

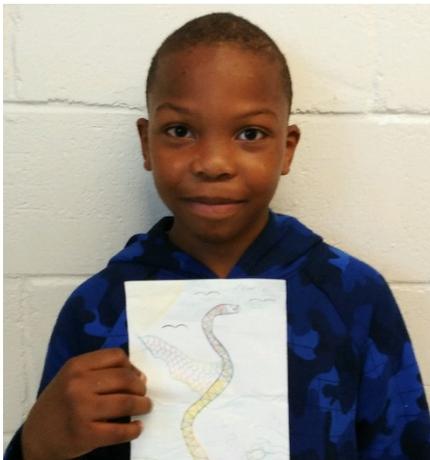
**Arts4All Florida
Student of the Month
December, 2020**



18-year-old **Ethan Bergner** was nominated by teacher Colleen Tenfelde of the Lee County Project Search program in Ft. Meyers, FL. Ms. Tenfelde writes, “Although Ethan has autism, he is very conscious about his future goals, his surroundings and his educational path. He’s a very special young man who works very hard, communicates well with others, makes friends easily, asks and answers questions and does so much more!”

Ethan started drawing when he was 7 or 8 years old. At first, he began drawing just stick figures and cars, but over the years, he has added details to the stick figures to create images of people. He then began to add even more details such as clothing and soon began to add scenes or settings. Eventually he started using Legos to replicate different scenes from movies that he has watched, and used characters from Roblox, an online game platform and game

creation system that allows users to program and play games created by other users. Ethan systematically uses this program to create his Lego pieces. He also creates movie scenes and images by using his imagination influenced by what he watches on TV, in movies or in video games. Ms. Tenfelde adds, “Ethan loves drawing and creating, and he says it helps him when he is stressed or coping with something, but he generally just truly loves using his hands to create art.”



10-year-old **Maurice Greene** was nominated by teacher Patti Commerford of the Reddick-Collier Elementary School in Reddick, Florida. Ms. Commerford writes, “Maurice is a creative, imaginative artist. His colors make the magical dragons that he creates stand out. With no help or guidance during the COVID shutdown, he has continued on his own to work on his art, mostly colored pencil drawings, and they are wonderful!”

Maurice does not interact with many others, primarily because of COVID. Because he has struggled in the past with behavioral issues, as a new student at Reddick-Collier School, it is hoped that a fresh start will enable him to use his artistic talent to improve in every way. Ms. Commerford

goes on to say, “Maurice has been terrific in art so far: friendly, cooperative, helpful with cleaning up, and he has tried hard to learn the watercolor and drawing techniques that I am teaching. I want to encourage and support his talent as art is the biggest success that he experiences at school.”