STUDIO BLUE NEWS

NEWS FROM UNIT I...

Since its beginning, in September 2016, Studio Blue in Unit I has been developing a unique identity and the process has been a pretty exciting. Our furniture project is gaining popularity with everyone. Earlier in the year, the County Executive's office put out a "Call for Furniture" to all county employees asking for furniture donations for Shuman Center residents to paint. We received over 25 calls and responded to all with weekend pickups with Construction Junction who is collaborating with us to keep this project going offering their truck and manpower to help. Studio Blue received many interesting wood pieces for painting. Construction Junction will sell the repainted furniture as well as furniture received in good condition in their resale store with all proceeds covering our many studio needs.





Great Job! To all of you who have been part of safely shaping Studio Blue.

Ms. Florida

STUDIO BLUE

Shuman Center Will Be at 3 Rivers Arts Festival June 5-9th 11am - 7pm

(unner level by the Windham Hotel)

We will be collaborating with Construction Junction!

The furniture pieces we display at 3-Rivers Arts Festival are examples that will be forwarded to designated non-profit resale shops once the fair is over. Our purpose at the festival is to advocate for the importance of the arts as a therapeutic intervention in meeting the rehabilitative needs of at risk youth. We are bringing our efforts publicly since juvenile detention has traditionally been a closet issue as far as involving the general public in the rehabilitative process...we are believing in public support! Attendance at the festival is estimated to be 400,000!!!







Volume I Issue 2 Spring 2017

Notable Staff Artists * * *

Yeah to Ms. Hawkins and Ms. George !!!

For their art contributions over the years!

Guess what we sold our painted furniture for !!!

* Buffet or dresser??? It was a mystery that came to us in worthless condition but after we painted it sold for \$85



* Our painted table with cool art phrases sold for \$35.00...this was a real sad case when to the studio for help!



* Our 1950's buffet was a real challenge... sold for \$50! Perfect example of trash to treasures!

We will proudly display our finished furniture at 3-Rivers Arts Festival & solicit the patrons for furniture donations offering purchase of our finished pieces through Construction Junction and Habitat for Humanity.

Volume I Issue 2 Spring 2017

Reflections

BECOME A STUDIO BLUE AMBASSADOR

Thank you to Studio Blue Ambassadors

Kim A. Devon J. Racquel S. Emma F. John H. Tywuan R.

Taymon D. Robin H. Natasha R.

Danielle G. Travon P. Tyrek S. Zakire G. Laguay R. Roger T.







Newly Finished Furniture!





Remember all those posters that you helped color??? Well they are now being viewed by hundreds of people in the Pittsburgh area. We have 2 more posters on the rear of Port Authority buses traveling the Pittsburgh Area leaving the East Liberty garage daily. Here are 3 out of 12 we will place throughout this year!







Spectrum Charter School, Monroeville Gifted & Conceptualized by Lindsey G. Former Resident of

SHUMAN JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER Sponsored by The Pittsburgh Foundation

A Project of Florida Recy*cl*eD & Allegheny County Shuman Juvenile Detention Center Supported by The National Partnership for Juvenile Services and The Juvenile Detention Centers and Alternative Programs



STUDIO BLUE REFLECTIONS...

IN YOUR OWN WORDS

Painting in Unit I gives me something important to do to keep my mind off the negative in my life. I am getting more experience painting detail and did not know I could blend colors so well. I am one of Ms. Florida's best detail painters and one of the best in Shuman. I painted 4 pieces of furniture for Ms. Florida. When I am in Unit I, I don't feel like a juvenile delinquent whether its painting, singing or laughing. I get to be myself and feel like a regular person who just made a mistake making it through the struggle. Robin H.

When I come down here I am not Judged by my mistakes. It makes me feel safe when I come down. I change my whole personality. Miss. Florida is a good listener. *Mysa M.*

Paining releases stress and takes the bad off my mind. I get to be myself and don't worry about other people. I don't think I'm a juvenile delinquent when I'm in Unit I. I feel like a normal person that made a mistake. I am not called bad things. I can be myself when I'm expressing myself while painting. I liked typing this in the newsletter. Kira G.

I love working with Miss Florida, she helped me find a new coping skill that I can always go to if I'm in a bad place in my life or in my head when I'm struggling with my anxiety and depression. She also made me realize how much talent I have and the potential I hold to improve and work on being a very good detail painter. Coming to Shuman I feel as if everything happens for a reason, I met miss Florida and now have a new passion and hopes for the future.

-Emma F.

One Resident's Comments:

"Once we leave detention we start all over to prove ourselves in next placement. There are no programs that help us use what we learned in Shuman Center and build on that. Working with Ms. Florida on the same kind of projects while I am in placement or house arrest will help me stay out of trouble and build on the skills I am learning as well as keep the confidence in myself so as a free person I can change my life." Xavian G. 4/15/17

I like art because it helps me calm my mind and relieves stress and helps me clear my mind and get me through the day. I like any type of project and anything I can get my mind to. I am good when I put my mind to it. Art is important to me because without art we won't have nothing and it's that we have art because we can see different things and picture it in a different way. Tyrek S.



I started the poster for the bus. I thought it was really nice poster. I wanted to be a part and put my own flavor in making the poster so I asked to help. At first I asked Ms. Florida how exactly she wanted me to shade in the picture and I began to do so. The poster incorporated so many colors and details. When its finished its gonna look amazing. I remember working on the first one that had the big brown tree, different color birds and flowers. If only that place could be a real place. That's how I look at art as an escape. My own place of imagination, that's why I like it so much. Roger T.

Hi, My name is Kim A. and this is my story. When I first met Ms. Florida in the year of 2011, I was so young and had not quite found myself yet ... I started working on little things when I was 11 ... like drawing or sketching cartoon characters... I felt like sketching stuff with her made me realize that I could do a lot more... and I was a lot more talented than I thought I was... After a while of drawing and sketching I started putting color in my work and I knew stuff about color that most adults don't know ... it was exciting actually. Ms. Florida helped me realize art is not just about throwing colors around, it's about how you feel and what you feel that makes a picture a picture... but anyway when I got a bit older I started to learn how to paint... I experiemented a few times on water color which wasn't bad but my true determination is to be a great acrylic painter... Over the years I've experimented on workshop sculpting, water painting, acrylic painting even clay I've done a lot but there is just something about art that keeps me wanting to know more. I guess it's my motivation in life because I know I can be successful. I'm smart, talented and I'm artistic. I know I can do something big and be someone big with the help of Ms. Florida and the rest of my support system. Kim A.

Don't let what's on the outside break what's on the inside. I like painting. it has brought a lot out of me that i did not know was there. It relieves anxiety and stress and help me concentrate. I found out I was good at it. the best part for me is painting the whole thong and the detail. Sanding is not my favorite it requires hard work but I know I will get to paint what I sand so it's worth it. My mind runs wild with big ideas of what I want to paint. Ms. Florida listens to my ideas and tells me they are good and we do them....some of them anyway. Anonymous

"Play Ball"

Not long ago all Shuman staff
Used to play a game of ball
Their minds were good, their speed were fast
And they dreamed of that famous hall.

And they answered a different way

Still in their hearts often wonders

If they'd played in the League after all.

Sometimes it makes us curious
If we'd gone a different route...
What would have life given us?
In their heart there rests a doubt.

But those Shuman staff grew big and strong
On a different team you play
But now you're still hitting free-throws
In a very special way

You touch the lives of many kids You teach them how to play, To field the choices life gives them, To live life day by day.

You're surely in the Big Leagues
Of that there's little doubt
You're in the Biggest League of all...
Keeping kids from fouling out!

So dream on "Shuman" players
But remember after allThe "Master" may mean many things
When he says to us "Play Ball".

-Earl Hill