

GES Art Students Learn from the Masters



Photo by Martha Liberto

First graders Reagan Vreeland and Kaleb Herod create a collage inspired by the work of French artist Henri Matisse.

By Lynne Marascalco
GES Librarian

Kindergarten and first grade students at Grenada Elementary School are studying art history. Under the instruction of Art Teacher Martha Liberto, the students began the year with a lesson on the cave paintings of Lascaux, France. With their newly installed interactive whiteboard, they were able to take a virtual tour of the cave, which is no longer open to the public. The students created their own "cave art" including bison, deer, and bulls.

Later, their studies moved on to the Egyptians and hieroglyphics, and the students learned to write their name in hieroglyphics and decipher words into English. Liberto explains, "Learning that symbols have meaning in various cultures and art is important for this age group of emergent readers and writers."

As the students moved into the Renaissance, the classes did an in-depth study of "The Mona Lisa" and "The Last Supper." Liberto states, "Da Vinci

is always a favorite of the children, because he was not just an artist, but a scientist and inventor. They love hearing about the flying machines and other inventions that he sketched in his notebooks. We look at his drawings, trying to decide if the machines would have worked. That is one great thing about the fine arts, they are great for promoting critical thinking skills."

As the year progressed the students studied various Impressionist painters like

Seurat and Monet, then painted a fall tree composed of dots. With their Starboard, the classes were able to view Monet's actual garden that inspired the many paintings entitled "Waterlilies."

In their final semester, students are focusing on the more modern movements such as Op Art, which uses optical illusions, and Pop Art like that of Andy Warhol. According to Liberto, "Pop Art is one of their favorite lessons. The students love Warhol's "Campbell's Soup Cans." We read children's literature written by Warhol's nephew. The students never forget the funny details like Warhol had twenty cats named Sam."

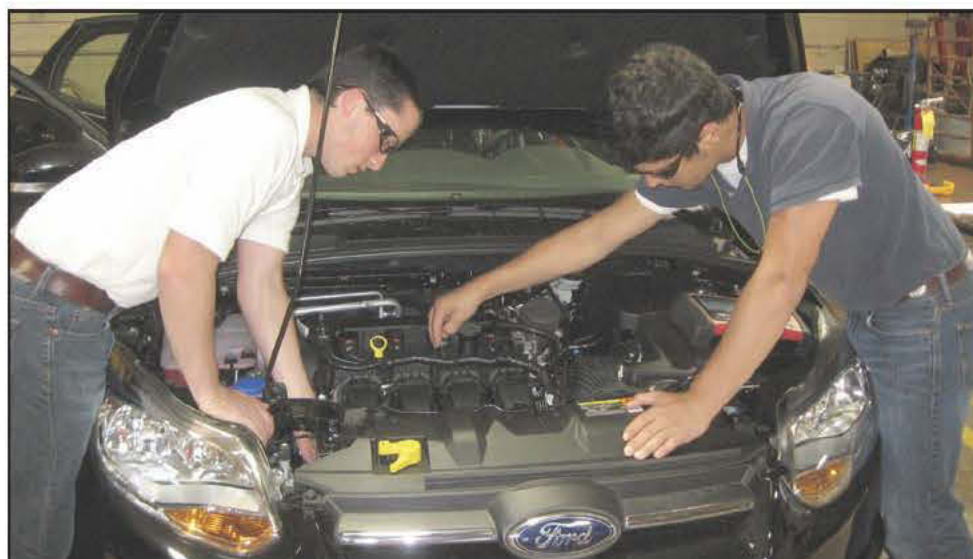
As the year draws to a close, the classes will continue to study modern art by Matisse and Picasso. Liberto points out, "We are so fortunate to have a school district that realizes the importance of the fine arts in education. The arts are such an important factor in developing well-rounded learners. In an era where the arts are often cut because of financial constraints, Grenada's students continue to benefit from strong art and music programs."

GES Kindergarten Student Wins First Place at Regional Reading Fair



Leah Briscoe, first place winner at the GES Reading Fair held in November, also won first place at the Regional Fair held at Delta State University in February. Leah's project focused on the book "Pinkalicious" and she also dressed the part. Congratulations to Leah who will compete at the State Level Reading Fair in May.

Ford/AAA Student Auto Skills Contest



Clayton Walls and Lane Tillman practice their skills for the Mississippi Ford/AAA Student Auto Skills Contest.

By: Ricky Jones
Automotive Instructor

Congratulations to Clayton Walls and McKenzie (Lane) Tillman, students at Grenada Career & Technical Center, who will be competing in the 2013 Mississippi Ford/AAA Student Auto Skills Contest. After competing in the online exam, Clayton and Lane are among the top ten teams in Mississippi who won the right to go to the Hands-On portion of the contest to be held Tuesday, April 16, 2013, at the Mississippi State Fairgrounds in Jackson.

The team will work on a 2013 Ford Focus SE 4 door car that has 10 defects (bugs). The bugs can include blown fuses, wiring harness defects, bad relays,

or defective parts. They will have one hour and thirty minutes to find and correct as many bugs as possible and road test the car to final judging. The winning two-person team from each state is recognized with scholarships, tools, and awards. Along with their instructor, they are also provided an expense-paid trip to the national finals at the Ford Motor Company Headquarters in Dearborn, Michigan.

This competition complements other Ford and AAA efforts to promote careers in the automotive field. Mr. Ricky Jones, automotive instructor, would like to offer a special thank you to Kirk Auto World for allowing us to use a car for practice.

GHS Baseball pitcher Wes Moore winds up for a fastball pitch...



Photo by Kristi Bell

