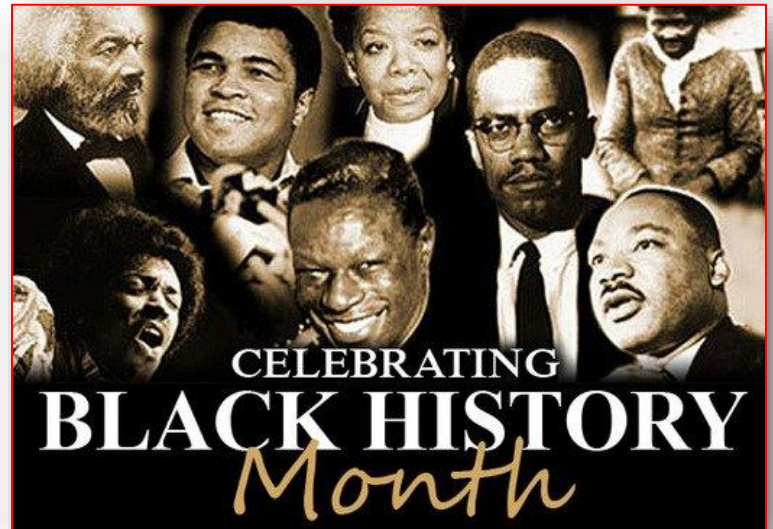


2024-25 Parent Newsletter #6

Black History Month began this past Saturday, February 1st, and ends on Saturday, February 29th. Below is a brief history of this celebration:

Black History Month is an annual celebration of achievements by African Americans and a time for recognizing the central role of blacks in U.S. history. Also known as African American History Month, the event grew out of "Negro History Week," the brainchild of noted historian Carter G. Woodson and other prominent African Americans. Since 1976, every U.S. president has officially designated the month of February as Black History

Month. Other countries around the world, including Canada and the United Kingdom, also devote a month to celebrating black history.



Origins of Black History Month

The story of Black History Month begins in 1915, half a century after the Thirteenth Amendment abolished slavery in the United States.

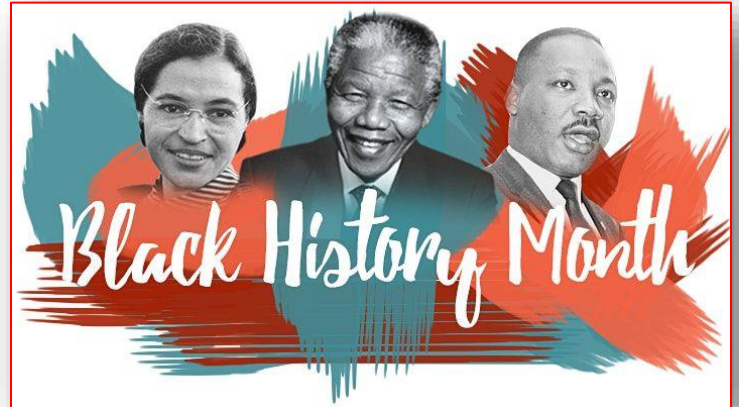
That September, the Harvard-trained historian Carter G. Woodson and the prominent minister Jesse E. Moorland founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History (ASNLH), an organization dedicated to researching

and promoting achievements by black Americans and other peoples of African descent.

Known today as the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH), the group sponsored a national Negro History week in 1926, choosing the second week of February to coincide with the birthdays of [Abraham Lincoln](#) and [Frederick Douglass](#). The event inspired schools and communities nationwide to organize local celebrations, establish history clubs and host performances and lectures.

Did you know? The NAACP was founded on February 12, 1909, the centennial anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln.

In the decades that followed, mayors of cities across the country began issuing yearly proclamations recognizing Negro History Week. By the late 1960s, thanks in part to the [civil rights](#) movement and a growing awareness of black identity, Negro History Week had evolved into Black History Month on many college campuses.

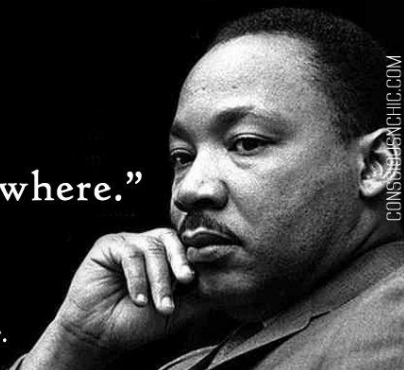


President [Gerald Ford](#) officially recognized Black History Month in 1976, calling upon the public to “seize the opportunity to honor the too-often neglected accomplishments of black Americans in every area of endeavor throughout our history.”

Source: [History.com](#)

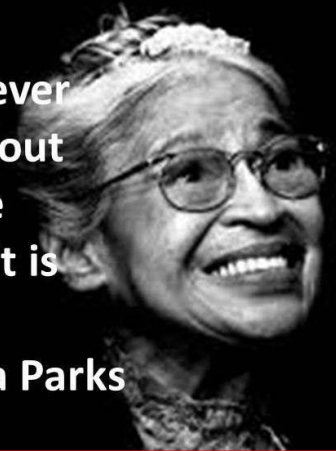
“Injustice
anywhere
is a threat to
justice everywhere.”

—Martin Luther King Jr.



“You must never
be fearful about
what you are
doing when it is
right.”

Rosa Parks



PARENT COORDINATOR CONNECTIONS

From the Desk of the
Parent Coordinator
Ms. Bernabel

ABernabel@schools.nyc.gov

Tel #929-617-0122

Announcements

- Our next PA meeting is on March 3rd @ 6 pm and SLT will take place on the same day at 4:30 pm.

Important Dates and INFORMATION

- IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:
- FEBRUARY 17TH – 21ST – NO SCHOOL MID-WINTER RECESS
- MARCH 18TH – 1ST MARKING PERIOD ENDS
- MARCH 20TH – PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES EVENING
- MARCH 21ST – PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES DAY

JKO SCHOOL COUNSELOR CONNECT



From the counseling department:



- ❖ **1st period Class begins at 8:20 A.M.** Students need to **arrive to school prior to 8:20 AM** and on time regularly so they are able to effectively engage in their first period lesson. Lateness adversely impacts a student's academic performance. **The school day ends at 2:40 P.M.**
- ❖ **If your child is or will be absent**, please contact Ms. Garcia (9-10th Grade Students) at ext. 5052 or email at NGarcia33@schools.nyc.gov ; Mrs. Vega-Beltran (11-12th Grade Students) at ext. 5091 or via email at NVega11@schools.nyc.gov ; or Ms. Bernabel, Parent Coordinator, at ext. 1012 or email at ABernabel@schools.nyc.gov . **Please be sure to send an excuse note for your child's absence and/or a doctor's note if your child has a medical appointment.**
 - **Please ensure that your child's medical documents or any other important documents are updated and we have updated copies.**
- ❖ **Please keep track of your child's academic progress, grades, and attendance in their classes through the SyncGrades website.** Please be sure that your child's NYC Student Email account is updated. If you would like to schedule meetings with teachers on Tuesdays, please contact your child's School Counselor.
- ❖ **IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:**
 - **FEBRUARY 17TH – 21ST – NO SCHOOL MID-WINTER RECESS**
 - **MARCH 18TH – 1ST MARKING PERIOD ENDS**
 - **MARCH 20TH – PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES EVENING**
 - **MARCH 21ST – PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES DAY**
- ❖ **COLLEGE NOW** – If you are interested in having your 11th or 12th grader take **FREE** College courses while in high school through the City University of New York Colleges/Universities, please contact Mrs. Vega-Beltran. This is a great opportunity for your child to have those course credits apply to their College Degree for FREE!
- ❖ In order to maintain a positive learning environment, it is **expected that students dress in a professional manner. We expect students to be dressed appropriately** to ensure safety and to keep the focus on teaching and learning. **We would like all parents and guardians to remind students of proper dress protocols on campus.**
Prohibited forms of dress at school include, but are not limited to:
 - 1) Clothing that contains references to drugs, alcohol, sex, violence, racism, or gang-affiliation.
 - 2) Revealing clothing that does not provide coverage of torso, undergarments, and private body parts, including see-through garments of any kind.

3) Sunglasses while indoors.

If you need assistance providing your child clothing, please contact your child's counselor.

- ❖ **Students are NOT ALLOWED TO USE CELL PHONES DURING SCHOOL HOURS. This includes iPads, Apple MacBook, Smart watches or any non-DOE issued electronic device.** They must keep their phones locked in their yonder pouch. **In case of an emergency, please call the school to contact your child and students can use a school office phone to contact their parent/guardian.**
- ❖ **12th GRADE SENIOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS:** Please work closely with your senior child this school year to discuss their post-secondary options (plans after high school). They will need your support and encouragement when applying to college/university, trade school, military, and/or financial aid/scholarships. Please look out for future communication regarding college trips, workshops, financial aid, and important deadlines.
- ❖ **Please have your child meet for one on one academic/personal progress meetings with their counselor immediately:** Ms. Garcia (9-10th Graders) and Mrs. Vega-Beltran (11-12th Graders). This meeting is important to ensure they are on track academically with their progress towards graduation and to check in on their personal well-being.
- ❖ **Please reach out to Ms. Garcia (9-10th Grades) or Mrs. Vega-Beltran (11-12th 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.
- ❖ **Please have your child attend tutoring and join extra-curricular activities** to be an active member of the school community. This a great way for students to make new friends, network, and be exposed to various activities/hobbies. We will send information for tutoring and extra-curricular activities in the coming weeks.

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

Ms. Niurkary Garcia, 9 & 10th Grade Counselor (212)391-0041 Ext. 5052

Email: NGarcia33@schools.nyc.gov

Mrs. Nicole Vega-Beltran, 11 & 12th Grade Counselor 212-391-0041 Ext. 5091 Email:

NVega11@schools.nyc.gov

Extracurricular Activities

| | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------|-------------|--|--------------------|
| National Honor Society (NHS) | | | | Degregrio |
| Wednesday | 2:41 PM | Room 201 | | |
| Smash Art Productions | | | | Degregrio |
| Friday | 2:41 PM | Room 201 | | |
| Glamour Gals and Pals | | | | Cumberbatch |
| Tuesday | 3:21 PM | Room 303 | | |
| Volleyball Club | | | | Rushforth |
| Tuesday | 3:21 PM | GYM | | |
| Chess | | | | Chen |
| Wednesday | 2:41 PM | Room 404 | | |
| Music Club | | | | Chen |
| Thursday | 2:41 PM | Room 405B | | |
| Fitness Club | | | | Chen |
| Friday | 2:41 PM | Weight Room | | |
| Student Government | | | | Okwabi |
| Thursday | 3:30 | Room 308 | | |
| Senior Council | | | | Okwabi |
| Thursday | 2:41 | Auditorium | | |
| Crochet Club | | | | Alcorn |
| Thursday | 3:45 PM | Room 302 | | |
| Help Hands Society | | | | Kadison |
| Alternating Thu | 3:00 PM | 301 B | | |
| YearBook | | | | Kadison |
| Wednesday | 3:00 PM | 301B | | |

AFTER-SCHOOL TUTORING

| Tutoring | Date | Time | Subject Area | ROOM # |
|---------------------------|--|--|-------------------|-------------|
| MATH | | | | |
| Hassan | Wednes/Thurs | 2:45-3:45 pm | Alegbra 1 | 406 |
| Falah | Tuesday | 3:21-4:00 pm | Alegbra 2/ Trig | 402 |
| Falah | Wednesday | 2:41-4:00 om | Alegbra 2/ Trig | 402 |
| Faruque | Thursday | 2:45-3:45 pm | Geometry | 405 |
| Chen | Tuesday | 3:21-4:21 pm | All Math | 402 |
| Cumberbatch | Wednesday | 2:45-3:45 pm | Alegbra 1 | 303 |
| Science | | | | |
| Okwabi | Wednesday | 2:41-3:45 pm | Chem. CSM. Env | 308 |
| Beauchine | Friday | 2:41-3:41 pm | Biology | 307 |
| Fares | Friday | 2:41 -3:41 pm | Biology | 304 |
| Cumberbatch | Thursday | 2:45-3:45 pm | Chem. | 303 |
| History | | | | |
| Marshall | Thursday | 2:45-3:45 pm | AP World/Marco | 309 |
| Gordon | Wednesday | 2:45-3:45pm | US HIStory | 304 |
| Gordon | Thursday | 2:45-3:45 | Global History | 304 |
| Colon | Wednesday | 2:45-3:45pm | US History | 102 |
| Colon | Thursday | Upon Request (Please discuss with teacher for meeting times) | | |
| English | | | | |
| Pelletier | Upon Request (Please discuss with teacher for meeting times) | | | |
| Vannieuwenhuys | Wednesday | 2:45- 3:45 pm | English | 306 |
| El Mardi | Wednesday | 2:41-3:41 | English | 301 |
| Business | | | | |
| Milan | Upon Request (Please discuss with teacher for meeting times) | | | |
| Newell | Friday | 2:41-3:41 | V.E/ Comp. App | 411 |
| Nson/Steve | Friday | 2:41-3:41 | Comp. App, Enpe | 409 |
| Spanish | | | | |
| Alcorn | Thursday | 2:45-3:45 pm | Spanish All Level | 302 |
| ART | | | | |
| Degregrio | Upon Request (Please discuss with teacher for meeting times) | | | |
| Physical Education | | | | |
| Padgett | Wednesday | 2:45-3:45 pm | P.E | Weight Room |



DEL DEPARTAMENTO DE ASESORAMIENTO:



❖ **1 periodo La clase comienza a las 8:20 A.M.**

Los estudiantes **deben llegar a la escuela antes de las 8:20 A.M.** y puntualmente regularmente para que puedan participar de manera efectiva en su lección del primer período. La tardanza afecta negativamente el rendimiento académico de un estudiante. La jornada escolar finaliza a las 14:40 horas.

❖ **Si su hijo está o estará ausente**, comuníquese con la Sra. García (estudiantes de 9.º a 10.º grado) en la ext. 5052 o correo electrónico a NGarcia33@schools.nyc.gov; Sra. Vega-Beltran (Estudiantes de 11º y 12º grado) en la ext. 5091 o por correo electrónico a NVega11@schools.nyc.gov; o la Sra. Bernabel, Coordinadora de Padres, en la ext. 1012 o correo electrónico a ABernabel@schools.nyc.gov. **Asegúrese de enviar una nota de excusa por la ausencia de su hijo y/o una nota del médico si su hijo tiene una cita médica.**

- **Asegúrese de que los documentos médicos de su hijo o cualquier otro documento importante estén actualizados y que tengamos copias actualizadas.**

❖ **Realice un seguimiento del progreso académico, las calificaciones y la asistencia a clases de su hijo a través del sitio web SyncGrades.** Asegúrese de que la cuenta de correo electrónico estudiantil de NYC de su hijo esté actualizada. Si desea programar reuniones con los maestros los martes, comuníquese con el consejero escolar de su hijo.

❖ **FECHAS IMPORTANTES PARA RECORDAR:**

- **17 – 21 DE FEBRERO – NO HAY CLASES RECREO DE MITAD DE INVIERNO**
- **18 DE MARZO – TERMINA EL PRIMER PERIODO DE MARCACIONES**
- **20 DE MARZO – TARDE DE CONFERENCIAS DE PADRES Y MAESTROS**
- **21 DE MARZO – DÍA DE LAS CONFERENCIAS DE PADRES Y MAESTROS**

❖ **UNIVERSIDAD AHORA** – Si está interesado en que su hijo de 11.º o 12.º grado tome cursos universitarios GRATUITOS mientras está en la escuela secundaria a través de las universidades de la City University of New York, comuníquese con la Sra. Vega-Beltrán. ¡Esta es una gran oportunidad para que su hijo obtenga los créditos de esos cursos para su título universitario GRATIS!

❖ Para mantener un ambiente de aprendizaje positivo, **se espera que los estudiantes se vistan de manera profesional. Esperamos que los estudiantes vistan apropiadamente** para garantizar la seguridad y mantener el enfoque en la enseñanza y el aprendizaje. **Nos gustaría que todos los padres y tutores recuerden a los estudiantes los protocolos de vestimenta adecuados en el campus.**

Las formas de vestimenta prohibidas en la escuela incluyen, entre otras:

- 1) Ropa que contenga referencias a drogas, alcohol, sexo, violencia, racismo o afiliación a pandillas.
- 2) Ropa reveladora que no cubra el torso, la ropa interior y las partes privadas del cuerpo, incluidas prendas transparentes de cualquier tipo.
- 3) Gafas de sol mientras esté en el interior.

Si necesita ayuda para proporcionarle ropa a su hijo, comuníquese con el consejero de su hijo.

❖ **NO SE PERMITE A LOS ESTUDIANTES UTILIZAR TELÉFONOS CELULARES DURANTE EL HORARIO ESCOLAR.** Esto incluye iPads y relojes inteligentes

que están conectados a sus teléfonos. Deben mantener sus teléfonos bajo llave en su bolsa. **En caso de una emergencia, llame a la escuela para comunicarse con su hijo y los estudiantes pueden usar el teléfono de la oficina de la escuela para comunicarse con sus padres/tutores.**

- ❖ **12º GRADO PADRES/TUTORES MAYORES:** Trabaje estrechamente con su hijo mayor este año escolar para discutir sus opciones postsecundarias (planes después de la escuela secundaria). Necesitarán su apoyo y aliento cuando soliciten ingreso a la universidad, escuela de oficios, ejército y/o ayuda/becas financieras. Esté atento a comunicaciones futuras sobre viajes universitarios, talleres, ayuda financiera y fechas límite importantes.
- ❖ **Haga que su hijo se reúna inmediatamente para reuniones individuales de progreso académico/personal con su consejero:** Sra. García (estudiantes de 9.º a 10.º grado) y Sra. Vega-Beltrán (estudiantes de 11.º a 12.º grado). Esta reunión es importante para garantizar que estén encaminados académicamente con su progreso hacia la graduación y para controlar su bienestar personal.
- ❖ **Haga que su hijo asista a tutorías y se una a actividades extracurriculares para ser un miembro activo de la comunidad escolar.** Esta es una excelente manera para que los estudiantes hagan nuevos amigos, establezcan contactos y estén expuestos a diversas actividades/pasatiempos. Enviaremos información para tutorías y actividades extracurriculares en las próximas semanas.
- ❖ Comuníquese con la Sra. García (grados 9-10) o la Sra. Vega-Beltrán (grados 11-12) si cree que su hijo necesita apoyo social/emocional. Tenemos una gran cantidad de servicios para los estudiantes en la escuela y podemos derivar a su familia a recursos/asistencia externos.

No dude en comunicarse directamente con el consejero escolar de su hijo si tiene alguna pregunta, inquietud o si necesita ayuda:

Sra. Niurkary García, Consejera de 9y10 grado(212)391-0041 Ext.5052 Correo electrónico:

NGarcia33@schools.nyc.gov

Sra. Nicole Vega-Beltran, Consejera de 11º y 12º grado 212-391-0041 Ext. 5091 Correo electrónico:

NVega11@schools.nyc.gov

ACTIVIDADES EXTRAESCOLARES

| | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------|-------------|--------------------|
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| Spanish | | | | |
| Alcorn | Thursday | 2:45-3:45 pm | Spanish All Level | 302 |
| ART | | | | |
| Degregrio | Upon Request (Please discuss with teacher for meeting times) | | | |





A message from Ms. Marshall:

Hi Panthers,

Just wanted to share the positive experience that my 2nd period 10th grade AP Macroeconomics students had this past Friday.

These students are in the Economics & Finance track and got to hear from 5 speakers who partner with Junior Achievement who visited us and answered questions about their careers, their journey in college and tips on navigating through the job process. We heard from people who worked in various fields ranging from a CPA working in for a Family Office, to a Consultant who worked for an AI company in Education as well as other Consultants working in Financial services. Attached are a few examples of student feedback on what they learned and what they would like to explore more in the future. Also shared are a few thank you notes which the class wrote - it's nice to see how much they appreciated the experience.



Thank you, Ms. Marshall, for making this wonderful experience for students happen!!!





SALSA *Night*

Thursday,
February 27,
2025 at JKO
120 West 46
Street
5:30PM-7:30PM

*Learn
to move*

**Bring the whole family for a
night of fun for all!
Food and refreshments will be
provided.
Please confirm attendance
with Ms. Bernabel.**





A message from Ms. De Gregorio:

Students in Advanced Art received complimentary tickets to visit "Luna, Luna Forgotten Fantasy" hailed as the coolest art show by Time Out New York on Friday January 31 at The Shed. The interactive exhibition blurs the lines between theater and visual art. It was beautifully imaginative!



Luna Luna: Forgotten Fantasy invites visitors into a colorful, riotous fun house of carnival attractions by visionary artists of the 20th century, including Jean-Michel Basquiat, Sonia Delaunay, Keith Haring, David Hockney, Roy Lichtenstein, and more.

The brainchild of artist André Heller, Luna Luna first opened in 1987 in Hamburg, Germany, as a spectacular fairground. And then, by a twist of fate, the park's treasures were forgotten in storage in Texas for 36 years. With a blockbuster showing in Los Angeles in December 2023, Luna Luna: Forgotten Fantasy resurrected these artworks, to audiences' delight.

Thank you Ms. D for spearheading!!!





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IMG_8966.JPG



IMG_8967.JPG



IMG_8969.JPG



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IMG_9019.MOV



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In the Spotlight

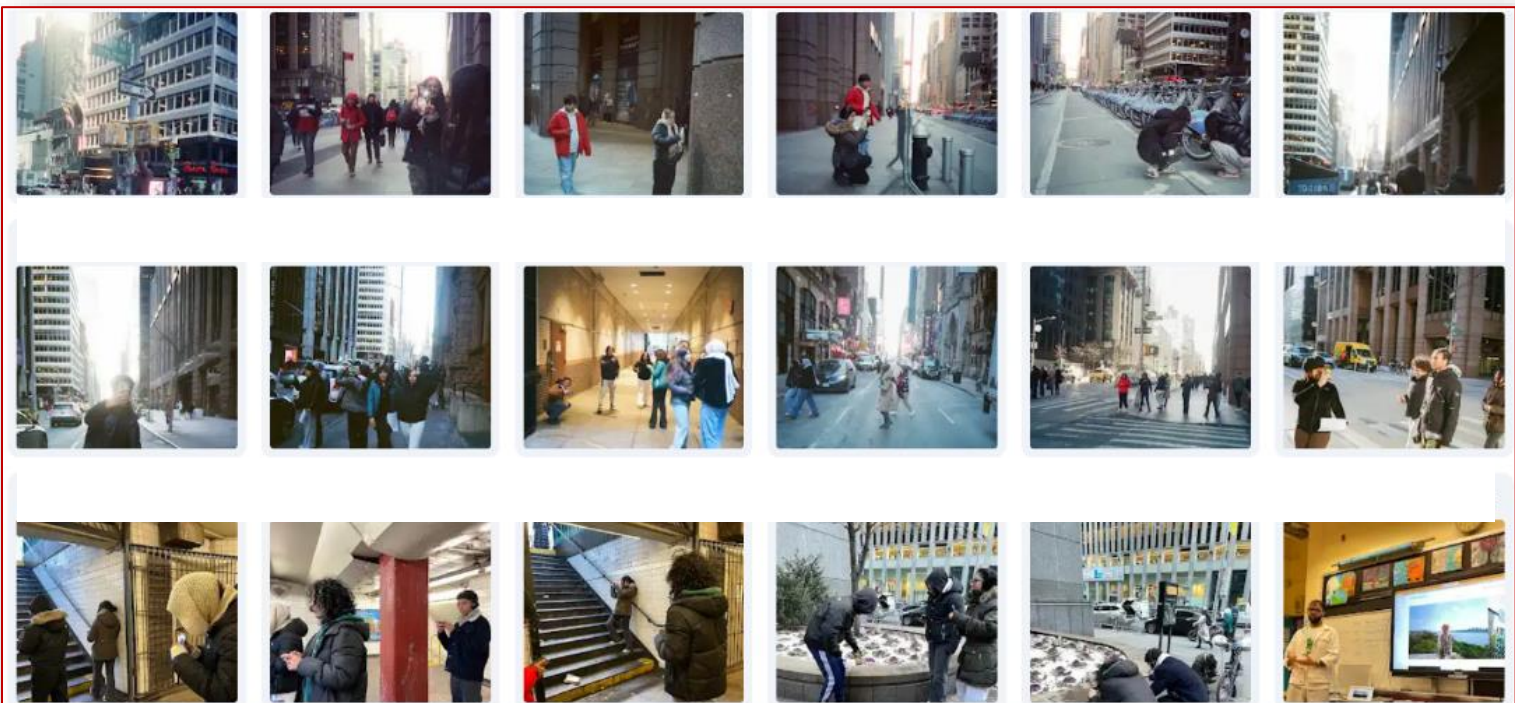


A message from Ms. De Gregorio:

Art students went out on 4 photo walks exploring street photography during our residency with professional photographer Andrew Godreaux, JKO Class of 2016. The PBL was part of the DiverCity Lens Photography Program with 20 schools across NYC. Students learned basic framing & composition techniques along with camera angles to capture their interpretation of this year's theme "Here & Now." We were joined by another photographer Maya "Jive", who shoots for the WNBA, for our last walk. It was cold out, but we had a lot of fun! Our photo gallery will be up soon.

Thanks!

Ms. D





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IMG_8823.jpg



IMG_8831.JPG

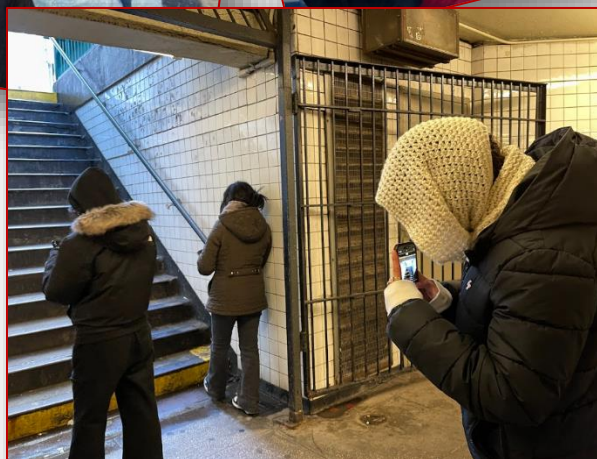


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IMG_8838.jpg







A message from Ms. Milan:

Here are some photos from the Boyden Executive Search visit on December 12, 2024.

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/xN33C1FSc7ehDSXr5>

Sixteen members of Boyden, including their CEO, met with our Hospitality students and engaged with them in constructing an elevator pitch and informational interview.

Their controller shared that the students "were all so wonderful and truly lovely! How impressive they did such a great job sharing their stories and dreams with us!"

Milan



**Your People Are Your Best Investment.
Let Us Help You with That.**

Boyden is a premier global leadership and talent advisory firm that can serve client needs anywhere they conduct business.

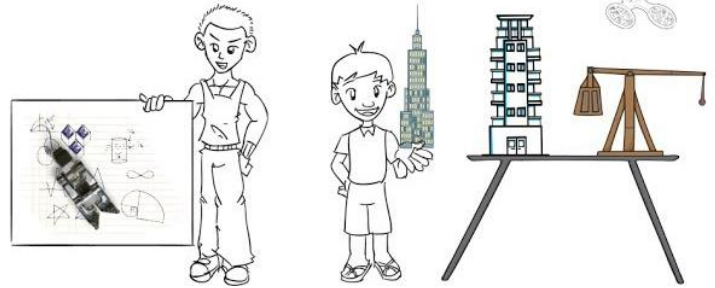






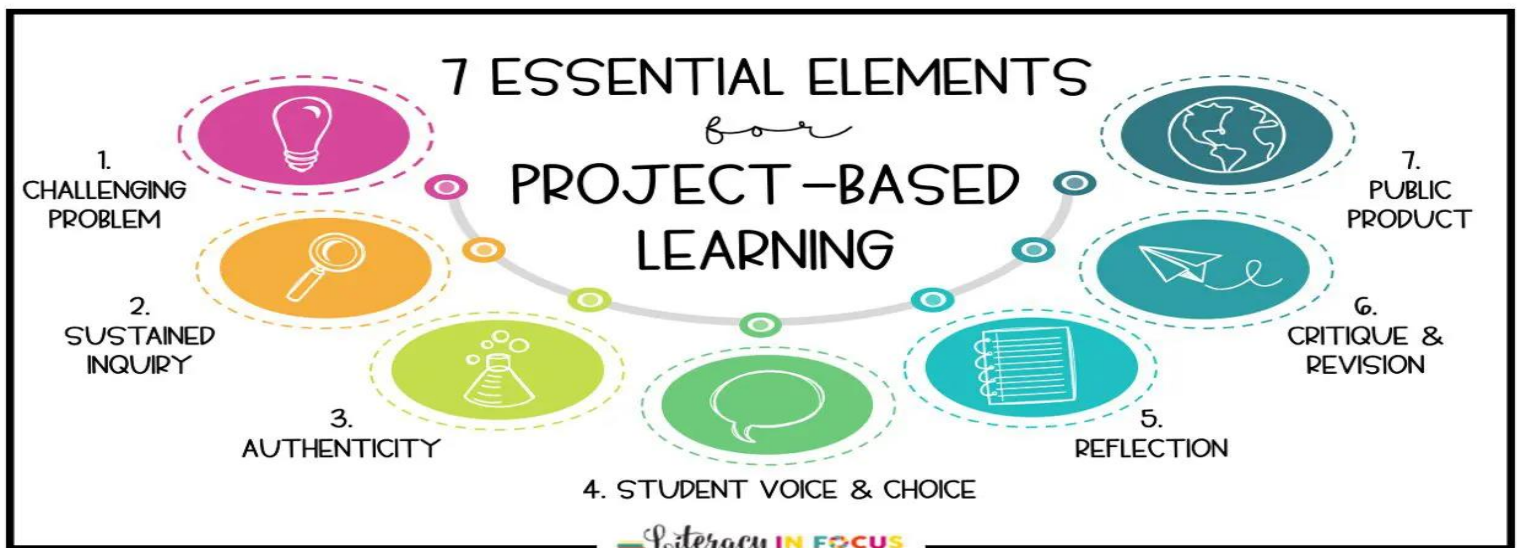
Project Based Learning

Capture your students' attention with real world problems



A Message from Ms. El Mardi:

The freshmen were lucky to have Officer Samuel and her partner visit during 4th period to answer their questions about crime for our PBL.





Another message from Ms. El Mardi:

We had a beautiful snowy day for our walking tour. The falling snow really captured Holden's spirit and made our tour majestic. Our students were thrilled to carry snowballs, cold hands and all. From Radio City all the way to the Central Park Carousel (which we spontaneously got to ride), we had a lovely time. We even saw the ducks!

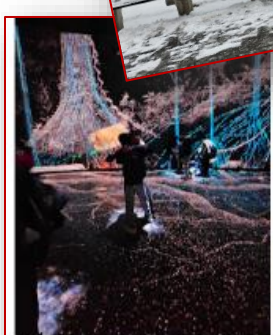
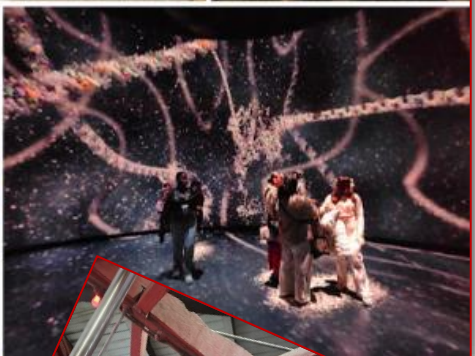
Although Holden does not go into the museum, this is what the text says,

"Boy, that museum was full of glass cases. There were even more upstairs, with deer inside them drinking at water holes, and birds flying south for the winter. The birds nearest you were all stuffed and hung up on wires, and the ones in back were just painted on the wall, but they all looked like they were really flying south, and if you bent your head down and sort of looked at them upside down, they looked in an even bigger hurry to fly south. The best thing, though, in that museum was that everything always stayed right where it was. Nobody'd move. [...] Nobody'd be different. The only thing that would be different would be you."

Our memories will stay right where they are; with us for a lifetime no matter how much we change. This will be a day I never forget 😊

Thank you to Mr. Van, who has superior map skills and got bombarded with snow, and Ms. Kadison for making the day memorable.







STUDENTS of the MONTH

Congratulations to our Students of the Month!!!

Important News from Mr. Williams:

And the winners of the Student of the Month of December are in!!! We would like to extend our congratulations to the following students who have demonstrated leadership, integrity, and citizenship!



***9th Grade:
Pricila Rivera***

***10th Grade:
Mazyiah Coles
Angel Tochimani Ramirez***

***11th Grade:
Jean Chimbo
Viannay Palafox***

***12th Grade:
Vanessa Lema
Serenity Guity***



On Friday January 17th there will be a pizza party celebration where all winners will receive pizza, a certificate, and 25 JKO Bucks to be spent on school swag!!

Congratulations!



Hi JKO Community,

I wanted to share our digital photo gallery with you. JKO has been participating in the **DiverCity Lens** Photography program for 10 years now. Each year there is a new theme and this year's theme was "**Here and Now.**" The program is about the relationship between image and text. Four of our students will represent JKO at the end of year gallery show along with 20 other schools.

Thanks!
Ms. D

DiverCity Lens "Here and Now"

Ms. De Gregorio & Andrew Godreaux
January 2025

The theme **Here and Now** challenges us to pause and reflect on the world as we experience it... our immediate surroundings, emotions, and connections. It invites us to capture what it means to exist in the present moment.

Students were asked to consider what **Here and Now** means to them. We explored the ways in which master photographers use the camera's lens to create a visual narrative. Studying basic elements of photography; framing and composition, angles and perspective, students applied these concepts in a series of Photo Walks in our neighborhood as part of our residency with multi-disciplinary artist Andrew Godreaux, Class of 2016. Under Andrew's mentorship students began seeing the world as photographers. "It is an illusion that photos are made with the camera... they are made with the eye, heart and head."- Henri Cartier-Bresson

Here and Now is an invitation to explore the present moment through different lenses. Photography is more than capturing images—it's about telling the story of a moment in time.

We hope you enjoy our collection of images and text. - *Ms. De Gregorio*



Two Way

Artist: David Bruno Merino, Grade 9

This image can show a pathway between reality and the false world.

It can also represent an escape from reality and to enter a portal where you're free from all stress and worry.



The Sky's Eye Value

Artist: Nashawn Cummings, Grade 9

When I first took this photo it had no meaning it was a cool photo of my friend, but when I took a second glance, I admired the beautiful and bright sky with shades of blue and fluffy white clouds that we take for granted in our everyday lives. We surround ourselves with big buildings and the newest devices without even knowing we're devaluing the sky for what it's worth.



Different World

Times Square, New York

Artist: Morgan Donnelly, Grade 10

The sky is very blank and very monotone but the streets are alive with very lively and crowded with many people taking pictures and having fun with each other. I think that the blank sky could be a border showing that Times Square is a new dimension and takes you into a whole different world when you enter. There aren't many other places in the world like Times Square so people may feel like this when they see it for the first time like how I did when I first saw it.



Free- Times Square Station

Artist- Anjoleen Edwards

This image shows a bird perched atop a tree branch, minding its business. Unless like us civilians who are bound to the ground and forced to carry out certain obligations, this bird is free; Free to sleep and wake whenever, free to come and go as it pleases.



Skating in the Winter Morning

Artist: Arianna Faustino, Grade 12

These people were complete strangers who were ice skating and looked like they were enjoying themselves. Not knowing anything about them made it more symbolic because they didn't know that I was capturing a moment to represent "here and now," they have their own lives and own things happening in them, as do I. But yet I still thought this was a wholesome moment to represent "here and now" partially because of our differences but also because it was a moment representing "here and now" for the both of us. It was their moment but it was also my moment capturing something I needed.



Subway Boys

Artist Joshua Fernandez Grade 11

My friends and I were hanging out all day and on our way home I wanted to take a picture of them as a memory. I like this picture because it symbolizes brotherhood with me and friends. It was also fun because they kept on trolling and having fun.



Encouragement from Above

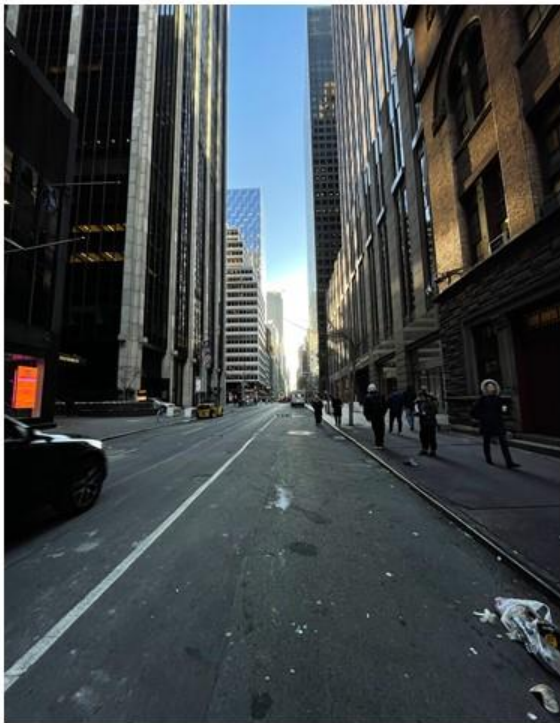
Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis High School

Artist: Tanish Kumar, Grade 11

Art Teacher: Elisa De Gregorio

Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis High School

This image serves as a reminder to me to look for myself while I'm struggling. Exams and personal challenges make life monotonous and depressing. I always feel that someone is taking notice of my efforts, and this picture tends to reassure me. During times of when I was happy, the clouds have always looked the same. But, during times of stress, the clouds turned into a message of motivation and support. The cloud shows how much I have grown as a person, both physically and mentally.



A view of the end of a light tunnel

Artist: Claudio Ladina Tejada

What this image means to me it demonstrates on how we should focus on what the reflections and shadows show and how this image relates to the term "here and now" showing we should pay attention to what is happening right now in this exact moment which shows we should pay attention to what is happening now in the image



Is anyone there?

Artist: Chloe Velez, Grade 9

Waiting patiently while the clock ticks, waiting for the shift to be over, taking breaks in between while I watch my coworkers leave, long hours neverending check never pending



New York Progress

Artist: Zara Zapata, Grade 9

This picture means to me how all the cars, buildings and more people show how it changed throughout the years and all the progress being made, all the new people and maybe more, but it makes me feel how we get a chance to change the world, here and now.



Love Birds

Bryant Park , Manhattan

Artist: Jarolin Sosa, Grade 12

This picture screams out love to me, I thought it was the perfect picture and moment to capture how the taller partner was helping the short one and how they had matching coats which is the cutest thing ever. It captures love and I made it my focal point, I also gave it a vintage vibe to it because it really gives it the spark to the picture.



Chubby Charm

Artist: Timur Dzhililov

Pigeons are a big part of NYC because they are everywhere. I took this picture up close to show a pigeon that wasn't scared of me.



Technology All Around Us

Artist: Jade Fernandez, 9th Grade

Surrounded by people but yet technology is more powerful. It's everywhere you look, it's everywhere you sit, walk, talk. Technology can both unite and isolate us. This image of the person focusing on their phone represents the illusion of connection while increasing the feeling of loneliness surrounded by screens.



The American Dream

Artist: Janeth Flores, Grade 12

This image isn't just about a concept; it's a lived reality for multiple families and countless others. The cityscape evokes a representation of isolation and determination. As it reminds me of my parents' initial experience, the feeling of loneliness and adrift in a new land, driven by the sense of hope of a better future for their children. The phrase "Mama, papa los veo pronto" ("Mom, Dad I'll see you soon") is a reminder of the sacrifices they made waiting for the day they can say the same thing again, leaving behind their loved ones with the promise of a brighter future.



At What Cost

Artist: Kaily Ortiz, Grade 11

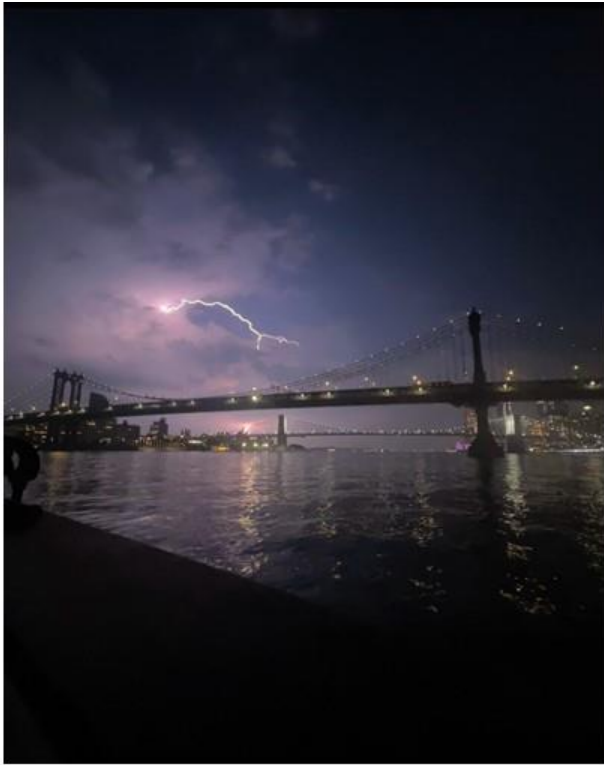
Awareness is what we need, a sign on a post is no more than just a little sign, a tourist spot shouldn't be the only place that's gun free, the alleys and projects, at what cost do we get relieved of the pain guns cause?



Vibrant

Artist: Mason Ramjattan, 9th grade

This photo shows here and now by the car in the background. It is unique by the many stickers and things all over the power box. The ripped poster adds to the uniqueness of the photo.



Purple Day

Artist: Genesis Solis Grade 12

A perfectly timed picture captured the exact emotions I was feeling on that rainy gloomy night. The energy the lightning carried represented the rage that filled my body as it struck.



Lights

Artist: M. Umay Yazal, Grade 10

New York, the city that never sleeps. The city that attracts people like butterflies chasing lights. Many only see the lights and not the stories under or behind them. Some become sad and forgotten stories themselves and get burned by the lights. Others become the lights. Which one are you? Do you only care about the here and now?



The calming of the building

Artist: Stephanie Zuniga, Grade 11

We were walking around I saw this, it was two parts like the country and the city together. It made me feel calm.



Nature is Life

Untermeyer Gardens Conservancy

Artist: Danna Alvarez, Grade 9

Every time I have the opportunity to capture a sunset or a sunrise I do it, since it is something that I am passionate about doing, I love sunsets, it is something that I admire a lot, I love going to the parks or the mountains to appreciate the sunset and capturing it, apart from the fact that it is something that is very relaxing for me to do, I feel that it is a perfect moment to be able to think and appreciate life.



Beautiful Sunset

Artist: Jaishamar Lopez, Grade 9

The day I took the photo I was sad it had been a heavy day and suddenly I approached the window of my room and I saw that beautiful orange sunset with yellow and you could see the buildings of the city. For a moment, the sadness of the bad day I had forgotten when I saw that beautiful sunset. It did not solve my problems but it did help me remember that even in darker moments life and God still keeps small things that illuminate your life.



The Mall

Artist: Moriam Begum, Grade 9

This is a mall I often come to when I'm feeling emotional. Stepping into this mall makes me relive old memories of me and my mom coming here religiously to go shopping.



Echoes of Innocence

Artist: Valeria Chabla Gomez, Grade 10

In this garden, I recall the carefree days of my youth, where I would joyfully run around, unburdened by insecurities. Each lap around this space was a celebration of innocence, where the dormant deciduous trees stood as silent witnesses to my exuberance. Today, as a 15-year-old, I navigate a world filled with complexities, yet the echoes of my childhood laughter remind me to embrace each moment. This space, with its dormant deciduous trees as silent witnesses, encourages me to reconnect with that unfiltered joy and innocence.



Feathered Friend

Artist: Coumba Diagouraga, Grade 9th

One day, as I sat on my balcony, a white dove landed on the railing. It was a beautiful creature, its feathers shining in the sunlight. I held my breath, afraid to scare away the unexpected visitor. The dove tilted its head, as if studying me. Slowly, I extended my hand, palm up. To my surprise, the dove hopped onto my finger. Its tiny claws felt fine yet firm. Hello, I whispered. "Are you lost?"

The dove cooed softly in response. I felt a sense of peace wash over me. I named the dove Pearl, and every day, Pearl would visit me on my balcony. We would share quiet moments, confiding my hopes and dreams to my feathered friend. Pearl became my anchor, a reminder that even in the heart of the city, nature could find a way to flourish.



In the path alone

Artist: Mariatou Diawara, 9th grade

You are always alone in your path to life because people can come and people can go but no one will really stick with you through your journey of life until you find the right person but until then it's you alone.



Weekend Pathways

Carissa Gomez, 12th Grade

This photograph reminds me of the quiet moments during my weekend walk in Queens. The overpass and its arches stand as a metaphor for life's journey, structured yet unpredictable, with clear paths but hidden corners. The sky, muted and heavy with clouds, mirrors the subdued pace of a weekend, offering a chance to pause and reflect. The distant city skyline feels like a reminder of the constant hustle waiting just beyond this moment of quiet. This image captures the balance between the demands of daily life and the brief spaces where I can breathe, think, and reconnect with myself.



Center of Time

Artist: Adrian Morales, Grade 11

This image exhibits remarkable creativity, and I am particularly fond of the vivid colors it showcases. I captured this photograph to convey my perspective of Times Square; it is the representation I wish for others to associate with that iconic location.



Two side

Artist: Adrian Morales , 11 Grade

This photograph showcases my creative capabilities by illustrating my capacity for innovative thinking and my ability to recognize elements that others might overlook. While one may be familiar with a particular narrative, lacking the appropriate perspective prevents a comprehensive understanding of the alternative viewpoint.



BX

Artist: Jovan Morales, Grade 9

This shows the theme "Here & Now" by showing graffiti in The Bronx which is a big part of Bronx culture.



LOVE

Artist: Aylin Moso, Grade 9

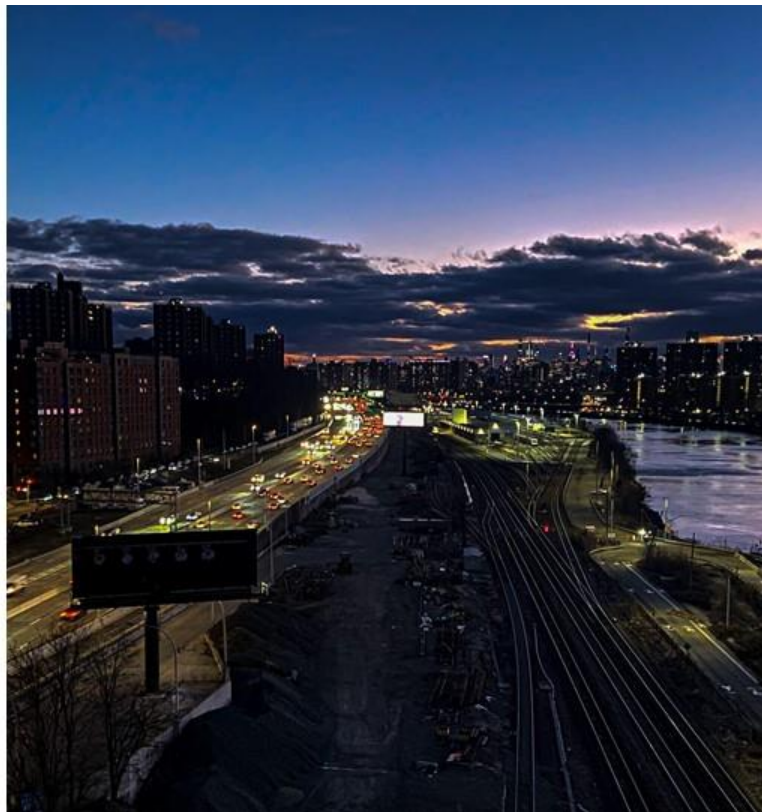
Love , the true meaning of love is having an intense feeling with someone and having deep interest in someone. As well as wanting to be with them for eternity, love is one of the things I believe there is always someone out there who will love you for who you are no matter what.



A Hidden Gem

Artist: Darvint Nunez, Grade 11

The reason for this title would probably refer to not only showing us how darker colors and buildings can hide the beauty of our city's architecture but also how we let our peers critiquing darken our true colors or dim our light. In photography lighting is everything the same way lighting in someone's life means everything. This is similar to the pictures you see all on social media until you see the meaning I just came up with. Just a simple picture with a deeper meaning that some of us can relate to.



Roads, Tracks, and Reflections

Artist: Emily Ramon, Grade 11

I've always looked out the window as my dad drove past this bridge. The moment I went on this bridge for the first time, I noticed the difference in movement between the roads, tracks, and river. This view reminds me that while life is often fast-paced and filled with movement, a moment to reflect, appreciate our surroundings can change one's perspective. "Here & Now" is about what we have in the moment and we can step back, pause, and admire what we have in front of us.



A Moment of Peace

Artist: Lia Silverio, 11th

Every single day I walk by here and usually it's early, so i don't really get to see sunsets like this one. I appreciate every single sunset I see because it makes me feel so at peace and it makes me enjoy the moment even if it's just me walking the street. I stop and see it because sometimes I don't want to get home and being outside even if it's just for a little bit makes me feel so good. Sometimes pretty things happen and some people are able to experience it.



The Lone Walker's Morning Path

Artist: Shawn Torres, Grade 12

In the heart of Manhattan, a lone figure briskly walks down the frosty sidewalk, past bustling food trucks and idling vans. The city hums to life around them, but their mind is lost in thought, wrapped in plans for the day ahead. Among the cold skyscrapers, they carry a quiet determination that feels warmer than the morning sun.



Stressed

Artist: Laila Barriera Grade 12

The train moves on, the city blurs past,
Faces tired, caught in a day that won't last.
Hands grip phones, minds race with stress,
But sleep starts to creep, offering rest.

The noise, the crowd, it all fades away,
For just a moment, they find space to sway.
Eyes close, heads tilt, the rush fades out,
In the motion of the train, they let go of doubt



In the Greatest city in the World

Artist: Karelyn Bautista, Grade 12

Live from New York. A sprawling city made
of money. Another life left behind. The streets
gilded. The path walked by dreamers. A
difficult journey made harder by the powers
that be. A single soul keeps walking through.



Side by Side

Artist: Leslie Correa, Grade 12

This couple is walking down the stairs of a train station together, sharing a small, everyday moment. While entering a subway station is simple to many, this couple appears to find significance in being together in that moment.



Paint Bucket

Artist: Abigail Gonzalez, Grade 12

This is an unknown artist that I came across while walking. As you can see, he is starting a new canvas and I'm guessing the canvas behind him, he made it as well. This has touched me to such a nostalgic feeling. I used to be an artistic kid when I was younger. I had so many sketchbooks and different color pencils and markers. I have spent many years sketching and even started painting and even painting one side of my walls to express my art back in 2020-2021. I even had the dream of becoming an artist when I got older but slowly grew out of that which saddens me to this day since I feel like I have forgotten everything I have taught myself.



New Perspective

Artist: Zahra Jenkins, Grade 10

Always try to look at things from a different perspective, or someone else's point of view, like this bird. The world around it is much bigger and different from the world around us, so little to this bird like crumbs is so much, but to us it is basically nothing. So little to us might be so much more to others, never take things for granted.



Directions

Artist: Vanessa Lema, Grade 12

All my life I have struggled with finding my own path. Often feeling that others have their future figured out while I was the only one confused on what direction to take. However the beauty of being a human being comes when you expect the unexpected and learn that every single person is unraveling their own future.



At Last

Artist: Daniel Martinez, Grade 12

This photo is very significant to me because it represents a sunset, but not just any sunset. Life changes and every sundown is a reminder that we have made it so far. This reminds me that even during our most challenging moments our best days are not behind us but waiting to be seen.



Flag

Artist: Dwanyel McFarland

"America experiences good days and bad days, a testament to its resilience and the ever-changing journey of its people."



The Bee Life Be Like

Artist: Shiloh Perez, Grade 10

This picture made me think of a bee and what it's everyday life is like looking cute and doing it's part for their queen.



Hustle in the Cold

Artist: Deisy Quezada, 12th grade

The city is full of people who are always working. People immigrate to this country in search of opportunities and jobs. This picture means so much because you can see that she is a very committed woman. We are in the middle of January and she still came out to work in the cold weather. You can see that she was all bundled up and even had a blanket on, but regardless of it she stood there waiting for customers. Her strong spirit and will should help us when we want to give up. This moment is interesting because it doesn't show just one picture, you know that it is continuous. She is going to be there tomorrow and the next day and the next waiting for you to buy something from her.



Never Changing

Artist: Darvin Rincon, Grade 11

This is where my friend lives right outside his house. Me and him have been friends since 1st grade but yet no matter the time, I go to his house, it never changes, it feels constant, strong, like a second home to me.



Special Place

Artist: Pricila Rivera, Grade 9

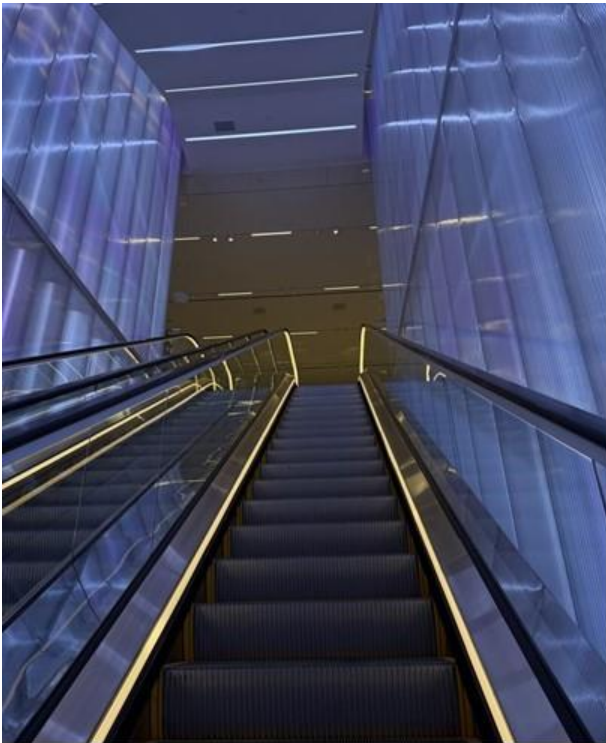
Snow changes everything and it makes it special. It doesn't snow as much anymore because of global warming, so when it happens, you have to appreciate it.



Warm Even In Winter

Artist, John Sandoval, Grade 11

Some winters are especially cold, and some years are tougher than most, but through all the doubt and struggle and setbacks and stress and pain, what gets you through it all can be so simple. A hobby, a pet, your friends, or art. But me in particular, I found someone I can trust with every part of myself, someone who doesn't mind being completely and unapologetically themselves around me. Someone there for all the highs and lows year round. This winter, no matter how cold it gets, I know I'll stay warm.



Sky High

Artist- Yoselyn Torres, Grade 12

The purple and blue lights, mixing around can be a symbol of the sky. The colors the sky has after a stormy chilly day. Strikes of lighting here and there. Walking out and feeling a cold crispy breeze.



Reflective

Artist: Allison Vazquez, Grade 10

Who doesn't want to see their own reflection from a glass door or mirror? I always do that when I walk pass by one. Sometimes I wonder if there's another universe where we all exist but we're different somehow. This image is shown as the theme "Here and Now" because as people are walking towards their destinations they have the opportunity to see their reflection and see how others view them while walking.



Stuck

14th Street, 2025

Artist: Allison Vazquez, Grade 10

As someone who goes to school in Times Square, going back home late during rush hour can be pretty hectic. So many people trying to get on the same train as you, there could be pushing and shoving. But this image shows that although its hectic you can make it seem calm. As I was taking this photo everyone just stopped for a moment so that people could get where they needed to go without the pushing and the shoving. This image represents the stillness in a city, even if you feel stuck in a crowd. This image shows the theme "Here and Now" because it's a whole group of people waiting to walk for their train.



Empty Subway

Artist: Josiah Arroyo

This photo is showing multiple shadows of people entering the subway, showing community.