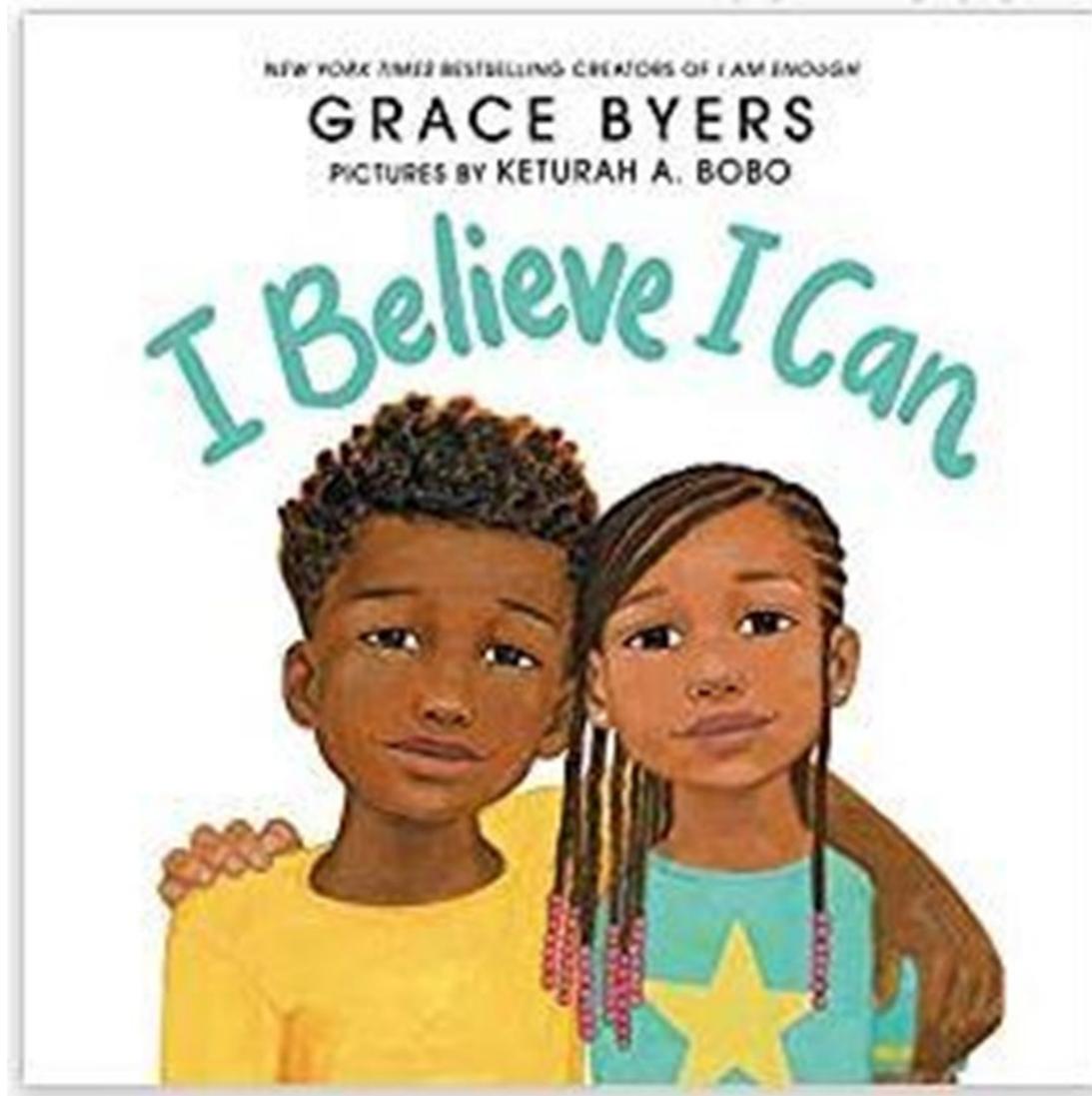


All Kids Included (AKI) District-Wide Student Visual Art competition 2021 Virtual Awards Ceremony



The All Kids Included – Accessible Art Experiences for Kids (AKI) initiative was developed by the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs in 2006 and is made possible with the support of the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs and the Cultural Affairs Council, the Miami-Dade County Mayor and Board of County Commissioners, and in part through grant funding provided by The Children's Trust. The Children's Trust is a dedicated source of revenue established by voter referendum to improve the lives of children and families in Miami-Dade County.



The theme for the 2021 AKI district-wide student visual art contest was inspired by the book, *I believe I Can* by Grace Byers, illustrated by Keturah A. Bobo.

I Believe I Can is an affirmation for boys and girls of every background and ability to love and believe in themselves. The poetic text and beautiful illustrations are an uplifting tribute to the limitless potential of all boys and girls to dream big and achieve their full potential. Student artists should read the book for inspiration and depict the themes of diversity, inclusion and empowerment.



Pre-K

Honorable Mention

I Am Not Afraid of Lightnings or Swimming

Artist: Yan L.

Grade: Pre-K

Age: 4

School: Children's Creative Learning Center

Artist Statement:

I used to be afraid of lightnings and swimming. With my friends and their belief in me, I can sleep by myself on those nights of storms and lightnings. I even imagine myself climbing up on lightnings as ladders with my flying cape, so I can control them to avoid hurting some people or some animals. Also, I can put myself in a deep water with a lovely green bird watching me and ready to rescue me. I believe I can swim in a pool or even in the ocean very soon.





3rd Place



The Magic Power Will Come True

Artist: Victoria X.

Grade: Pre-K

Age: 4

School: KLA School Kendall

Art Teacher: Shen Dong

Artist Statement:

I can design the house and plant the flowers, just like the fairies who have the magic power within full of imagination. I believe I can be an artist and I put a lot of effort.

2nd Place



I Believe I Can Be A Mermaid

Artist: Zeinab E.

Grade: Pre-K 4

Age: 5

School: Brickell Height Preschool

Artist Statement:

I believe I can swim like a mermaid and take care of sea animals.





1st Place



I Will Be A Unicorn Vet

Artist: Kayla D.

Grade: Pre-K 4

Age: 4

School: Montessori Learning
Center

Artist Statement:

*I love unicorns, I want to take care
of them so they continue
spreading magic to all children.*



Elementary School



Honorable Mention

Protesting for Peace

Artist: Micah L.

Grade: 4th

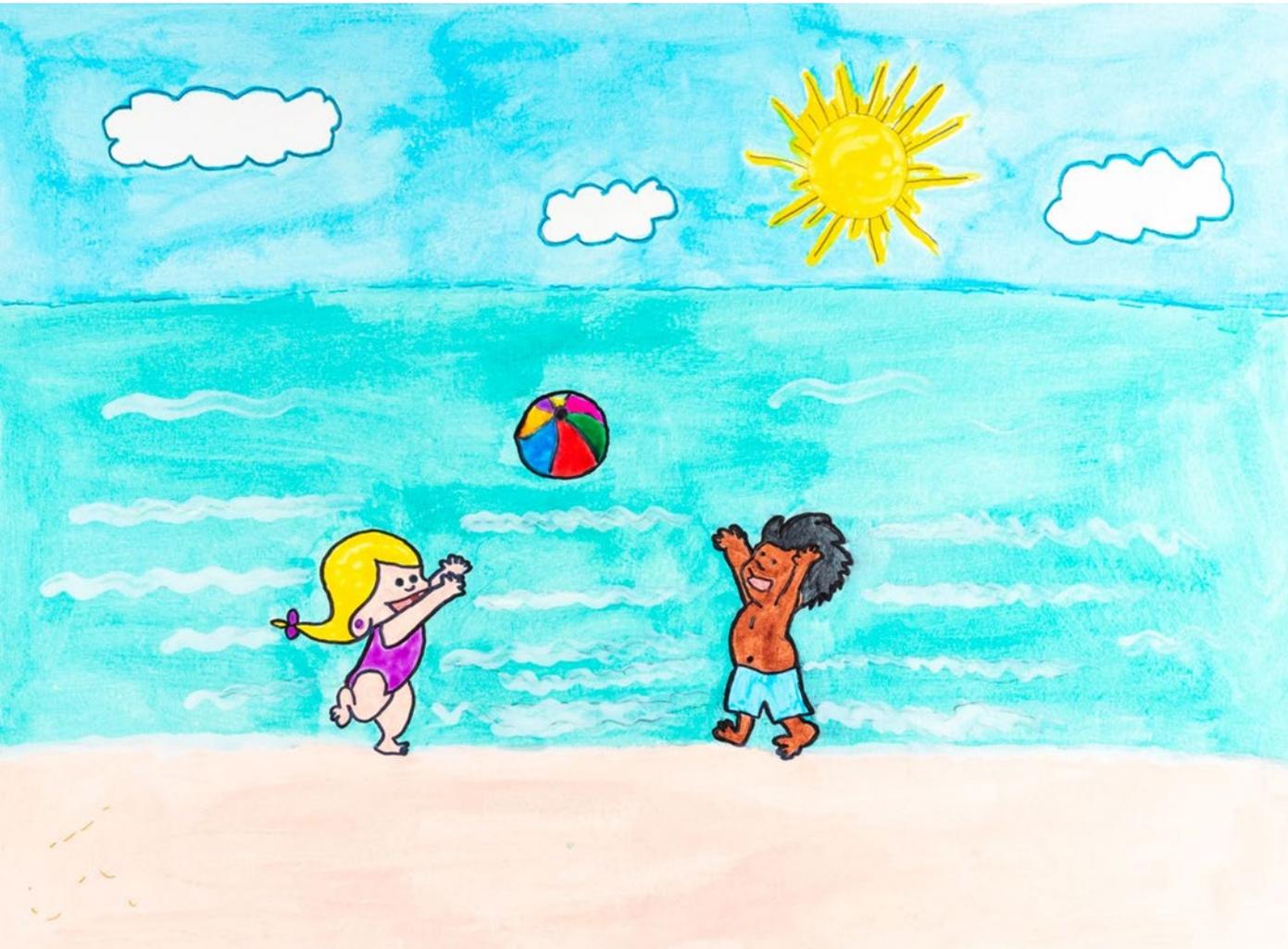
Age: 9

School: David Lawrence Jr K8
Center

Artist Statement:

*I believe everybody can
respect other people.*

Honorable Mention



Not Divide, Just Recognize

Artist: Analia A.

Grade: 5th

Age: 11

School: Advanced Achievers Academy

Art Teacher: Hazel Arroyo

Artist Statement:

I chose to paint this because everyone matters, no one is different, we are all same just different personalities. We breath the same air. We are all the same. STOP bullying! This art is about a little girl and little boy playing together, if you notice the girl has white skin, the boy is colored no matter what everyone here is a person with feelings. If you can't see that then please keep your idea and thoughts to yourself. This Earth is for people to be nice, not to be toxic. We need to change our abilities not looks, we all are beautiful no matter what looks don't matter, expressions do. Love yourself, don't be afraid to show it.

Honorable Mention

Together Forever

Artist: Emely C.

Grade: 5th

Age: 11

School: Advanced Achievers Academy

Art Teacher: Hazel Arroyo

Artist Statement:

I wanted my art to represent equality and unity. I wanted to include children with different backgrounds. And show that everyone might seem different in many ways but we are all equal. I also wanted my art to show uniqueness in every child. We're not all the same but we still deserve good treatment. And we are all beautiful people. My art represents three friends having fun. One of them is a girl with cancer, the other children have different skin tone it shows that all of us are equal and that the children don't see them or describe them as different.



Honorable Mention



We Are All Superheroes!

Artist: Beni S.

Grade: 4th

Age: 10

School: South Miami K-8 Center

Art Teacher: Sritlana Khramtsora

Artist Statement:

I believe I can. I can do and be anything! But even with little things we do, we are superheroes! Like me - who has to study; like nurses who have to take care of Covid patients; like teachers who help us; like all who have to be strong and brave every day! I believe I can and I will!

Honorable Mention

Box Ship in Space

Artist: Edisen C.

Grade: Kinder

Age: 6

School: Pinecrest Academy
North Charter School

Art Teacher: Maria Stadhagen

Artist Statement:

I have a dream that I can fly my box ship in space. I can see mars, Jupiter and Sun. I know I can do anything if only I believe I can. I know my dream will come true one day.



Honorable Mention

Creating My Future Artist:

Artist: Joy R.

Grade: 2nd

Age: 9

School: True North
Classical Academy

Art Teacher: Sara Alfaro



Joy Rivera
True North Classical Academy
(305) 749-5725,
Sara Alfaro, 305-609-9408
title of the artwork
Creating My Future Because I Believe!

3rd Place



Friendship Empowers Us

Artist: Tang L.

Grade: 3rd

Age: 8

School: Sunset Elementary School

Art Teacher: Shen Dong

Artist Statement:

All boys and girls with different hair colors and skin colors can shake hands to be friends. The friendship empowers all children of difference to overcome their own challenges and their common ones and fulfill dreams of them all. For instance, a little girl who was frustrated and sad by herself can be transformed into a "fairy" with "magic" to achieve her dream and help others do so, with love from her friends and belief in herself.





2nd Place



This is Us

Artist: Emilie R.

Grade: 4th

Age: 10

School: Home Education Program

Artist Statement:

We are better together.

No one can stop us from trying to reach our highest potential. Everybody is unique in their own way. Don't try to be someone you are not.

What makes people look silly is when they try to be someone they are not. Be happy that you are you and don't think that you are not special.

Don't let anybody make you feel that way.

Something that makes you, 'you' is your personality, and your personality is a very special thing.



1st Place



Picture Perfect

Artist: Madison K.

Grade: 4th

Age: 10

School: Aventura City of Excellence School

Artist Statement:

Friends share photos that show there is no limit to what you can do if you believe in yourself.



Middle School

Honorable Mention



#2
Anabella Lopez
True North Classical Academy Middle School
(305) 749-5725,
Sara Alfaro, 305-609-9408
I Believe I will Be

I Believe I Will Be

Artist: Anabella L.

Grade: 6th

Age: 12

School: True North Classical
Academy

Art Teacher: Sara Alfaro

Honorable Mention



Dreaming of the Stars

Artist: Sasha M.

Grade: 4th

Age: 12

School: Advanced Achievers
Academy

Art Teacher: Hazel Arroyo

Honorable Mention

What Can I Be?

Artist: Daphca D.

Grade: 8th

Age: 14

School: St James Catholic School

Art Teacher: Kelli Miller

Artist Statement:

This drawing represents a girl who is scared for her future because she can't quite accomplish anything, but she doesn't realize all the things she can do and be if she just believed.



Honorable Mention

I Can Be Who I Want To Be!

Artist: Antonio S.

Grade: 6th

Age: 12

School: South Miami K-8 Center

Art Teacher: Sritlana Khramtsora

Artist Statement:

I believe I can, so when I believe I am smart, strong, beautiful, brave, I am! I make my own personality. I have all possibilities. I can become who I want to be - artist, diver, tennis player, matador, dancer, singer! I can fly to the moon!





Honorable Mention

The Girl Who Believes

Artist: Wishkerlyne H.

Grade: 7th

Age: 13

School: St James Catholic School

Art Teacher: Kelli Miller

Artist Statement:

The reason I decided to paint the portrait the way I did was because I really look up to those 3 people. And thought throughout my life I've always admired the messages they used to promote their beliefs in the world. That is why I decided to include those words into my art, including "She can because she believes." At the end of the day, we can do anything we truly believe.



3rd Place



The Golden Dress

Artist: Karmisha G

Grade: 6th

Age: 11

School: St James Catholic School

Art Teacher: Kelli Miller

Artist Statement:

I was inspired by the message of the book to believe in myself. I have been wanting to create a picture of a dark skinned girl with really bright clothing for a while because I think it really makes her stand out. I was unsure of how I wanted to do this, but I believed in myself and I feel good about the way it turned out!



2nd Place



Catching a Butterfly

Artist: Merlyne J

Grade: 8th

Age: 14

School: St James Catholic School

Art Teacher: Kelli Miller

Artist Statement:

I drew a smiling woman, with cute dimples, with a butterfly resting on her hand. I drew it like this because in one page I noticed a girl with goggles on looking at butterflies, so I drew her in a sort of grown up way where she looks happy and is smiling about having a butterfly on her.



1st Place



I Believe Mandala

Artist: Natalia G.

Grade: 7th

Age: 12

School: Glades Middle
School

Art Teacher: Mirena Suarez



Highschool



Honorable Mention

Untitled

Artist: Jade L.

Grade: 12th

Age: 17

School: Arthur & Polly Mays
Conservatory of the Arts

Art Teacher:

Artist Statement:

After reading the book by Grace Byers, I was inspired to make this piece showing children of different backgrounds and environments coming together and enjoying things that they love with each other.

Honorable Mention

Untitled

Artist: Jayda C.

Grade: 10th

Age: 15

School: Arthur & Polly Mays Conservatory of the Arts

Art Teacher: Gerald Obregon

Artist Statement:

I used the theme of the story to create a piece that would represent that any child can accomplish anything they put their mind to even if they're a bit different or regardless of their race, ethnicity, and gender. I included a child missing an arm playing a violin, a child with albinism, an African American and Asian child, and a girl with vitiligo, because all of these characteristics shouldn't define what a child can and cannot dream of. Both my piece and the story had the same concept and idea I just included a few more different characteristics that some children are born with to show that no matter what you can be anything.





3rd Place



Untitled

Artist: Yasmin B.

Grade: 10th

Age: 15

School: Arthur & Polly Mays
Conservatory of the Arts

Art Teacher: Gerald Obregon

Artist Statement:

In the book, it talks primarily about the belief in oneself. That it is possible to sail like a mighty ship, stretch as high as the Alps, and shine like a star against the night. The last line was a strong inspiration for my piece. A girl, even though there are many predetermined factors and statistics that may be against her.



2nd Place



Untitled

Artist: Patricia P.

Grade: 10th

Age: 15

School: Arthur & Polly Mays

Conservatory of the Arts

Art Teacher: Gerald Obregon

Artist Statement:

My idea for this artwork came from the phrase, "If you reach for the stars you can do anything your heart desires." This was something that I was frequently told when I was younger to inspire me that if I believe in myself anything was possible and I think this is the point that the book "I Believe I Can" is trying to convey.



1st Place



Untitled

Artist: Sureily M.

Grade: 12th

Age: 17

School: Arthur & Polly Mays
Conservatory of the Arts

Art Teacher: Gerald Obregon

Artist Statement:

Reading this amazing book, I was inspired by the positive message it gave. It made me relate with some characters with personal experiences that I already lived through it. I wanted to illustrate the unity and connection with every kid from different ethnicities. Expressing their creativity, love, and passion. I was moved by the message on how to "believe in themselves" and "the strong unity within each other"

Best in Show





Best in Show

Picture Perfect

Artist: Madison K.

Grade: 4th

Age: 10

School: Aventura City of Excellence School

Artist Statement:

Friends share photos that show there is no limit to what you can do if you believe in yourself.





We want to thank all of the parents and teachers who continually encourage the efforts of their children in the arts.

We want to thank all of the students that took the time to share their art and participate in the 2021 All Kids Included District-Wide Student Art Contest.

