

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ARTS EVERY DAY AWARDS \$20,000 TO BALTIMORE CITY SCHOOLS FOR COMMUNITY ART



March 22, 2017 (Baltimore, MD) – Arts Every Day (AED) awards \$20,000 to five Baltimore City Public Schools to implement large scale arts projects that will have a long-term impact on their students and surrounding community. Projects include exterior murals at Cecil Elementary School, a garden design competition with refugee populations at Moravia Park Elementary, storm water advocacy projects at Hamilton Elementary/Middle School, interior mosaics at Gilmore Elementary, and a study of screen painting at Thomas Jefferson Elementary/Middle School. All Arts Every Day partner schools were invited to apply and the final five recipients were chosen by a committee of local art and design leaders in late February 2017.

Designed to serve high-need schools, the Arts Every Day Schools Program builds and sustains long-term partnerships with individual schools to ensure students have the opportunity to learn, grow, create and innovate through the arts during the school day. Partner schools receive teacher professional development, program support and funding for artist residencies, field trips, and arts-integrated programs. In spite of the state- and city-wide budget cuts to the Baltimore City Public School District, Arts Every Day continues to provide over \$185,000 in annual support to schools and principals who invest in arts education and arts integration.

In 2014 with support from Point Breeze Credit Union, AED launched Impact Fund to support large scale permanently installed projects that connect individual schools to local artists and their surrounding community. The initiative has grown from supporting one to two projects per year to a competitive funding opportunity open to the 40 Baltimore City Public Schools partnering with Arts Every Day. Thanks to the ongoing support of Point Breeze Credit Union, new support from the Dock Street Foundation, and a growing family of individual supporters, the Arts Every Day Impact Fund will support five projects in 2017.

In May 2017 there will be an updated press release with community work days and unveiling event dates. If reporters are interested in visiting schools for interviews, please contact Precious Blake at precious@artseveryday.org.

Impact Fund Projects for School Year 2017

Cecil Elementary School, *Exterior Mural*

Students will work with environmental graphic designer, Ronnie Younts of Younts Design Inc., and local muralist, Greg Gannon, to create a bright, colorful, abstract mural on the front of their school building. Designs will be voted on by local residents and community organizations. Principal Roxanne Forr will host a community work day and celebration for families and friends to participate in the creation of their exterior mural.

Gilmor Elementary School, *Let your Light Shine: Mosaic Murals*

Students, teachers, parents and community members from Sandtown Winchester will work with mosaic artist, Sue Stockman, to create an auditorium wall mural with recycled glass with the uplifting theme of “Let Your Light Shine”. The school auditorium serves as a community space for New Bethlehem Baptist Church, Maryland Food Bank and Lillian S. Jones Recreation Center.

Hamilton Elementary Middle School, *Storm Drain Designs: Educating through Art*

The 5th grade class will learn about storm water systems and how trash in storm drains impacts the Chesapeake Bay. Students will design and paint a horizontal mural to surround the storm drain in the blacktop space that students use for recess on a daily basis.

Moravia Park Elementary School, *Garden Design Challenge*

ESOL students will learn about garden design from Seth Wheeler of NorthWind Energy & Earthworks and participate in a school wide design competition. The raised garden beds will be built, planted and unveiled at the annual family multicultural night in late May.

Thomas Jefferson Elementary School, *Where Does Our Food Come From? Screen Painting*

First and second graders will work with master screen painter, John Lampieri, to create large screen paintings for their cafeteria—exploring topics from their International Baccalaureate World School unites of Healthy, Wealthy and Wise. During Lampieri’s residency, families and community members will assist students with transferring their designs onto the screens.

About Arts Every Day

Arts Every Day (AED) is proud to be a driving force in building and sustaining a Baltimore City that values public education through creativity, art, and culture. A 501(c) 3 founded in 2006 as one in only eight organizations originally funded by the Ford Foundation, AED works to ensure all Baltimore City Public Schools students have access to the arts every day through arts education, arts programming, and arts-integrated instruction. Arts Every Day works toward this goal through the forging of partnerships with schools and the arts and cultural community over the long-term to inspire lasting change.

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