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Atlantic City one mural away from 100

Arts Foundation, Mighty Writers unveil latest efforts to brighten resort

SELENA VAZOUEZ Staff Writer

ATLANTIC CITY — City resident Irene Scott said she had a lot of fun painting her first public art piece outside Cali's Grocery Store alongside two professional artists and the rest of the kids in her Mighty Writers Atlantic City group.

Little did the local children know they were not only learning skills that would make them better writers, but also contributing to the city's arts history.

In collaboration with the Atlantic City Arts Foundation, more than 60 local youth painted the foundation's 98th and 99th murals alongside artists Chanelle René and Manuela Guillén.

"Working together with Mighty Writers on this project is the type of community engagement which is essential to ACAF's mission," said Monica Casiello, the Arts Foundation's board president. "The children in the program can see and know that they have made a positive difference in their community through this mural with its vibrant colors and powerful message. The artists, sharing their time and talent, become good role models."

The murals are located on the side Avenue in the city's Chelsea neighborhood, down the street from the 15 N. California Ave. Mighty Writers

"It's very nice to be included and ter choices. working with the Atlantic City Arts Foundation," said Tom Sykes, senior skills, vocab, punctuation ... skills director of Mighty Writers Atlantic that everyone should have," said City, at the unveiling for the two Adrian Castro, 14.



MATTHEW STRABUK PHOTOS, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Atlantic City Arts Foundation hosted an unveiling ceremony Wednesday for two murals at Cali's Grocery Store created with the help of two local artists and youth from Mighty Writers Atlantic City.

murals Wednesday. "Growing up in Atlantic City, seeing how many murals are popping up here, it's just a beautiful way to bring some new expression to the city. And to have the children get involved with that was really awesome. A lot of them didn't even know what a mural was."

Mighty Writers is a nonprofit that of Cali's General Store on Atlantic seeks to help youth think clearly and write with clarity. The organization provides children with a safe space to learn to write better and develop skills that will help them make bet-

"It teaches me great grammar

The program also addresses community needs by helping combat food insecurity with weekly food distributions at Stanley Holmes Village and Weekes Memorial Park.

"Not every kid is going to be a writer," said Sykes. "So it was also interesting for the kids to see people paint for a living. It was good exposure. Not many people realize even adults — that these people were professional artists who were making a living creating art."

That allowed the youth to feel empowered, said Guillén.

"I wanted them to feel like their voice actually has a purpose. So one conversation about them wanting

Stocks of Local Interest

Mother Earth and just embracing nature led to this piece," she said. "I want them to know that they could potentially make a living off of this, make art that's impactful and meaningful. And sometimes you get to work with really cool clients."

It took the artists about three weeks to complete the murals.

René and the Mighty Writers 609-272-7225 painted a pastel mural with pops of bright color titled "You Make the World a Better Place."

The students helped both artists with quotes, brainstorming ideas more green spaces, appreciating and sketches. The pros melded

"I wanted them to feel like their voice actually has a purpose. So one conversation about them wanting more green spaces, appreciating Mother Earth and just embracing nature led to this piece. I want them to know that they could potentially make a living off of this, make art that's impactful and meaningful. And sometimes you get to work with really cool clients."

Manuela Guillén, Philadelphiabased artist, on working with the chilren of the Mighty Writers group

their ideas with those of the youths to create a collective vision for the murals.

"I like to draw, so this taught me a lot of different techniques, strokes, but it also helped me get better at communicating with people and being positive," said Castro. "I've made a lot of friends here. We get to hang out, do activities and be together. So this makes me look forward to having the best summer you can possibly have."

Contact Selena Vazquez:

svazquez@pressofac.com

Meanwhile, Guillén and the other youth painted "Green Voices, Green Choices."

The students helped both artists

ON VIEW: For more photos from the mural unveiling, point your smartphone camera at

the QR code, then tap the link.

10 Most Active: NYSE

Interestrates 10-year Treasury note fell to 4.19% Friday. Yields affect rates on mortga

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TREASURIES LAST PVS CHG

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	Money market account	0.48 -	0.48	0.47	0.48
s	1 year CD	2.61 ▼	2.62	2.62	2.64
_	\$30K Home equity loan	9.38 -	9.38	9.47	9.89
	30 year fixed mortgage	7.20 ▼	7.33	7.25	7.02
	15 year fixed mortgage	6.67 ▼	6.88	6.71	6.39

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Meta Platforms Inc 274.38 → 542.81 498.87 -13.83 -2.7 +40.9 +82.2 2.00 LucidGrp LCID 4.25 +1.32 8.37 2	
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CRUDE OIL \$82.21 -.41



GOLD **\$2,414.00** -1.00



OF ATLANTIC CITY

(USPS 712-440) Published daily by The Press of Atlantic City, Cornerstone Building, 1201 New Road, Suite 240, Linwood, N.J. 08221

Postmaster: Send address changes to The Press of Atlantic City, PO Box 2795, Mechanicsville, VA 23116 Periodical postage paid Linwood, NJ, and at additional mailing offices.

Circulation subscription payments: The Press of Atlantic City, PO Box 2795, Mechanicsville, VA 23116.

Executive Editor: W.F. Keough Advertising: Kellie Myers-Panter, Vice President of Sales

TO CONTACT THE PRESS Home Delivery: To subscribe, or

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Pick 4 7535(5) Cash 5...... 04-06-17-22-42(x2) Pick 6...... 08-11-25-29-30-46 Pick 6 Double Play..... 02-11-15-16-36-42 Cash4Life 05-14-31-42-52 Cash Ball 02 Friday Pick 3..... 901(8) (day) Pick 4 4036(8) (day) **New Jersey information:**

Mon.-Fri., 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

PENNSYLVANIA Thursday night

Pick 2..... 07 Pick 3...... 694 Pick 4 1530 Pick 5..... 63286 Cash5...... 04-05-25-37-42 Match6..... 28-29-30-32-35-44

Friday Pick 2...... 24 (day) Pick 3..... 894 (day) Pick 4 4990 (day) Pick 5..... 69114 (day) Treasure Hunt 02-04-09-17-19 **Pennsylvania information:**

DELAWARE Thursday night

Play Three...... 266 Play Four...... 2674 Multi-Win Lotto 03-10-11-21-31-35 Friday Play Three 314 (day) Play Four...... 4816 (day) **Delaware information:** www.delottery.com

All results are unofficial. Contact ticket agent for

www.palottery.state.pa.us

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The Press of Atlantic City (USPS: 712440), a Lee Enterprises Newspaper, is published Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays at 1201 NEW RD STE 240, LINWOOD, NJ 08221. Periodicals Postage Paid at Egg Harbor Township, NJ, and at additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to PO BOX 2795, MECHANICSVILLE, VA 23116.

Press of Atlantic City is a Lee Enterprises Newspaper and is published online daily, and three days per week in print (Tuesday, Thursday and

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