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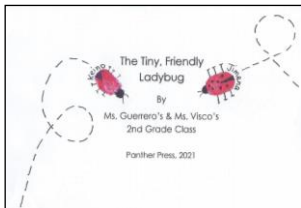
December 2021

Dear Community Arts Supporter,

Anderson Valley Arts (AVArts) has been dedicated to supporting arts in the Anderson Valley community through funding arts programs in our schools and awarding student scholarships since 1999. As a small, local non-profit which generates funding primarily through volunteer events and which is run entirely by volunteer members, AVArts depends on community participation and support to help us bring diverse, quality supplemental arts programs to Anderson Valley schools that would otherwise not be possible and to award scholarships to deserving students. With the generous involvement of many talented local artists, craftspeople, educators, businesses and donors, AVArts strives to reinforce community spirit and make the arts a more visible and important presence in our community.

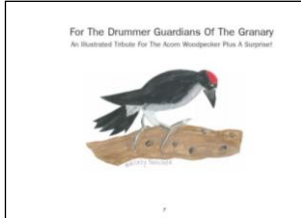
As AVArts funds school and community arts programs, events and scholarships which take place during the school year, we are sending out this annual update mid-school year to ask for your support by making a tax deductible donation. This past year, despite the continued impacts of COVID-19 on our lives, communities and schools, AVArts supported arts projects carried out at Anderson Valley Elementary School (AVES) and awarded scholarships for Anderson Valley Junior & Senior High School (AVJ&SHS) graduating seniors! This funding for arts in the schools and students continuing to make the arts part of their education beyond high school is made possible with the continued support of you our donors, the *Amy Ensign-Barstow Memorial Fund at the East Bay Community Foundation* and the *George and Ruth Bradford Foundation*.

**Arts in the Schools Program Grants**

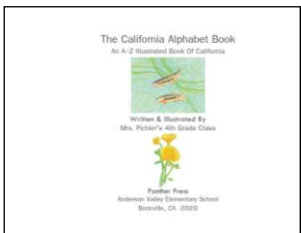


AVArts funded one significant year-long *Arts in the Schools Program* which supported an established partnership between K-6 teachers and artist/arts educator Cathleen Micheaels in carrying out hands on integrated arts projects via distance learning during the 2020-2021 school year:

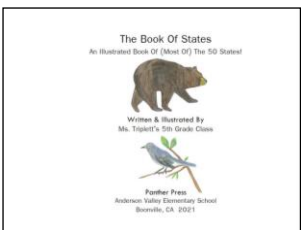
*Integrated Arts Across The Curriculum Through Distance Learning*



Enriching and extending grade level learning, the hands-on arts projects supported language arts and science and/or history through integrated literary arts (story or poetry writing) and visual arts (collage, printing, drawing, watercolor and illustration).



The October-June projects were as follows: Kindergarten *A-Z Alphabet Fruit & Vegetable Collage Shape Books*; 1st Grade *Hand Prints Storybooks*; 2nd Grade *Ladybug Finger/Thumb Prints Storybooks*; 3rd Grade *Bird Tribute Poems & Watercolor Illustrations Books*; 4th Grade *California Alphabet Poems & Watercolor Illustrations Books* (created to share with the Kindergartners); 5th Grade *State Poems & Watercolor Illustrations Books*; and 6th Grade *Butterfly & Frog Story Finger/Thumb Prints Storybooks* (created to share with the 1st graders).



Carried out via materials packets sent home and class Google Meet sessions, the projects provided students the opportunity to practice arts skills while bringing poems/stories and illustrations together first in “practice” books and then in “published” final individual or class books which in this year of on-screen learning were tangible, physical outcomes of all the effort and creativity students put into them and in which they took real pride.

**Arts Scholarships for Graduating Seniors/ Special Arts Related Scholarship Awards**

AVArts was delighted to award *Arts Scholarships for Graduating Seniors* to two entirely deserving AVJ&SHS seniors:

A \$4,500 scholarship to Shekina McEwen to support her attendance at the University of Southern California to pursue her studies in music and a \$2,500 scholarship to Gabriella Isabelle Kephart to support her attendance at the University of California, Santa Cruz to pursue studies in Human Biology while also continuing to explore the arts.

AVArts was extremely impressed with Shekina’s and Gabriella’s applications, academic achievements and their commitments to making the arts a vital part of their futures.

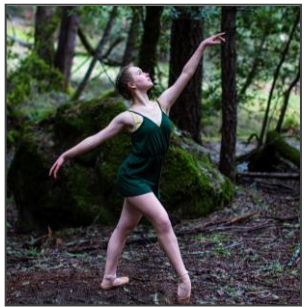
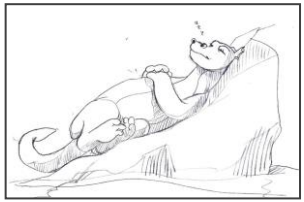
## News From Recent Arts Scholarships for Graduating Seniors Recipients



From **Julia Brock** (2017) – “After 3 years at Columbia College Hollywood, I graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Cinema with emphasis on video-editing and zero debt, thanks to the generous scholarships from AVArts & foundations alike. Since then, I have been living and working in Los Angeles as a freelance video editor for clients such as *Comic Con*, *USC*, *Dignity Health* & *The Sims*. It is so incredibly important to have foundations like AVArts supporting the artistic talents of our community because it can lead to a rewarding & exciting career where you wake up every day and do what you love!”



From **Cozette Ellis** (2018, right in photo) – “Illustration-related projects I've worked on over the past few years include as a design lead on the *Davis Political Review* and as the character designer for an automated-reality app about climate change in Lake Tahoe. I've been an illustrator for the UC Davis student-run political publication *Davis Political Review* since I was a freshman, helping produce 2 annual publications and illustrate over 30 articles. The climate change app will be released in Spring 2022—I designed the character of *Tahoe Tessie*, a cute cartoon reptile that will help show 3rd-6th graders how climate change affects ecosystems. This year I am also directing *Whole Earth Festival*, a zero-waste music festival centered around art, activism, sustainability, and community that has been happening Mother's Day weekend on the UC Davis quad for over 50 years. Over the course of 3 days and with a student staff of 40, *WEF* draws over 40,000 attendees. The festival has been online for the past 2 years, and I'm incredibly excited to bring it back in-person in 2022.”



From **Hannah Woolfenden** (2019, photo Rob Kunkle) – “Now in my junior year with the *Alonzo King Lines Ballet* Bachelor of Fine Arts degree program through Dominican University of CA, I'm inspired by the persistence of the performing arts as everything is beginning to head back to normal. After a year of outdoor performances and exploring the medium of dance film, my classmates and I are excitedly returning to our indoor home stage this Fall with new choreography created specifically for us. I find significant joy in the artistic opportunities found within everyday life as a dance major.”



From **Shekina McEwen** (2021, right in photo) – “Being at USC has been a challenging but exciting experience. As a Music Industry major I suddenly have had to become a sound engineer with knowledge in sound physics, a musician, and an entrepreneur all in one. My classes consist of sound engineering and business courses in the Music Industry, and reading—lots and lots of reading. I'm so grateful for all the experiences—the astounding professors I have who have worked with countless influential people in the Music Industry, and the friends I have met here who are also artists, musicians, producers just like myself. It's been a pleasure to be here and I can't wait to see what's in store for the next 3.5 years.”

## An Invitation to Support AVArts

We're reaching out to personally invite you, our core community arts supporters, to continue to help support us through making a tax deductible donation to AVArts and hope the exceptional arts programs and remarkable graduating seniors AVArts continues to support will inspire you to do so! Checks can be made out to Anderson Valley Arts and sent to us in the enclosed envelope. Thank you for supporting us in any way you are able to—your generous contributions are essential in helping AVArts continue to promote and support thriving arts experiences and opportunities for all students in our community!

Most appreciatively, Anderson Valley Arts

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