

**Arts4All Florida
Student of the Month
April 2020**



13-year-old **Jim Poole** was nominated by Ann Paris, his music teacher at Buddy Taylor Middle School in Palm Coast, Florida.

“Jim is excited to be his best every day in class which, for a middle school student, is sometimes unusual!” Ms. Paris shares with enthusiasm and awe, “He will sight read correctly when nobody else is singing the right notes!” Without a doubt, her nomination comes with pride as she watched this young man grow and develop from illegible writing skills to keeping a well-organized notebook in just the two short years she’s had him in class.

Jim recently auditioned and was selected for Festival Chorus. Not only is he an excellent singer and musician but has mastered choreography as well. Jim has autism, and with his own musical talent along with a supportive parent, he and his father recently created a top-notch video.

Jim looks forward to his weekly volunteer job feeding people at the homeless shelter and participates in his family business as well as his church. With so much good will and “that lovely voice”, Ms. Paris writes, “he very much deserves this award!”



16-year-old **Jorge Cabrera** was nominated by Janell Alzate from Ace Academy, a private school in Miami, Florida for students with disabilities, where he attends classes. Ms. Alzate shares with Arts4All Florida in her recent nomination, “Jorge is a self-taught artist. Despite our school not having a visual arts teacher Jorge has thrived and researched on his own how to create meaningful works of art.”

Jorge is well known around campus as an art enthusiast and classroom assistant for anyone that needs his help that he’s so willing to share. The instructors know that if they need help with even general classroom tasks, they can call on this generous young man. Jorge develops artwork for flyers, newsletters and even painted murals! After all his core studies are complete each day, Jorge can be found reading books about artists and researching their art techniques to apply to his own pieces of work. Ms. Alzate believes that his love of art, “has made it possible for him to progress in other areas of his academic and social life.”

Beautifully stated by Alzate, “[Jorge’s] ability to create beautiful paintings from his own curiosity and exploration undeterred by his disability makes him stand out in the visual arts not only in our school but in the general community as well”. Arts4All Florida couldn’t agree more!