

Very Important Artists *by Amy Rich*

Some artists dream of having their artwork on display in one of their city's most important buildings. Some artists dream of creating a portrait of one of their city's most important people. Some artists dream of having their artwork on display at one of their city's most important art galleries. This spring, the young artists at Patchwork got to do all three!

For our March Junior Leader Outing for Arts & Smarts participants in grades 5-8, we had an artists' afternoon on the town. It was such a momentous occasion that we even invited the 4th graders to join us as Junior Leaders in Training.

We began in the Evansville Mayor's Office to view Kylie's painting that Mayor Lloyd Winnecke purchased at Patchwork's Soup, Salad, & Style fundraiser. The spiky, green and orange flower painting is now on display in the Mayor's conference room for everyone to see. All of the Junior Leaders had a chance to introduce themselves to Mayor Winnecke. He asked them about their interests and he told them about his own. He sang a little for us and told us about the important speech he was working on.



Aiden was the last Junior Leader to share her interests with Mayor Winnecke. When she told him that she likes to draw, he asked if she would draw his portrait. Many an artist would have buckled under the pressure, but she quickly agreed. The mayor located a pencil and paper, and Aiden set about making her sketch. Everyone in the Mayor's Office admired her finished piece.



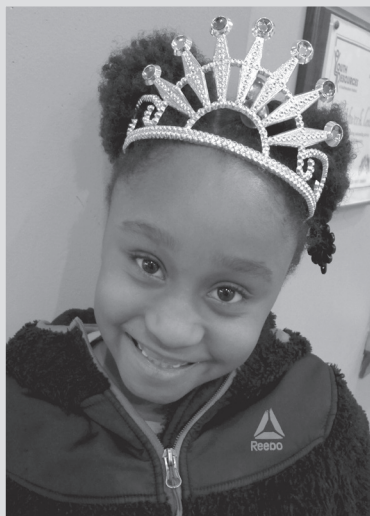
While she finished her drawing, the rest of the group traveled to the Arts Council of Southwestern Indiana where a large piece of their art was on display as part of the Young at Art show. We viewed artwork by other area youth, and we admired the Patchwork piece that hung in a prominent spot. The kids told Andrea, the Gallery Director, about their individual contributions to the larger piece.

Afterward, we followed Main Street as we walked back to our cars. For some of the kids, it was their first time seeing the architecture of downtown Evansville. They were impressed with everything they discovered in their hometown.

It was a magical day that any artist would envy.

What Do You Like About Patchwork's Arts & Smarts Program?

MY NAME IS KYLE AND I AM 7 YEARS OLD. SOME OF MY SPARKS ARE PLAYING BASKETBALL, BASEBALL, AND SOCCER. MY FAVORITE THINGS ABOUT PATCHWORK ARE WE HAVE GOOD SNACKS AND GOOD TUTORS, TOO.



I am Amore' and I am in the 1st grade. I like to play Barbies. I like to play games at Patchwork.



My name is Sheila. I am 11 years old and am in the 5th grade. Some of my sparks are drawing, arts, crafts, playing basketball, and volleyball. I am a "Hopper," jump rope team. I can use my sparks to help others by teaching them to draw or jump. I can teach them it is important to be on a team. My favorite things at Patchwork are I like getting my homework done, Ms. Dixie, and getting better at math.

My name is Cassie Conder. I am 13 years old and I am in the 7th grade. My sparks are playing the saxophone, making art, and being a leader. My favorite thing about Patchwork is making friends.



What Do You Like About Patchwork's Arts & Smarts Program?



My name is Addy and I am 10 years old. Some of my sparks are horseback riding, gymnastics, and basketball. Also, story writing and art. At Patchwork I like that you can do art, make great gifts for your family, and you can do so much to help other people.



My name is Kylie and I am in the 6th grade. I love to draw and write poetry. I love Patchwork because we make friends with everyone!

My name is Eliza and I am in the 4th grade. My sparks are helping people feel welcome and helping people. I love Patchwork because people get to be tutored, do arts, and make creative things!

**My name is Octavia.
I am 13 years old. I
am in the 8th grade.
Some of my sparks are**

homework, hanging out with my friends, singing, and playing golf. I can just listen to other people and when I am with my friends, I can be friendly. My favorite things at Patchwork are I get to see some of my friends here and I like making art here. Patchwork helps me get my homework done faster. I like snack time here.



What Do You Like About Patchwork's Arts & Smarts Program?



My name is Chayanne and I am in Kindergarten. My sparks are coloring, tying shoes, playing video games, and painting. My favorite thing at Patchwork is playing.

My name is Peyton. I am 11 years old and in the 5th grade. My sparks are building with Legos, playing soccer, and drawing and painting with color. My favorite things about Patchwork are the art, learning, and having fun. I especially like the drawings for door prizes!



My name is Zylsah and I am in the 4th grade. My spark is singing and I like dogs and cats. I like Patchwork for the snack and my friends, and I like Patchwork for the tutors and I like Patchwork because it is fun. I also like Patchwork for the teachers and the games.



Sozo Health Ministry First Fridays at the Library *by John Rich*

Rev. John Rich, RN, continues to provide Sozo Health Ministry experiences at Central Library on the first Friday morning of every month. At the library, he and Mary Damm, RN, answer health questions, take blood pressures, listen to health concerns, and offer nursing advice.

It was a slower-than-average Friday morning. Not dead, but dull enough that I was looking forward to the end, which was only about five minutes away. I sat at a table in the lobby of the Central Library, stethoscope around my neck and blood pressure cuff in front of me. Health education literature covered the table to my left.



I was here this Friday morning as I am on the first Friday of every month, taking blood pressures, educating people about their health issues, advocating for their care, and listening to their stories and symptoms. A man approached and asked if I could take his blood pressure.

“Sure,” I said.

“Do you remember me?” he asked.

He did look familiar. “Yeah,” I responded, “I took your blood pressure here a couple months ago.”

“Yep,” he said, smiling, “You sure did. You told me my blood pressure was too high. I thought you’d made a mistake, or your equipment was faulty, or something. I’ve never had high blood pressure, and why would it start now? But I took that card you gave me with my blood pressure numbers on it, and I made an appointment with my doctor and showed it to him. He checked it, too, and said it was high. So he

started me on some medication. But since I was in his office, he started going over other things with me, too. Now I’m getting stuff done that I should have done years ago. I got a colonoscopy a couple weeks ago and they found some polyps and removed them before they got any worse.”

“That’s great.” I said, “I’m glad you’re getting the care you need.”

He looked me straight in the eyes, “Never think that what you’re doing here doesn’t matter. I know it might not seem like much to you, just sitting here, taking blood pressures, talking to people, but you’re making a difference. You made a difference with me. Thank you.”

“Thank YOU.” I said, “I really appreciate that.” I wrapped the blood pressure cuff around his upper arm, put my stethoscope earpieces in my ears, squeezed my hand around the pump, then slowly released the pressure as I listened to the blood driving through his arteries, making the tell-tale thumping sound. I watched the monitor closely as the needle moved.

After a few seconds, “That medication is working great,” I announced. “Your blood pressure is perfect.”

Neighborhood Hospitality *by Sydney McElwain*

Sydney is an Ivy Tech student who completed an internship at Patchwork during the Spring 2019 semester. Sydney was here every morning to be part of our Neighborhood Hospitality programming. She was part of Ivy Tech's Human Services Program.

"Homelessness is a disease." Those four words were stuttered by a gentleman I was having a conversation with one day at Patchwork Central. I sat there and really let those words sink in.

Homelessness is a disease.

"I got kicked out of [homeless shelter] and [homeless shelter]. I have nowhere else to go. No place to stay," a gentleman said to me while he was filling up a cup with hot coffee.

Homelessness is a.

"Thank you for using your time to be here."

"Thank you for all that you do for us."

"Thank you and God bless you."

These statements are just a few of the many things I am told weekly by people who come into Patchwork in the mornings.

Homelessness is.

As an intern at Patchwork Central, I get asked frequently, "What is Patchwork Central?" "What does Patchwork Central do?" I always then explain the minor details of Patchwork that one could easily find on their designated website. But, those minor details only scratch the surface on just what is Patchwork Central.

Homelessness.

Through my time interning at Patchwork Central I have found that it is a safe haven to all. It's a place for comfort. It's a place for healing. It's a place for teaching. It's a place for aid. It's a place for worship. It's a place for laughter. It's a place for all to come together.

Home.

Patchwork Central is a place to call home.



First Friday



Art! Music! Food! Fun!

First Fridays in the Haynie's Corner Arts District are back! Join us from 5:30 pm-9:00 pm on the first Friday of every month through October. At Patchwork, you'll find live music, visual artists, and food. Everything is family friendly and admission is free!

Nearby, you'll find food trucks, additional artists at Sixth Street Soapery (44 Washington Ave), and a monthly Block Party at Stef L's Amour (936 Judson St). Or, you can check out all the food, artists, and vendors located on Haynie's Corner.

Find us on Facebook for more details on each month's musical guests and other updates.

Summer Arts & Smarts

Join Us This Summer!

Patchwork's summer Arts & Smarts activities begin June 3. There is still time to register your child or to sign up to volunteer! There is no cost to participate. Additional information is available on our website (Patchwork.org). You can also call us or stop by our main office!

- Art Garden Week I:** June 3-6 • 9:30 am-11:45 am
Completed 1st grade & up
- Bike Repair Weeks:** June 10-13 & 17-20 • 9:30 am-11:30 am
Ages 11 & up
- Dance Week:** June 24-27 • 9:30-11:30 am
Completed 1st grade & up
- Art Garden Week II:** July 8-11 • 9:30 am-11:45 am
Completed 1st grade & up

E-Newsletter

More Stories! More Photos! More News!

Sign up for our bi-weekly e-newsletter! You will receive email updates highlighting the most recent happenings at Patchwork.

Simply visit our website, www.Patchwork.org, and click the "join our mailing list" link!

Bequests

The next time you update your will, please consider adding Patchwork Central, Inc. as a beneficiary. As a 501 (c)3 nonprofit organization, Patchwork is eligible to receive donations from bequests. Any size of gift makes a big difference in providing for our programming and contributing to our long-term stability.

Sunday Worship

The Patchwork Community meets for worship
every Sunday 5:15 p.m.
at the Meetinghouse, 100 Washington Ave,
followed by a covered dish supper.
All are welcome!

Patchwork Central, Inc.

100 Washington Ave.
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www.patchwork.org

MISSION STATEMENT

Patchwork Central creates community, honors personal dignity, empowers people, and encourages spiritual and social growth through its programs and hospitality, its opportunities for learning, its creative atmosphere and cultivation of the arts, and its work toward reconciliation and a more peaceful and just world.

-S-T-I-T-C-H-E-S- STAFF

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Please be generous as you consider sending your cash contribution in the envelope provided for your convenience. Your generosity will help us continue the Patchwork tradition of providing these many creative programs.





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www.patchwork.org

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**PATCHWORK
CENTRAL**