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Arts4All Florida
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**Seminole County Student Named
Arts4All Florida September 2019 Student of the Month**

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Arts4All Florida is pleased to announce 18-year-old Ryan Sleboda as one of their September 2019 Students of the Month, the first of the 2019-2020 school year. Ryan was nominated by Evan Starcher, the Dean of Students and instructor at Pace Brantley School in Longwood, Florida for his outstanding work in TV Productions as well as a host of other arts-based accolades. Mr. Starcher writes, "Ryan has not only created the project on the *History of Pace Brantley*, but he also serves as our lead anchor on our daily morning announcements. He has created numerous visually appealing segments for the program that are shared with the students and staff daily. His technical skills with the programs that we use in TV Productions are a true work of art."

The *History of Pace Brantley*, was written, directed, filmed and narrated by Ryan and is an in-depth documentary about his school, why it was created and the potential future for this iconic educational site for students with specific learning disabilities to learn and develop. "His finished product and dedication to the artistic process is well deserving of recognition beyond the classroom", Mr. Starcher explicates.

Ryan is a senior at Pace Brantley School where he is Senior Class President, enjoys his academics and maintains high grades, friendships and participates in the Running Club. He volunteers, advocates and has presented to his brother's Boy Scout troop about autism and share what it's like to live with a disability, as part of a merit badge program.

Ryan was also nominated by Andrea Piazza, choreographer and dancer for Chance2Dance, a special needs program in Central Florida. Ryan has been dancing with the Chance2Dance Performance Team for two years and they recently completed an outstanding music video in which he was the title character, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a4MFI3A7Wlg>. "Ryan is an exceptionally talented young man who works to promote the success of people with disabilities", Piazza shares, "[He] took the initiative to learn ways of communicating with his dance partner with hearing loss so that they could work better together."

In 2019, Ryan held internships at the Central Florida Zoo and Pet Alliance through Vocational Rehabilitation, with a career goal of working with animals. He hopes to attend Beacon College in the fall of 2020 to seek a degree in Anthrozoology, the study of human and animal relationships.

Arts4All Florida looks forward to recognizing Ryan and presenting him with a personalized trophy at an awards ceremony in the coming weeks. The Arts4All Florida Student of the Month Program is designed to increase public awareness and recognize the impact arts make on





students with disabilities statewide. Students who participate in the arts develop creativity, have increased self-confidence, understand teamwork, have increased language and math skills and are generally more engaged. For more information about the Student of the Month program and others, please visit www.arts4allflorida.org.

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