

Juvenile Detention Center

==== Amazing Things Are Happening Here! ====

January 2020

Our One-Year Anniversary Edition!

Thank You From Superintendent Stollar

Well, it has been a year now since we began putting this newsletter out, and over this past year we have received many dozens of thank-yous and positive comments about it. You have no idea how much we appreciate those! By the way, did you know our newsletter has been read in at least *ten* different countries around the world? How cool is that?!!



We want you to know that while we enjoy doing what we do here, your kind and supportive comments help to spur us on to continue to do more, and do better, at everything we do for our youth. So many of **YOU** have been part of our efforts. I wish we could thank you each personally right here but that would be a lengthy list and I'd probably forget someone. Please just know that we could not be as effective at helping our kids as we hope we are without your often tangible, and at other times even intangible, assistance. We appreciate ALL the support you have given us. We hope you have a blessed 2020 and we look forward to continuing our service to Medina County.

Superintendent Ron Stollar

Yoga for a Great Cause!

Roots Yoga and Barre (Wadsworth, OH) held a donation-based yoga event on January 11th to raise funds for **Access the Arts** to provide free art and music services this year for our kids. It was held locally at the **Blue Heron Event Center** with more than 50 folks participating with free babysitting provided. \$750.00 was raised! Thank you to all the volunteers and those who showed up to enjoy some yoga to help our kids, and to Blue Heron for donating the use of their space!!



www.rootsyogaohio.com

[www.Facebook.com/AccessTheArtsInc/](https://www.facebook.com/AccessTheArtsInc/)

www.blueheron.com



The Ridge Project

The Ridge Project (www.theridgeproject.com) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to empowering individuals and improving the lives of families throughout the state of Ohio. The organization believes that strong families produce strong children, who will pass on that legacy of strength for generations. Since its founding, Ridge has created and administered many programs to assist adults and youth in improving their personal lives, the lives of their families, and their economic stability. It is evidence-based and attacks the culture of selfishness, incarceration, and poverty through positive youth development/leadership, intervention programs, and healthy relationship development.

Hannah and Shelton are our facilitators who come in weekly to work with our youth on this wonderful and effective curriculum!

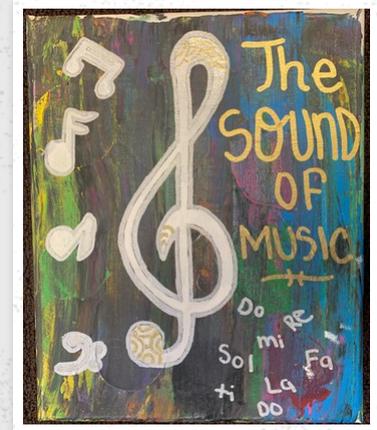
Brush Tips Tutorial

Cheri Smith from Brush Tips studio has tutorials on her website (www.brushtips.studio) teaching how to paint with acrylics. We were able to utilize our smart board, prop up our tabletop easels, and follow along with her as if she were here in person! Pictured below are our youth painting a "Summer Moon." Each canvas of art has a unique touch, expressing the differences in each personality. At the beginning of the process the kids reported hesitation and didn't feel that they could accomplish the goal. As the end result...they felt proud of their work and were excited about what they created!!!



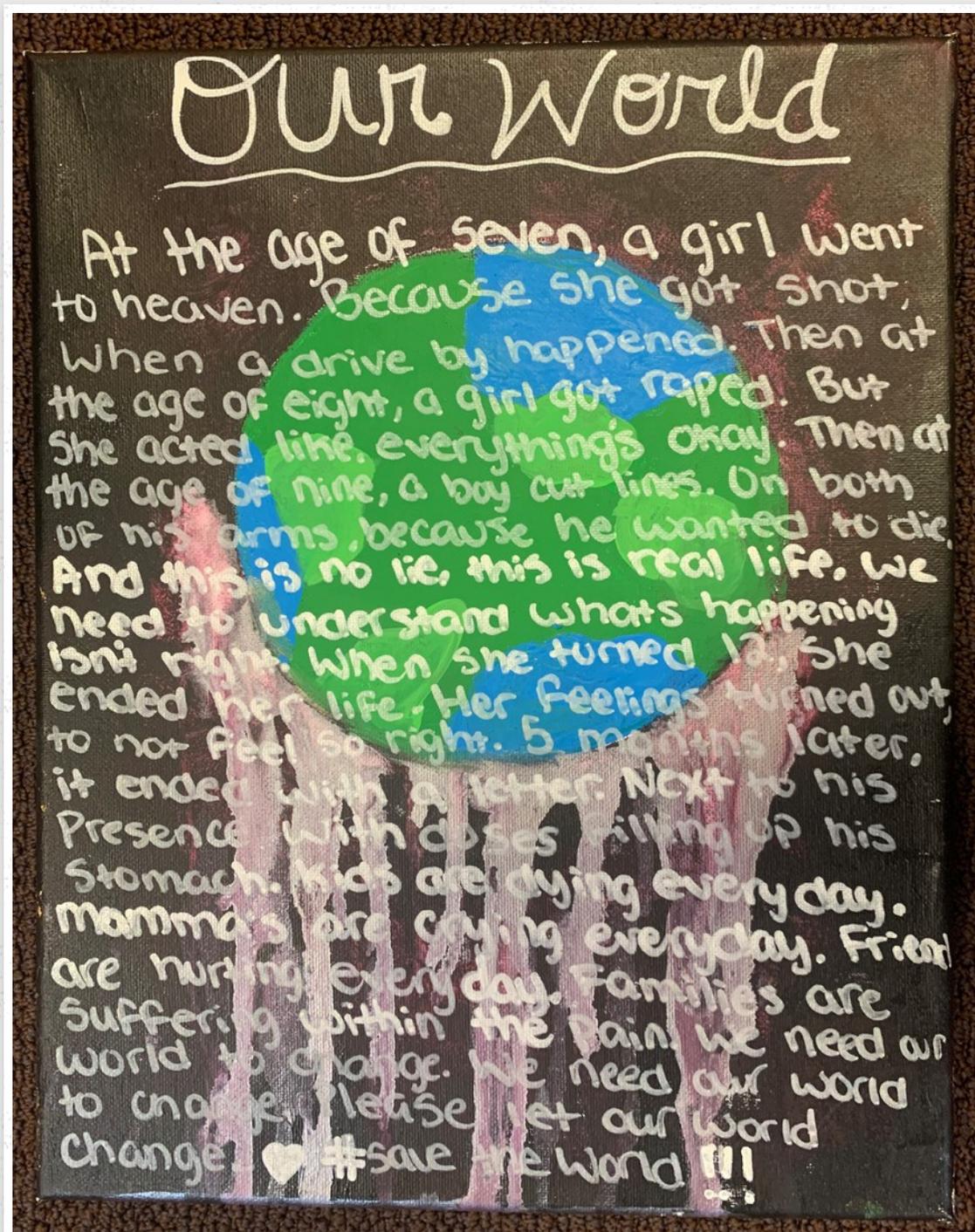
Former Resident

Just a few, short months ago one of our residents left our facility to enter residential treatment at The Village Network. This youth came to the detention center with many emotions to process, which was initially manifested as negative behaviors. Throughout her time with us she climbed through our Behavioral Level System and became Honoree! Not only was she a leader for other kids, she also happened to be an impressive artist and songwriter! Writing music lyrics helped her to process and heal from her trauma and abuse while, painting allowed gave her emotions color. Her artwork was displayed at our last Art



Experience which she missed, sadly, because she had left us for treatment just days prior. This young lady opened her heart on one occasion and sang one of her personally written songs ("Our World," pictured below) for our Citizen Excellence Council members which moved many attendees to tears. We were so proud of the behavioral turn-around she accomplished and the growth we had the opportunity to witness while she was with us. Recently, we all felt that she should know what a positive, lasting impression she had on us so we sent her a card with words of encouragement and inspiration written by our staff and pictures of our art event that she unfortunately missed. We hope that after she completes her journey of healing she'll come back to visit us sometime (as some other former residents have done at times)!

(Both pieces of art pictured here were created by this former resident. The piece below was about her own life.)



New Licensed Independent Social Worker

We welcome Lauren Rohal to our staff! Lauren earned her Bachelor of Arts in Psychology degree from Kent State University, and her Master of Social Work from Akron University. She is currently part-time but will transition to full-time very soon, assisting our youth with their emotional and mental health needs. Ms. Rohal is a nationally certified Facial Coder (if you don't know what that is, look it up!). She commented, "I am very grateful as a new employee and have been enjoying my time learning the new position and meeting everyone. I appreciate the support, collaboration and guidance from all, and look forward to continuing to work with everyone going forward."



Lauren enjoys reading, movies, being with animals, nature walks, and hanging out with friends and family. We are happy she is with us! *(Please note that we contract with Alternative Paths, Inc. for our mental health services.)*

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Contact Us!

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Administrative Hours

Monday-Friday

8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

www.medinajdc.org

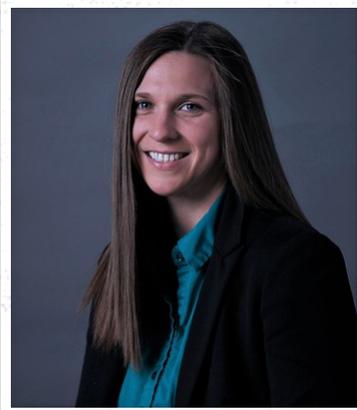




**Judge Kevin W.
Dunn - Juvenile
Court**



**Ron Stollar -
Superintendent**



**Megan Millikin -
Assistant
Superintendent**

"We are making the Medina community a better place by inspiring troubled youth to become responsible, productive citizens."