

Juvenile Detention Center

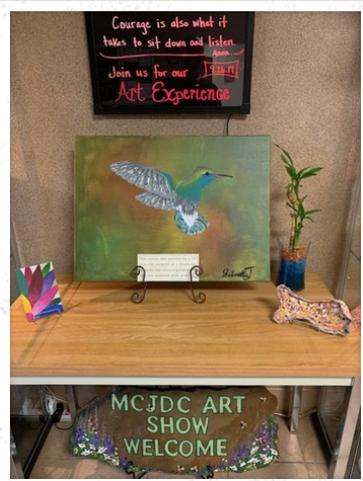
==== Amazing Things Are Happening Here! ====

July 2019

655 Independence Drive Medina, Ohio 44256

"We, and our court, do our best to help our kids and their families get on the right track. Our philosophy is to leave no stone unturned in providing them with the resources they need to lead well adjusted, productive lives."

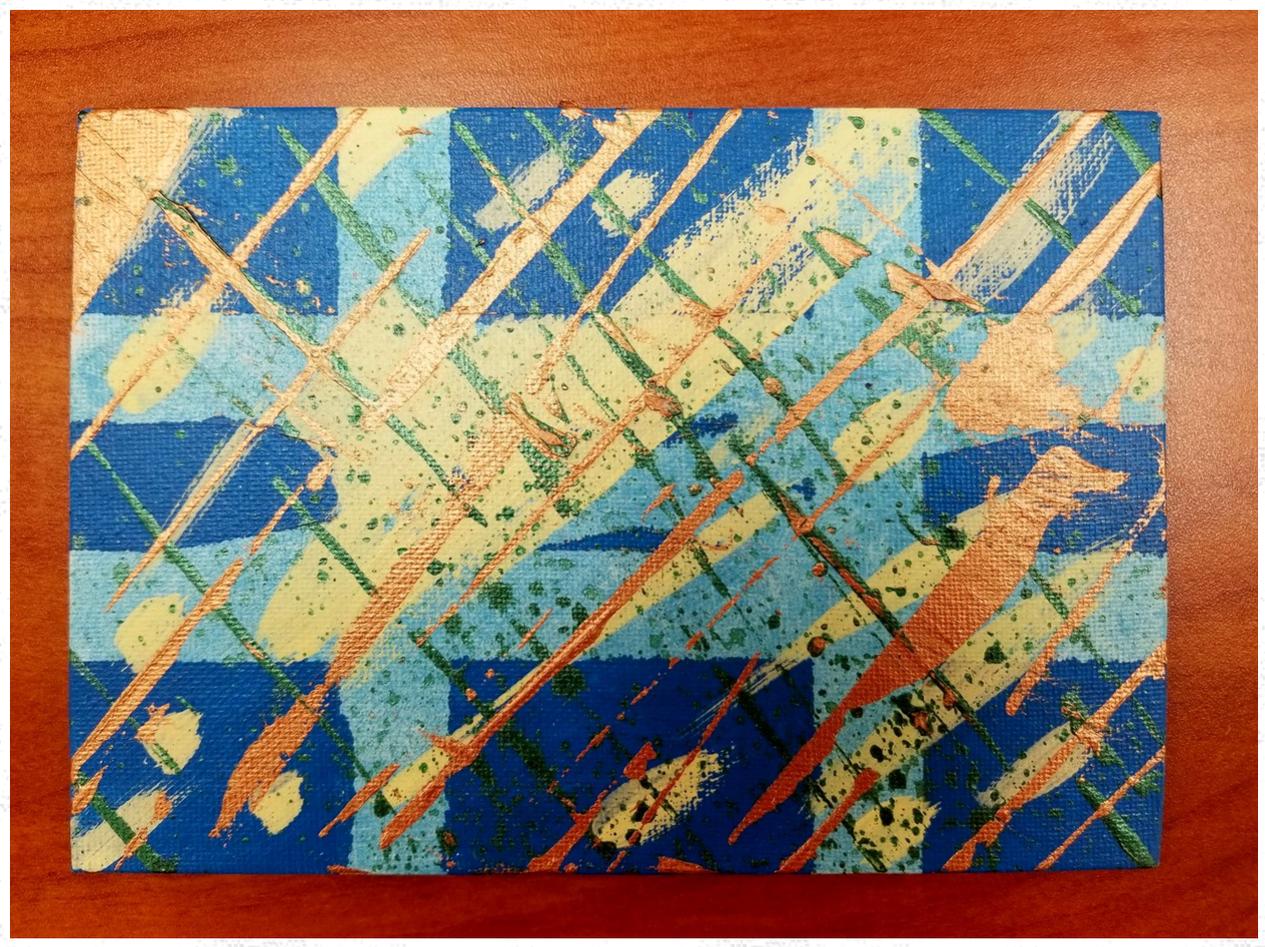
- Superintendent Stollar



Art Experience

YOU HAVE A DATE!!

Please join us in our building **Thursday, September 26th from 3:00pm – 7:00pm** for our 3rd annual Art Experience! This event is open to the public and is family-friendly. This is an opportunity for you to see some of the art our youth have created over the past year, as well as purchase (silent auction) select pieces with the proceeds going back into continued art therapy. We will have more information for you next month, and it is NOT an option to NOT be here!! :-)



E4JDC - Steps to Success

On a recent summer Saturday morning over a dozen community leaders gathered in the MCJDC gym and shared in valuable and sincere conversation with residents, all in hopes of enabling our young people to find a more productive and fulfilling path leading out our doors than they found themselves on when they entered.

Debbie Boehmke (Economic Developer at the Medina County Board of Developmental Disabilities) opened with a True Colors personality inventory and review, giving these young people a stronger sense of their innate strengths and struggles, and insight into how they can use this information to their advantage. Maria Burk with United Way of Medina County also addressed the youth.



With a relatable life story, former MCJDC resident Cory returned to the facility to share his experiences with current residents. *"My biggest challenge was patience,"* he told them. After his release Cory worked long hours, riding a bike to work each night - through the winter, going through more bike tires than he can remember, and having more than one bike vs. car incident, yet prevailing, all conveyed his determination to succeed.

Cory's lessons were many and were intently received. *"Find people who support you. Sometimes they are family, sometimes they aren't. Just find them, because these are the*

people who will make it a lot easier for you to move forward. It's rewarding for me to come back."

Employers from across the county also participated. Residents were given the opportunity to rotate between companies. Representatives from Medina County Economic Development Corporation (MCEDC), Sandridge Food Corporation, Montville Police Department, Firedex, Westfield Group, Positively Portrait, and Serenité Restaurant discussed the scope of employment as well as strengths and qualities employers are seeking. As one resident was leaving a table he was overheard saying, *"That was actually pretty cool."*

Economic Developer, Kathy Breitenbucher (MCEDC), reflected on the purpose behind the event. *"We need to break the cycle and get these young people into the right companies so they can avoid being back in the same situation. They need to see themselves moving forward into their future."*

The JDC hopes to hold another summit in early 2020, and thanks all those who volunteered their time to come in for the event!

(Submitted by Ms. Susan Vlcek)



Yoga

We have been so grateful to have Molly Thomas join us on Saturday mornings to kick-start our weekends with her healing presence as she provides yoga to our youth! She has been volunteering her time every week since the beginning of June. When the weather cooperates, Molly utilizes the outdoor recreation area so the kids can enjoy the added benefit of sunshine and fresh air during their deep breathing, guided meditation, and full body stretching techniques. This has been positively received and the youth regularly ask about when their next yoga session is going to be.

Ms. Thomas specializes in Trauma Sensitive Yoga so she is well-versed in how to keep the kids emotionally safe while engaging them in physical movement. She received her training from the Prison Yoga Project, which is a non-profit organization that promotes peace, health, and well-being of people in the criminal justice system. Molly is planning on continuing her amazing work with the kids on a regular basis and we can't thank her enough for her time and energy.





Guardian Guidance

Parenting Tip from Alexis!

"Talk with your teen about their concerns and pay attention to any changes in behavior. Ask them if they have had suicidal thoughts, particularly if they seems sad or depressed. Asking about suicidal thoughts will not cause them to have these thoughts, but it will let them know that you care about how their feeling. Seek professional help if necessary."

Guitar

"I believe every guitar player inherently has something unique about their playing. They just have to identify what makes them different and develop it." - Jimmy Page

Bryan Reichert is a guitar staff member from Baldwin Wallace College who is beyond musically talented! He has been giving our kids the opportunity to hear him play and to learn how to play themselves. Bryan has been working with the Cleveland Classical Guitar Society which is a non-profit arts organization that provides lessons for under-served populations. The society is committed to advancing the classical guitar through education, encouraging young artists, and presenting professional performances of the highest quality.



Mr. Reichert works with the children on a regular basis to build a foundation of knowledge while allowing the potential of each kid shine through. We are very appreciative of the time he has volunteered to our facility and we are humbled by his ability.

Citizen Excellence Council

What is a Citizen Excellence Council you might ask? Most organizations that have some type of citizen advisory board or committee call them just that. Well we have one too, we just happen to call ours by the Excellence moniker. It is comprised of individuals from our county who care about the future of our kids and support us in helping them. We meet six times each year to discuss how to best work with our youth to get them on the right path in life. The following are on our council:

- Judge Kevin Dunn Court..... Administrator Jennifer Moore
- Mr. Lou DeLoss..... Mr. Ray Fain
- Ms. Sharon Jaeger..... Chief Keith Keough
- Ms. Carole Kowell..... Magistrate Linda Leggett
- Ms. Brandy Miracle..... Mr. Dave Mueller
- Ms. Carrie Park..... Kristine Quallich, Ph.D.
- Mr. Paul Rocco..... Ms. Susan Vlcek

Ms. Sharon Danko..... Mr. Curtis Perkins
Mr. Chris Seiber..... Mari Halkovich, Ed.D.
Ms. Debbie Boehmke..... Ms. Bailey Ewing (former MCJDC officer)
Officer Kathy Scheiman..... Ms. Jaclyn Balliet

These fine people receive no compensation other than the satisfaction that they are making our community a better place and we are indebted to them for sacrificing their time and resources for our kids!



TeachRock

Every so often I have searched for ways to bring music into my classroom as a way to motivate students. Finally, I have found a great way to do this through the TeachRock curriculum (<https://teachrock.org>). The following is a quote from their website: *“TeachRock us an educational project focused on the history of Rock & Roll, the music that changed the*

world. TeachRock is the first curriculum to be rolled out nationally that explores the music and its world in this depth. Rock & Roll is experienced not only as a sound culture but as a cinematic and televisual culture, a literary culture, a fashion culture, a political culture, a dance culture, and more”.



Music is such a mainstay in our lives. It is constantly present whether in the background as we go about our daily routines, or at the forefront as we seek out the sounds that motivate us, calm us, comfort us, remind us, empower us, soothe our sorrows, and bring us joy. Music touches all of us. I recently attended a concert by Steven Van Zandt and his Disciples of Soul where he met with teachers in a workshop. He said, “No matter how book smart a student may seem or how alienated a child may feel when in academic situations, everyone is an expert on what their favorite music is or who their favorite artist is”. That struck a chord with me, which is why I have jumped into TeachRock for our kids.

The lessons in the curriculum allow students to explore how they feel about the sounds they hear. They challenge students to provide factual evidence from the materials presented to answer an essential question presented at the start of each lesson. Through the use of sound and video clips, photographs, historical and biographical information, and primary sources, students answer questions and consider opposing viewpoints.

So far this summer we have covered R&B Hits the Airwaves; Rise of the Girl Groups; Chuck Berry; Rock and Roll Goes to the Movies; Radio Before Rock and Roll; and Musical Roots of the Surf Sound. Students are challenged to dive deeper than just the music to consider cultural and social issues taking place during the ear of the day’s topic. They are interested, even eager, to get into the lessons.

Educational materials for TeachRock are provided free by the Rock and Roll Forever Foundation (they do accept donation to defray costs). I invite you to visit their website and learn more about this exciting new initiative taking place in my classroom. Let’s Rock and Roll!!

(Submitted by Teacher Jim Thomas)

Journal Therapy

“Therapeutic journaling is a powerful way to develop a relationship with your self; it is a different form of art.” - Alexis Lee LSW



A few years ago our Licensed Independent Social Worker explained journal therapy to me and requested permission to begin this with our kids. Permission granted!

So what is journal therapy? Well, it is pretty much just as it sounds – writing, or journaling for therapeutic benefits. Our youth are free to write/draw their innermost thoughts and feelings in

journals we provide them. They have privacy when writing, with the only individuals reading the journals being our mental health clinicians who then discuss with the youth what they have written to help them work through their problems. According to the Center for Journal Therapy, *"... writing therapy can help the writer to propel their personal growth, practice creative expression, and feel a sense of empowerment and control of the writer's life"*. Journal Therapy is just one of several approaches we take to support our kids.

Click here for past newsletters!

Have you missed a newsletter? We archive all of our newsletters on our website. Click the link to see previous issues!

Contact Us!

655 Independence Drive, Medina, Ohio 44256

Phone: 330-764-8408

Fax: 330-764-8412

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."

