

Arts4All Florida
Student of the Month
May 2022



11-year-old, **Erin Baumann**, was nominated by Mrs. Marsha Rockhill, Art Teacher at St. Andrew’s School in Panama City. She writes, “as Erin’s music and art teacher I know the challenges and hardships all Bay County and the world’s students have undergone during these last years of the Covid-19 pandemic. Yet, Erin has succeeded in blending her perseverance, talent, and healing into the artful truth of art therapy...Her greatest gift is caring for others and she especially loves to share her art with fellow students, the community, and our Veterans.”

Arts4All Florida was pleased to learn how much of an excellent student Erin is both in the art classroom and beyond. “Erin is an outstanding young artist and a student who strives to express herself through her visual observations of life and her innate talents.” – Mrs. Rockhill. Erin is an aspiring visual artist who has won awards locally within her county and the broader state of Florida. Some of her pieces have been displayed at the Sheraton Hotel in a county art exhibit as well as the banner she created for Panama City’s Youth Art Month, as seen in the image above. Erin competed with middle and high school students for a Wonderworks art exhibit and won.

Hers is one of the 10 pieces that have been selected to be displayed all year long. She has worked an arts event with the Audubon Society of Bay County and has even exhibited a penguin art project at Panama City Hall. Beyond visual arts, Erin regularly participates in her school’s music festivals and holiday shows. “Always willing to help and pitch in to help others, Erin is an example of a well-rounded student and a lovely young lady who cares and wants to make a difference in people’s lives and in the world.” – Mrs. Rockhill.



22-year-old, **Malachi Richards**, was nominated by Lori Savage Grayson, Director at Children’s Communication Center, Inc. in Tallahassee. She writes, “[Malachi] is a wonderful young man who is interested in the arts and strives to better himself through his educational and community opportunities, as well as expanding and improving his communication skills.”

Arts4All Florida was impressed by Malachi’s 2019 *Me and My Mask* collage self-portrait. As seen in the accompanying image, the young artist layers a variety of media in his work as well as symbolic use of patterns and objects. At center the artist is shown removing a Black Panther like mask as he gazes directly at the viewer. His attention to detail is evident in the soft shading of the subject’s face and the ornamentation on the mask he removes. Malachi is currently completing his second year of Digital Media/Multimedia Design coursework at Lively Technical College where he will gain experience in digital photography, web page design, digital video editing, and presentation development. Lori shared that “his work was accepted for the Leon County Artists & Autism: Celebrating Neurodiversity Art Exhibit where his art is displayed at Able Artists gallery.” Malachi continues to create original artworks which will certainly evolve as the young artists gains new experiences.