo ID

Students may NOT bring the following into the testing room:

- Electronic devices: cell phone, smartwatch, ear buds, computers, watches that beep or have an alarm
- Books, compasses, white out, dictionaries, protractors
- Scratch paper
- Food/drink

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me or your child's subject teacher.

- Below please find the link to our April Safety Meeting. At least one of these monthly meeting is open to the public every year. Feel free to attend virtually if you choose. Thanks!

Topic: April Safety Team Meeting

Time: Apr 8, 2022 02:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://nycdoe.zoom.us/j/84155510510?pwd=MW5UalM3aXdyNVlwaHBXY1cxdTFHZz0>

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Meeting ID: 841 5551 0510

Passcode: 055453

- We are currently offering Saturday tutoring for AP Environmental Science from 9 am to 1 pm until the administration of the exam. If your child is scheduled to take this exam please encourage tutoring.
- **Reminder:** The Student Handbook delineates the school's dress code:
 - a. Students are not permitted to wear their pants below their waist.
 - b. Students are not permitted to wear short-shorts, mini-skirts, see through apparel or low cut tops. All tops must cover the midriff. Parents will be called to bring up appropriate clothing if student is not dressed appropriately.

JKO SCHOOL COUNSELOR

CONNECT



From the counseling department:



- ❖ **If your child is or will be absent**, please contact Ms. Garcia (9th Grade Students) at ext. 5092 or email at NGarcia33@schools.nyc.gov ; Mrs. Vega-Beltran (10-12th Grade Students) at ext. 5091 or via email at NVega11@schools.nyc.gov . You may also contact Ms. Bernabel, Parent Coordinator, at ext. 1012 or email at ABernabel@schools.nyc.gov .
Please be sure to send a doctor's note if your child has a medical appointment.
- ❖ **As the warm weather approaches, please make sure your child is dressed appropriately for the school environment.**
- ❖ **Spring Recess Begins Friday, April 15th and we return Monday, April 25th, 2022**
- ❖ **Marking Period 2 of the 2nd Semester ends TUESDAY, MAY 3rd.** Please make sure your child is current on their assignments and are studying for quizzes/tests.
- ❖ Please have your child meet for one on one academic/personal progress meetings with their counselor immediately: Ms. Garcia (9th Graders) and Mrs. Vega-Beltran (10-12th Graders). This meeting is important to ensure they are on track academically with their progress towards graduation and to check on their personal well-being.
- ❖ Freshmen students continue to participate in an Advisory Workshop series in their Business courses every other Friday with Ms. Garcia. These workshops explore academic, social/emotional, and personal strategies for success.
- ❖ Please keep track of your child's academic progress, grades, and attendance in their classes by logging on to <https://pupilpath.skedula.com/> . If you do not have an account you may contact the School Counselors or Ms. Bernabel, the Parent Coordinator, to receive your registration code.
- ❖ **Freshmen and Sophomores** should continue to envision their post-secondary options and research colleges/universities they would like to attend after high school.
- ❖ **Juniors** should continue their college search and create their lists for Senior Year to apply.
- ❖ **Seniors should be completing their Financial Aid (FAFSA, NYS TAP, and Dream Act) and Scholarship applications.**
 - **FAFSA:** <https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa>
 - **New York State TAP & Dream Act:** <https://www.hesc.ny.gov/pay-for-college/apply-for-financial-aid/nys-tap.html>
- ❖ **JKO will host a College Fair on May 18th from 4:00-6:00pm.** This is a great opportunity for students and families to receive direct information from various colleges, universities, and institutions and connect with their representatives. More information

will be provided as we get closer to the date. ALL are welcome to attend! If you have questions, please contact Mrs. Vega-Beltran.

- ❖ **Please reach out to Ms. Garcia (9th Grade) or Mrs. Vega-Beltran (10-12th Grade) if you feel that your child needs social/emotional support.** We have an abundance of services for students at the school and can refer your family to outside resources/assistance.
- ❖ **School begins at 8:20 am.** Please ensure that your child arrives to school on time regularly so that they are able to effectively engage in their first period lesson. Lateness adversely impacts a child's academic performance.
- ❖ **Please have your child attend tutoring for academic support and join after school activities to be an active member of the school community!**

TUTORING

<u>SUBJECT</u>	<u>TEACHER</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>ROOM</u>
ENGLISH 9 AND 12 TH GRADE	MS. NICOLETTA	WEDNESDAY	2:45 – 4:00 PM	301
LIVING ENVIRONMENT	MS. TULI	THURSDAY	3:45 – 4:45 PM	307
AP SCIENCE	MS. TULI	THURSDAY	3:45 – 4:45 PM	307
GEOMETRY	MS. TULI	THURSDAY	3:45 – 4:45 PM	307
SPANISH	MRS. ALCORN	WED & THURS	2:45 – 3:45 PM	302
SPECIAL EDUCATION (VARIOUS SUBJECTS)	MS. KADISON	MONDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY	4:15 – 5:15 PM 2:50 – 4:50 PM 2:50 – 4:50 PM	303

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

<u>CLUB NAME</u>	<u>TEACHER</u>	<u>DAYS</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>ROOM</u>
SLAM!	MS. NICOLETTA	THURSDAY	2:45 – 4:00 PM	301
VOLLEYBALL	MRS. RUSHFORTH	MONDAY	4:00 – 5:00 PM	GYM
FITNESS CLUB	MS. TULI	WED & FRI	2:45 – 3:45 PM	101/WEIGHT ROOM
NHS	MS. DEGREGORIO	WEDNESDAY	2:45 – 3:45 PM	201
SMASH ARTS TECH	MS. DEGREGORIO	FRIDAY	2:45 – 3:45 PM	201/AUDITORIUM
HELPING HANDS	MS. KADISON	TUESDAY	4:00 PM	303
YEARBOOK	Ms. KADISON	FRIDAY	3:00 PM	303
COSA	MS. OKWABI			311

Please feel free to contact your child's School Counselor directly with any questions, concerns, or if you need assistance:

Ms. Niurkary Garcia, 9th Grade Counselor (212)391-0041 Ext. 5092

Email: NGarcia33@schools.nyc.gov

Mrs. Nicole Vega-Beltran, 10-12th Grade Counselor 212-391-0041 Ext. 5091

Email: NVega11@schools.nyc.gov





A message from SLT Chairperson Mr. Lawrence:

Good Afternoon Parents and Guardians,

I hope this e-mail finds you well. Please feel free to attend our April meeting which will take place on Monday, April 4, 2022 at 4:30PM, as an observer. The meeting will take place virtually. Please see the agenda and Zoom link below.

Please reach out to me if you have any questions.

SLT Meeting Agenda:

- Call to Order / Welcome / Attendance (3 mins)
- Review Minutes from March meeting (6 minutes)
- Attendance/Covid Safety Report(10 minutes)
- Old Business (10 minutes)
- New Business (10 minutes)
- Principal report and (15 mins)
- Parent association (5 minutes)
- Title 1 Committee (5 minutes)
- UFT Report (5 mins)
- Comments SLT members(2 minutes per person)
- Creation of Next Month's Agenda (5 mins)
- Adjournment

Topic: SLT JKO High School

Time: This is a recurring meeting Meet anytime
Join Zoom Meeting

<https://nycdoe.zoom.us/j/87556503165?pwd=Ty9BVEt6S0ZRV2RFRWkZIN25RS29hZz09>

Meeting ID: 875 5650 3165
Passcode: 355272

Parents Association



A message from our PA:

- Our March PA meeting will take place on Monday, April 4th at 6 pm.
- The PA email address is 02M529PA@schools.nyc.gov
- Please let us know of any workshop or event that you would like to have, and any other topics of interest. Please also let us know of any concerns you want addressed.
- At our most recent PA meeting, parents voted to use our school Title I money for academic support targeting students with disabilities as well as those with ENL (English as a new language) designations.
- Please support our students and school through the school store. They have swag gear and much more. All funds go to support all students. See order form and contact Ms. Okwabi at MOkwabi@schools.nyc.gov for orders.

JK SCHOOL STORE ORDER FORM

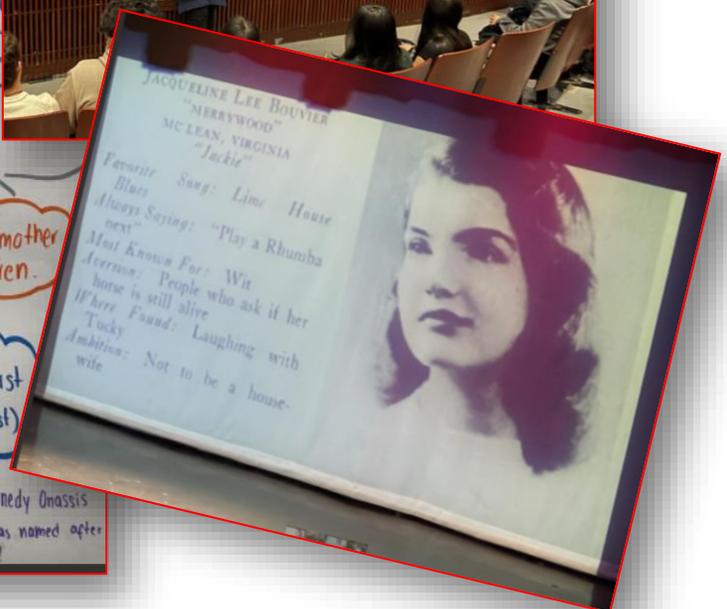
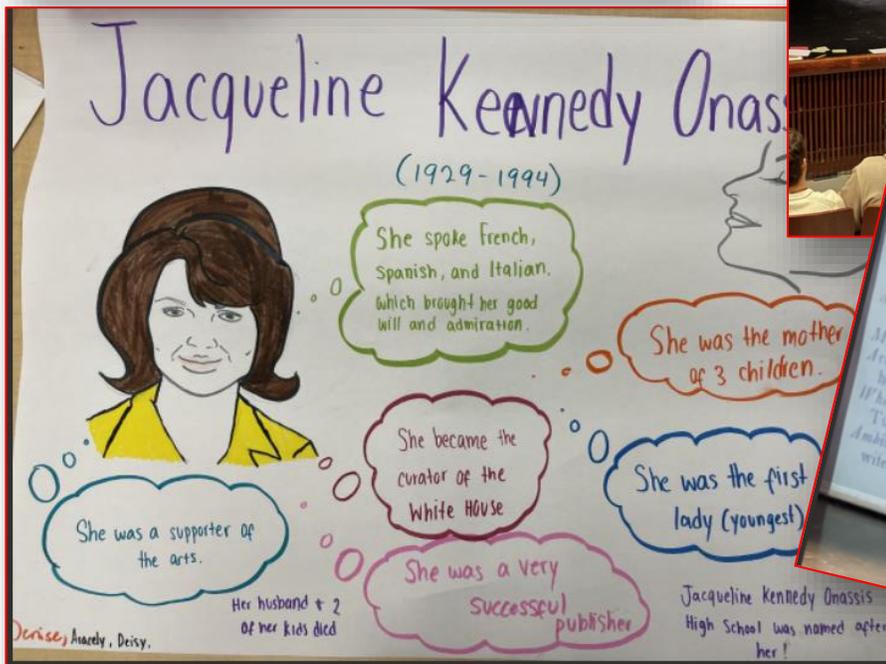
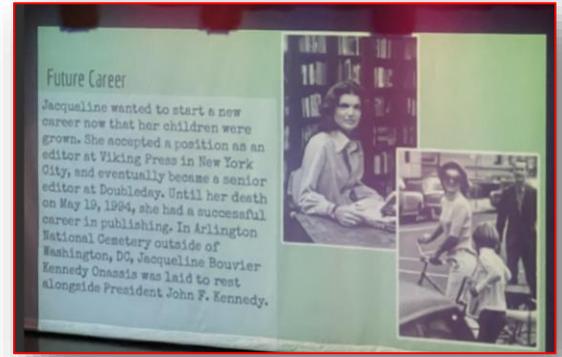
 <p>Winter Hat</p> <p>ITEM #: 001 PRICE: \$15.00</p>	 <p>Pocket Size Hand Sanitizer</p> <p>ITEM #: 002 PRICE: \$2.00</p>	 <p>Fleece Zip Up</p> <p>ITEM #: 003 PRICE: \$30.00</p>	 <p>Umbrella</p> <p>ITEM #: 004 PRICE: \$20.00</p>
 <p>Drawstring Bookbag</p> <p>ITEM #: 005 PRICE: \$5.00</p>	 <p>Coffee Travel Tumbler</p> <p>ITEM #: 006 PRICE: \$20.00</p>	 <p>Phone Wallet</p> <p>ITEM #: 007 PRICE: \$1.00</p>	 <p>Highlighter</p> <p>ITEM #: 008 PRICE: \$2.00</p>
 <p>Grocery Tote</p> <p>ITEM #: 009 PRICE: \$5.00</p>	 <p>Pull Over Hoodie</p> <p>ITEM #: 010 PRICE: \$30.00</p>		

Order Form Received By: _____ (Staff/SG) on _____
(date)



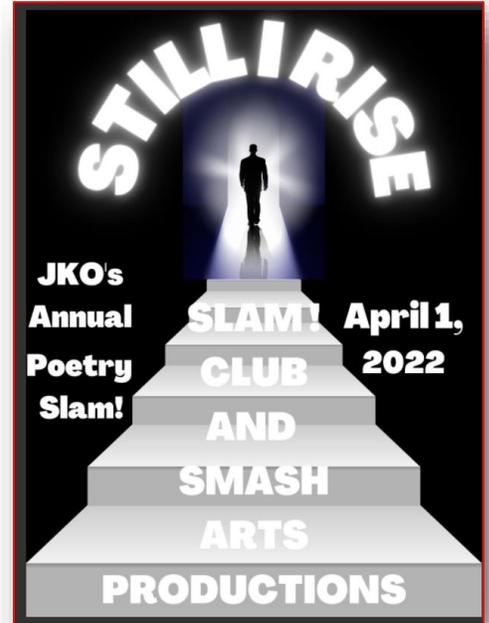
A message from Ms. DeGregorio:

This year we partnered with WE Draft (Women's Empowerment) program honoring namesake schools. The program pairs schools with universities as they use an NFL draft model to celebrate important women. March 23rd has been designated by WE Draft as our official namesake date for Women's History Month. Below are pictures of this event. Thanks you Ms. DeGregorio for spearheading this partnership!





A message from Ms. DeGregorio: On Friday, April 1st, SLAM and Smash Arts Productions presented "Still I Rise" marking the return of JKO's annual poetry slam. Ms. Nicoletta's SLAM students have wrote original poems along with some members of the faculty and staff. Kim Martinez, Class of 2017, who won in Scholastic Writing for her poetry, came back to assist Ms. Nicoletta and the students.



Congrats to all the students who performed at this event. A BIG thank you to Ms. DeGregorio and Ms. Nicoletta for spearheading this event.







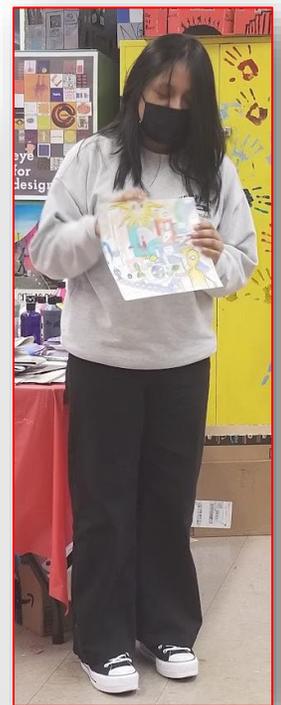
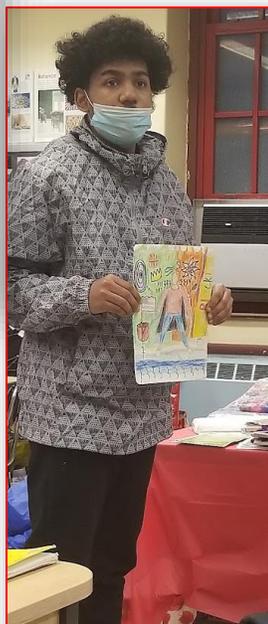
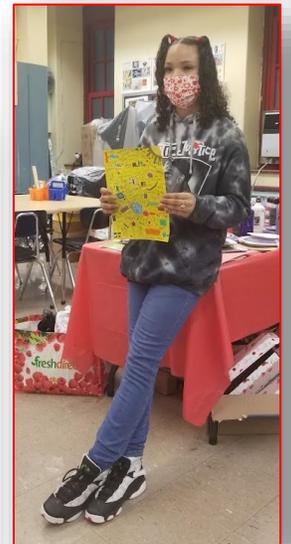
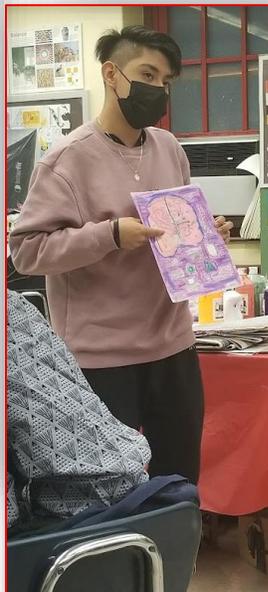
A message from Ms. DeGregorio:

This Marking Period students in Studio Art learned about the artist Jean-Michel Basquiat and his style of neo-expressionism often described as "chaotic brilliance." Jean-Michel Basquiat was known for creating multi-layered messages in his artwork in a raw uncensored style critiquing the racism prevalent in the art world and in America.

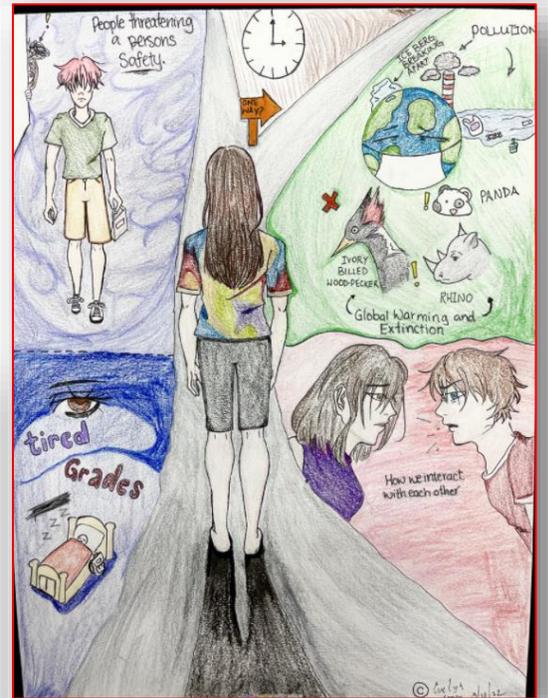
"I don't think about art when I work, I try to think about life." - Basquiat

Student artists created artwork from this perspective, responding to the prompt, What do you think about when you think about life? Students created artworks exploring the multiplicity of issues present today: the war in the Ukraine, climate change, internal struggles, philosophical dichotomies, Covid, racism, being uprooted, how humans treat each other, identity, gender, abortion, anxiety, technology, life philosophy, fear, personal stories and more. Their artwork was inspired by Basquiat's style and approach to art making. Basquiat would often have multiple references present, "sampling," in his artwork and would layer meaning in a complex composition filled with symbols and words probing one to look deeply. Our student artists created deeply meaningful compositions that give you a glimpse of what's on their minds.

We hope you visit our lobby gallery. Students presented their artwork in class the week of 3/21.



Basquiat





A message from Ms. DeGregorio:

On Friday March 25 alumna Nicole Adames, class of 2010, Accessories Designer for Converse was a special guest in our Fashion Design class. Nicole spoke about her trajectory and career, giving our students great insight into how to pursue your dreams while remaining true to yourself and your values. She discussed diversity in fashion and expanding opportunities for people of color in the fashion industry as well as sustainability in fashion. When Nicole was a JKO student we presented a Vampire Fashion Show, it was her "dark" period. She was a very creative high school student!

We are so proud of Nicole for pursuing her passions, finding a place that appreciates her talent and for taking time to share her journey with us. Nicole graciously offered to come back and advise our students.

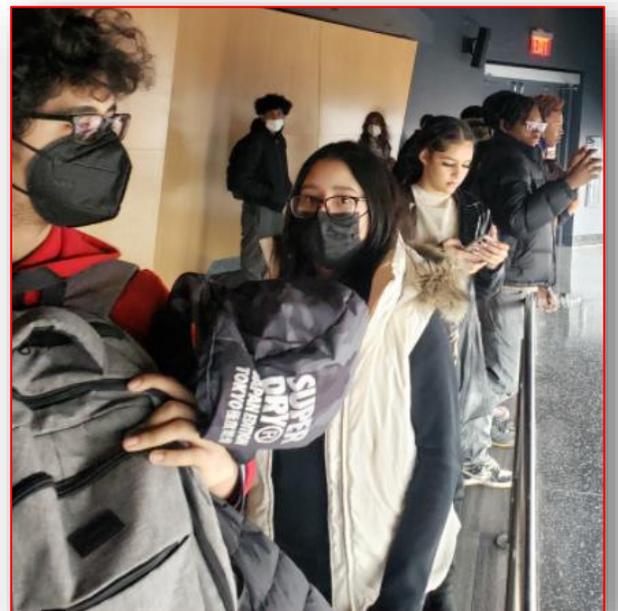
Thank you Ms. Milan for your serendipitous encounter with Nicole and for arranging our visit!





On SAT/PSAT day, the seniors took a trip to the Observatory in the Freedom Tower. They had a great time standing on top of the world! Thank you to Ms. Kadison and Ms. Okwabi for spearheading this trip. See pictures below...







Recently, SSA Cochran celebrated her birthday and we celebrated her on her day. Happy Birthday Ms. Cochran!!! We love you and are fortunate to have you as part of the JKO family.





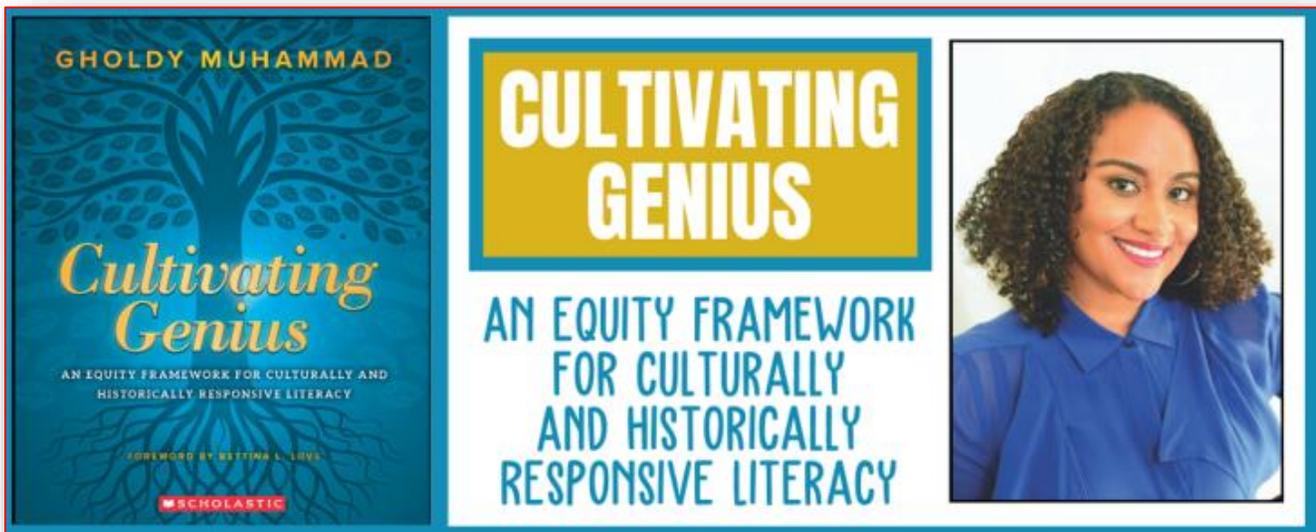
GOOD LUCK!

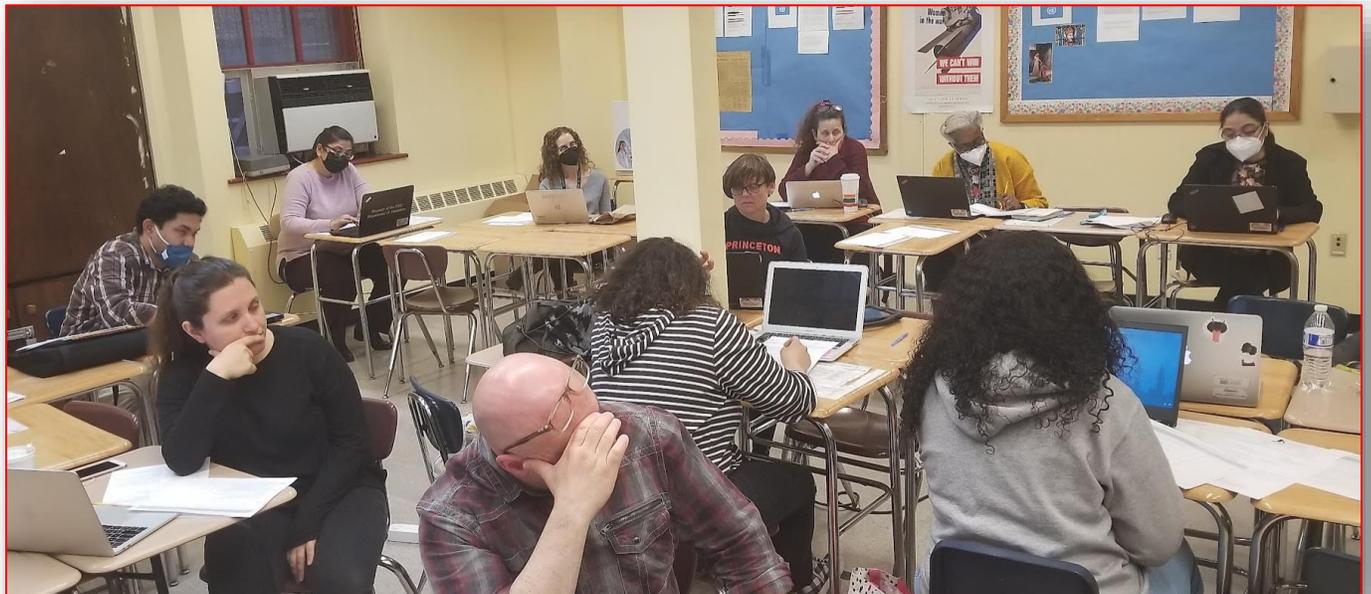
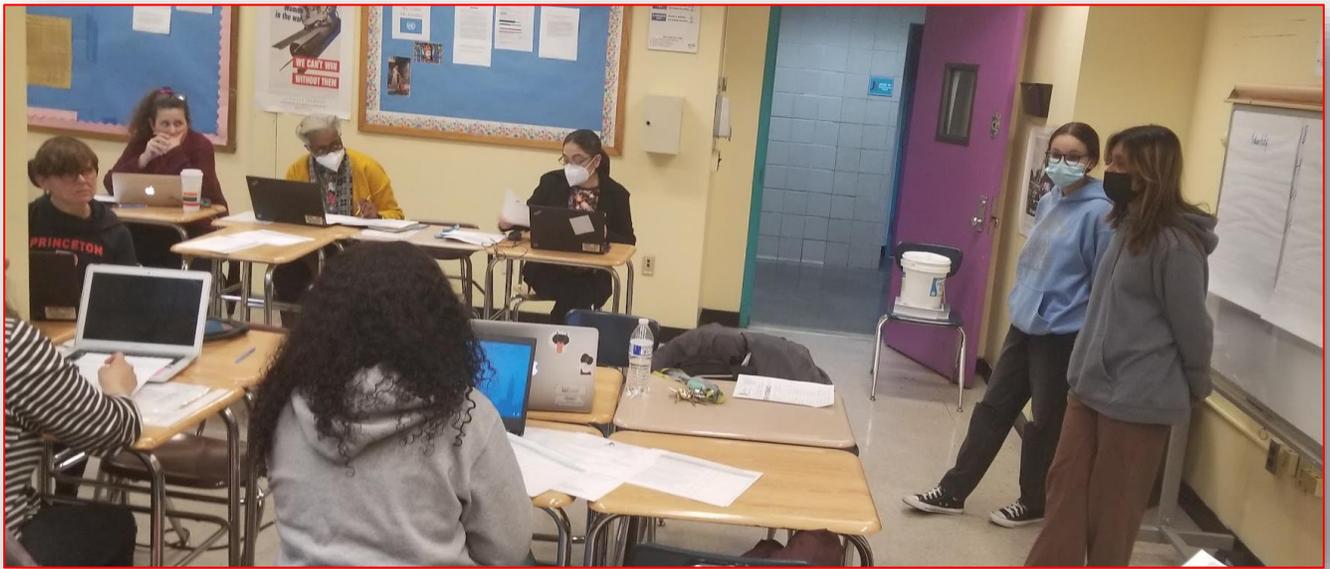
Our very own Tanisha Colon (School Food Cook) earned a promotion to manager. Unfortunately, this means that Friday, April 1st, was her last day at JKO. With bittersweet feelings, we wish you tremendous success Ms. Colon!!! We will miss you!!! She was a mom/aunt to so many of our students who connected with her. Thanks for your support of our students.





Recently the Equity Team (Mr. Williams, Mr. Hasan, Ms. Cumberbatch, Ms. Tuli, Ms. Nicoletta, Ms. Wicks, Justin Castillo (Student), Cathleen Conte (Student), and Pilar Canalizo (Student)) engaged in instructional rounds. They observed lessons using a rubric aligned to Dr. Gholdy Muhammad as a lens focusing on *Criticality*. The team debriefed and on the following Monday presented their observations, as they pertain to the rubric, to the staff. We reviewed the rubric and decided on next steps as a school in order to further develop lessons that align to Dr. Gholdy Muhammad's Identity, Intellect, skills, and Criticality. The goal of these instructional rounds along with student feedback within the instructional cycle is to have student input on instructional practices to further enhance student learning experiences. Thank you to Mr. Williams for leading this effort!!!





MON
Pajama
DAY

TUES
TWIN/SQUAD
DAY

SPIRIT
APRIL 4-8
WEEK

WED
Tacky
Tourist Day

THURS
SPORTS JERSEY
DAY

ULTIMATE CATCH GAME

FRI CLASS
COLOR
DAY

- 9TH- WHITE
- 10TH- BLUE
- 11TH- PURPLE
- 12TH: SENIOR
HOODIES



A message from Ms. DeGregorio:

Three of our students have been selected as semi-finalists for this year's PS Art! If selected, their photographs will be displayed at The Metropolitan Museum Of Art. We submitted work by 4 students and 3 were chosen as semi-finalists: Victoria Toovi, Leighana Plourde and Darion Telp, who could win a \$1000 scholarship as a senior. Students will submit written statements for this next round off judging. See below...

Thanks Ms. DeGregorio!!!

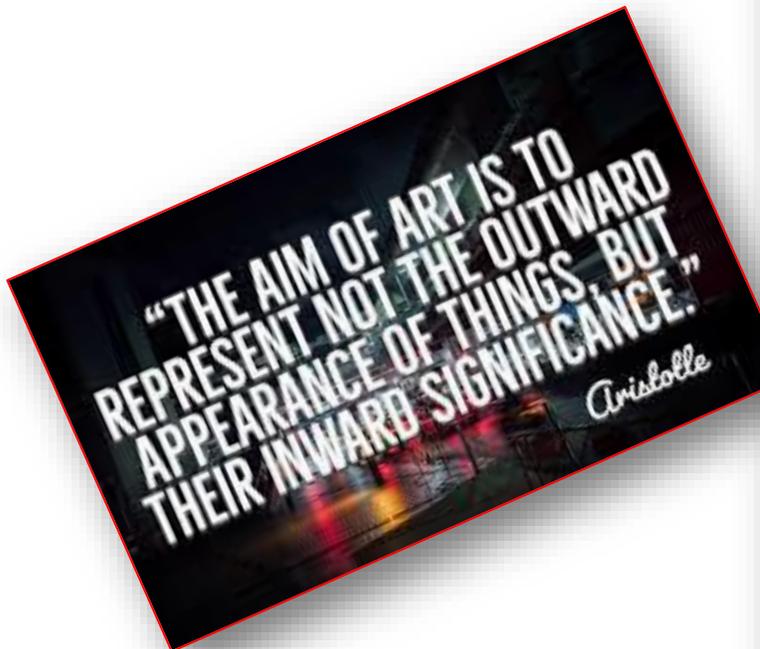
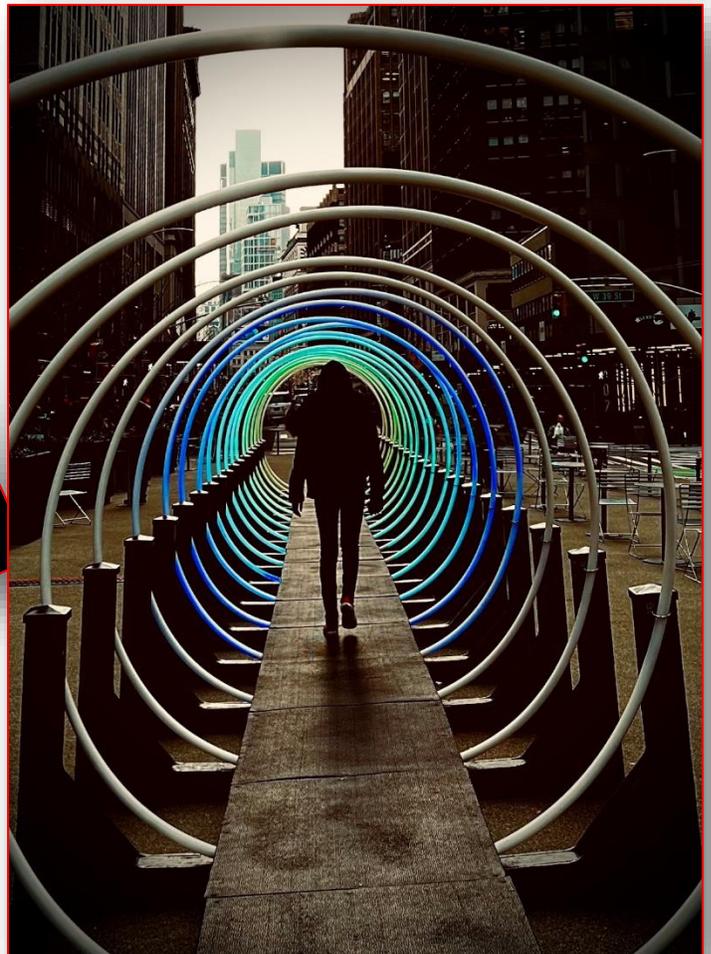
Victoria Toovi "Let There Be Light"



Leighna Plourde "The Way of Life"



Darion Telp "Ooooooh Colors"





Congratulations to all of students who were recently inducted into the National Honor Society!!! A BIG thank you to **Ms. DeGregorio** for spearheading this event! A special shout out to Yanin and Crytsal Garcia for See pictures below...



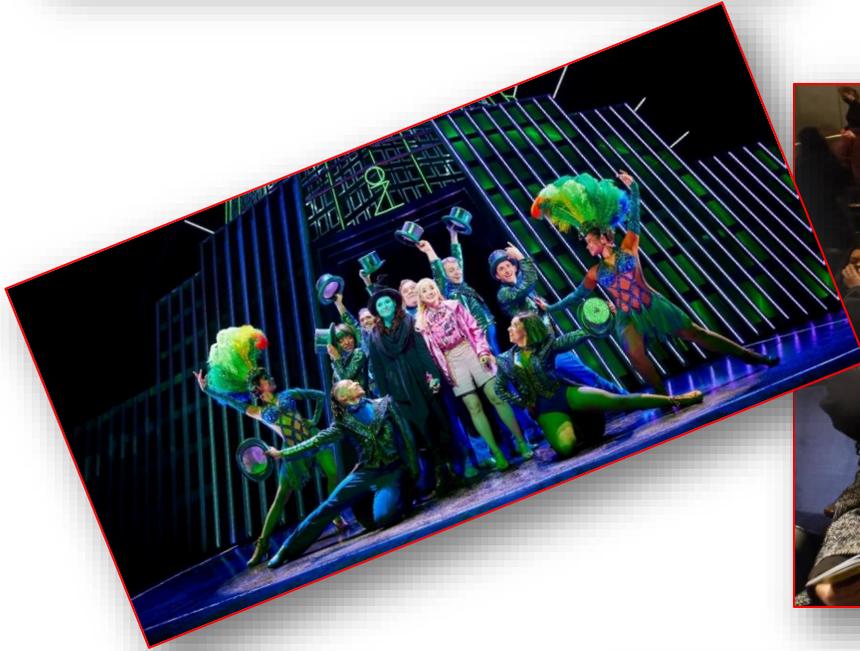
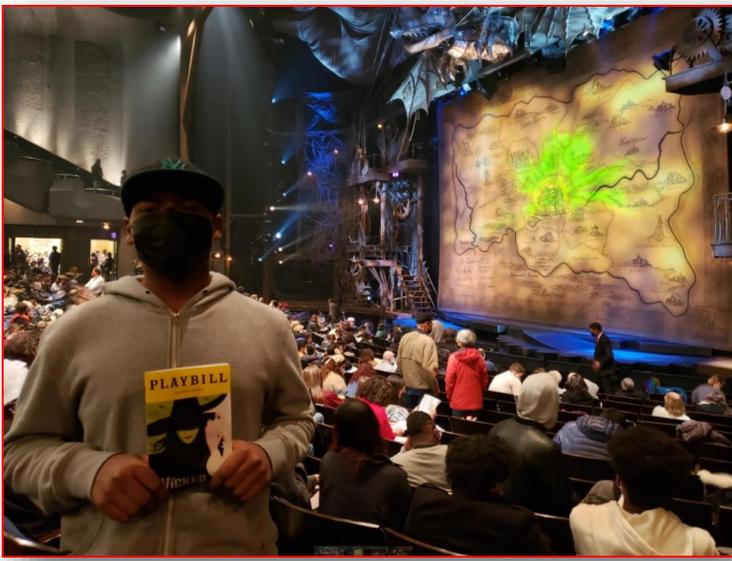






Recently, Ms. Kadison took some of our students to see the play Wicked. Thank you Ms. Kadison! See pictures below:







Congratulations to all the recipients of awards during the two awards ceremonies we recently conducted. A BIG thank you to Mr. Williams for facilitating these ceremonies. See pictures below...



**Perfect Attendance
9th Grade**



Camilo Castillo
Justin Castillo
Christopher Cruz
Chigozie Duru

Narjis Guterrez Martinez
Sandra Lopez

Shirley Lopez-Fernandez
Daniel Martinez
Mohammed Qureshi
Stuart Sanchez Flores
Anuva Singha
Ivonne Tellez

**9th Grade Principal's List
Achieving an average of 95% or higher**



Vanessa Lema (99.62)
Justin Castillo (96.58)
Aracely Canalizo(96.53)
Leslie Correa (96.22)

David Tellez (96.17)
Anghelyz Vazquez (95.79)
Anuva Singha (95.79)
Karelyn Bautista (95.75)
Gabriel Diaz (95.58)

**9th Grade Assistant Principal's List
Achieving an average of 90-94.9%**



Evelyn Lopez (94.55)
Victoria Toovi (94.50)
Aya Esserghini (94.42)
Deisy Quezada (93.17)
Ivonne Tellez (92.86)

Yusan Sherpa (92.83)
Sylvia Gutierrez (92.50)
Carissa Gomez (92.34)
Beyonce Nunez (92.33)

**9th Grade Principal's List
Achieving an average of 85-89.9%**



Chigozie Duru (89.37)

Justin Browne (87.33)

**Perfect Attendance
10th Grade**



Aya Esserghini
Graciela Flores Galindo

**10th Grade Principal's List
Achieving an average of 95% or higher**



Prem Rohilla (96.75) Evelyn Ortiz-Carpio (97.45)

**10th Grade Principal's List
Achieving an average of 85-89.9%**



Melany Romero (94.72)
Leighana Plourde (94.06)

Graciela Flores Galindo (92.50)
Ray David-Rodriguez (91.71)



We look forward to seeing new names for the next Awards Ceremony!!

**Perfect Attendance
11th Grade**



Tymaria Charleston
Cathleen Conte-Marrero
Ashley Garcia

Cristal Garcia
Keavon James
Juan Pacheco Romero
Eloy Romero

**11th Grade Principal's List
Achieving an average of 95% or higher**



Cyrus Hernandez (101.25)
Cristal Garcia (98.09)

**11th Grade Principal's List
Achieving an average of 90-94.9%**



Amira Abraham (94.67)
Melissa Hernandez Cabrera (92.87)

**Perfect Attendance
12th Grade**



Pilar Canalizo
Yanin Thammarangri

**12th Grade Principal's List
Achieving an average of 95% or higher**



Adam Rashad-Ramirez (101.01)
Elyssa Goodson (100.17)
Samantha Cesar (100.1)
Catherine Jesus (99.6)

Rebeca Tellez (99.43)
Emily Pabon (97.72)
Donell Paige (96.73)
Julissa Rodriguez (95.47)

**12th Grade Principal's List
Achieving an average of 90-94.9%**



Nadia Suquinagua (93.92)

**12th Grade Virtual Enterprise
New York Metro Region
Local Business Competition
First Place Winners**



Hai Lin Duckett
Catherine Jesus
Jordan McKinnon

Adam Rashad-Ramirez
Milton Perez
Rebeca Tellez



We look forward to seeing new names for the next Awards Ceremony!!