



Cincinnati
Arts and
Technology
Studios.

ANNUAL SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Unlock



Equip



Nurture

2020

Artwork "*Metamorphosis*", by Karris
W., Senior, Gilbert A. Dater H. S.

Report By Laura Greene
CATS Dir. Of Ed.



Cincinnati
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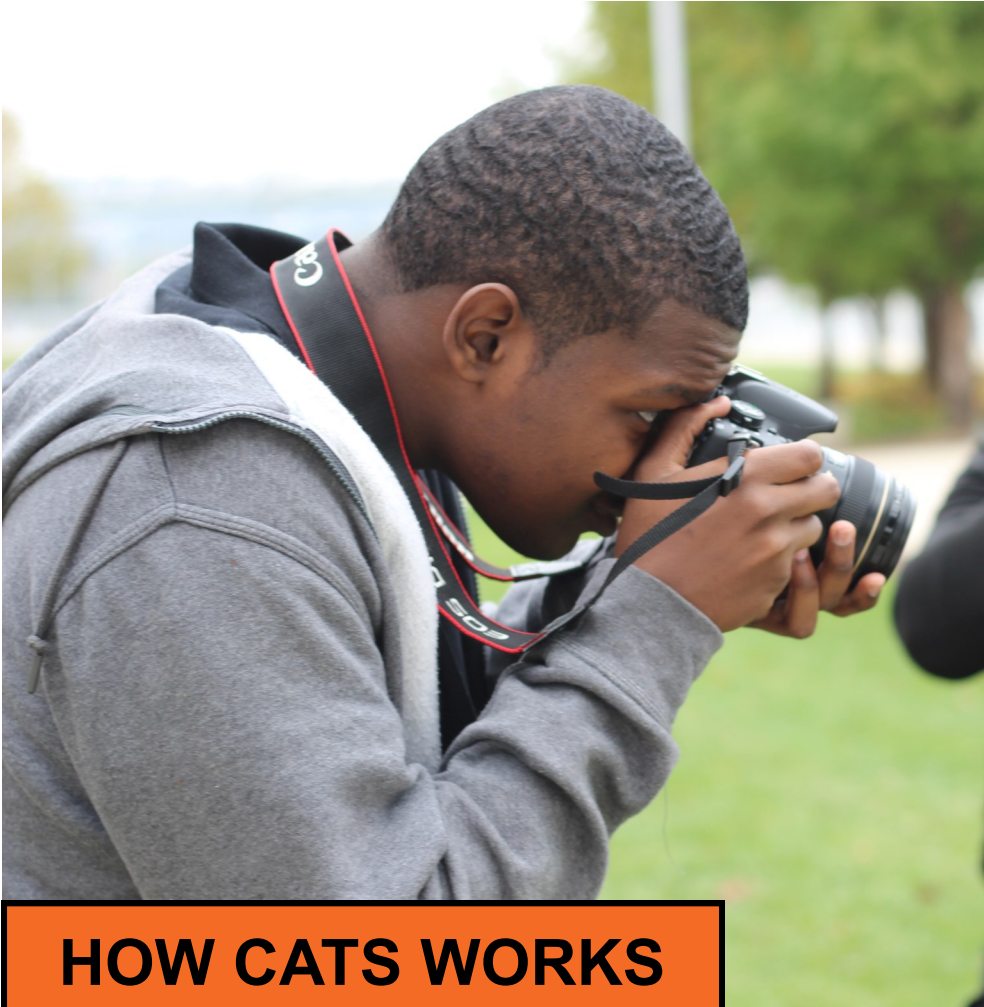
To **Unlock** the self-worth and potential of at-risk teens through the transformative power of art, a first class environment and a character building culture.

To **Equip** students with the skills, credentials and pathways to employment

To **Nurture** students through high school and into sustainable success.



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HOW CATS WORKS

CATS Serves the following CPS high schools:

Aiken	Oyler	Western Hills
Clark Montessori	Riverview	Withrow
Dater	Shroder	Woodward
Gamble	Taft	
Hughes	Virtual	

* CATS also served 10 students from Cincinnati College Preparatory Academy as a fee for service

Courses Offered

- Ceramics 1 & 2
- Digital Multimedia 1 & 2
- 2 Dimensional Design 1 & 2
- 3 Dimensional Design 1 & 2
- Stained Glass 1 & 2
- Visual Art Independent Study 1 & 2

(Others as needed for high performing students)

Recruitment

- Fall recruitment presentations at each high school
- Referrals by school counselor/principal/teacher/facilitator/parent
- Rolling Admissions: on-going recruitment throughout the year as students in need are identified

Transportation

- CATS provides transportation for CPS students to the center and back by yellow bus or Metro Special Travel Need Pass

Student Tracking and Nurturing

- All students must adhere to the CPS Code of Conduct
- All students are immersed in a character building culture of support and behavior coaching
- Every student is tracked individually for credit acquisition
- Seniors with high credit need are placed on an Individual Plan for graduation
- Interventions are provided for under performing students. Parents/guardians/schools are notified
- Schools are notified about student progress with weekly updates

Support for Student Success

- All students receive orientation to the program
- All students are provided with college access mentoring provided by the CATS on-site Cincinnati Youth Collaborative partners
- All students have access to counseling and support from the CATS on site school psychologist and/or Social Worker
- All students have access to the CATS College and Career Program Manager for help with career counseling and employment opportunities





DEMOGRAPHIC DATA ON ALL ACTIVE STUDENTS:

- **Race/ Ethnicity:** Black 74%, White, 14%, Hispanic 4%, Multiracial 4%, Asian Pacific Islander 4%, American Indian 1%
- **156 (47%)** were **Males**
- **178 (53%)** were **Females**

2019-20

ENROLLMENT DATA

- **Enrolled: 416**
- **Active: 335 (81%);** attending 3 times or more
- **No Shows : 24 (6%);** returned enrollment forms but never attended
- **Withdrew: 4 (1%)**
- **Inactive: 54 (13%);** attending only once or twice
- **Received Credit: 291 (87%)**
- **Submitted work for an Art Show: 275 (82%)** (this year due to COVID19 shutdown, CATS held only one art show which reduced the usual number of students who could submit artwork for a show)
- **Engaged in at least one Community Event: 281 (84%)**
- **‘At Risk’: Economically Disadvantaged: 97%; 239 (72%);** overage when compared to same grade peers or in need of Fine Art or Elective credit to graduate
- **IEP: 169 (51%);** Individual Education Plan for some documented academic need. Of that number, 27 (8%) were grade 12—14 students who can elect to stay in CPS until age 22.
- **Grade 9 + 10: 109 (33%)**
- **Grade 11: 110 (33%)**
- **Grade 12: 87 (26%)**

DEMOGRAPHIC DATA ON ALL ACTIVE SENIORS:

- **Race/ Ethnicity:** Black 79%, White 13%, Hispanic 2%, Multiracial 1%, Asian Pacific Islander 5%, American Indian 0%
- **31 (36%)** were **Males**
- **56 (64%)** were **Females**

PROGRAM RESULTS

DATA ON SENIORS

- **Active: 87;** attending 3 times or more
- **Withdrew: 0** seniors withdrew CATS or CPS this year
- **Received Credit: 78 (90%)**
 - **Of the 9 who did not achieve credit:**
 - All 9 had no credit need to graduate
- **At-Risk: 62 (71%)**
- **IEP: 25 (29%)**
- **Graduation:** In addition to **81** seniors, the following students also graduated:
 - **11** students with Special Needs
 - **14** juniors all of whom were 18 or older
 - With juniors and special needs students added in with the 87 seniors, **112** is the total number of possible graduates including seniors, students with disabilities, and juniors
 - **106** graduated by early June
 - **95%** (106/112) percent of students who graduated in 2020 by early June

In Aug. 2020, an additional ___ seniors + ___ graduated bringing the total number who graduated to

◇ ___% (/) Graduated by August

Highlights



Acadia Expedition 2019:



CATS completed a Summer Trip to Acadia National Park in July 2019! Selected candidates went through a rigorous application process and with help from our supporters, including Park Journey's, CATS was able to fund ten students on this remarkable trip!

Having completed required pre-trips students were awarded necessary gear such as hiking shoes, socks, hydration backpacks, etc. After being advised as to expectations for airline travel and required safety protocols. the group was ready to take off!



During the trip, students experience an unfamiliar environment allowing for awe inspiring experiences and teachable moments. Students learned lessons in leadership, communication, and stewardship, and an education about the local environment. The group participated in marine investigations, dutch oven cooking, printmaking from their photos, and stargazing. The 2019 summer trip to Acadia was a great success! CATS CEO, Clara Martin, concluded the adventure by saying, "We had a great time with our young people. They are wonderfully smart individuals. I am so proud of the work we did on this trip, inside and out! We have returned with the elixir, a new version of ourselves!"



E2C Workshop at UC DAAP:

Engaging Emerging Creatives (E2C) is a campus recruiting experience for UC's College of Design, Art, Architecture and Planning. Hundreds of tables lined two floors of DAAP's hallways in a beehive of interactive collaboration, more than 400 students and employers worked in teams on ways to solve a common design problem. This year's project? Reimagine the CATS learning environment.

DAAP adjunct professor of planning Ryan Newman and Aaron Bradley, associate professor of UC Creative, Culture and Social Impact Initiatives were instrumental in choosing CATS as the subject of the creative design workshop and bringing CATS students into the experience. Kelly Kolar, a DAAP grad and current CATS board member was the biggest cheerleader for the event!

Throughout the prior four years of collaboration, CATS has taken advantage of scholarships created by DAAP associate director of fashion design Laurie Wilson and Procter and Gamble design director Tyonn Betts for deserving underprivileged students. But this was the first time many of these high schoolers were face-to-face with designers and employers in a real-world creative setting.

Former CATS student Destiny Bomar, now a third-year UC communications and marketing student, credits the CATS DAAP alliance for her success getting into college and her exposure to the creative world of marketing. Another former CATS student now a junior majoring in design at DAAP, Gift Mayambi was one of the university designers tackling the CATS space redesign problem! How inspiring that was to current CATS students!



Highlights



Paint and Sip

Coordinated by the CATS Young Professionals (YP) Board, the Sip and Paint event blended the YP Board's marketing aims with a hands-on social entertainment art making experience. Under the direction of CATS 2D instructor Derek Toebbe, young professionals from around the city were invited to CATS Studio to create their own masterpiece while also learning about the aims and achievements of CATS. It was a social networking event targeted at building new relationships with young professionals around the city and cultivating/re-establishing already existing relationships with CATS neighbors in Longworth Hall.





CATS College Scholarships 2020:

During the 2019-2020 school year, Six CATS students were selected to receive scholarships from Fifth Third/Fifth Third Foundation and Proctor & Gamble. CATS is very grateful for the support and the generosity of the strong and dedicated community partners we have in our sponsors.

David Unthank is attending University of Cincinnati DAAP and is majoring in Fine Arts/Painting with a minor in Graphic Design. He had another incredible year and maintained a 4.0 GPA for the second year. David will continue his education at UC in the DAAP program this Fall and will receive the **Fifth Third Scholarship** for the third year.

Fatoumata Diagouraga is attending University of Cincinnati Blue Ash campus and is studying Health Professions/Pre-Nursing. She is doing well and in good academic standing with UCBA. Fatoumata will continue her education University of Cincinnati Blue Ash this Fall and will receive the **Fifth Third Scholarship** for a third year.

Kameia Edwards is attending Christ College of Nursing pursuing her Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree. Kameia will continue her education at Christ College of Nursing and will receive the **Fifth Third Scholarship** for a second year.

Parbati Basnet is attending University of Cincinnati and is majoring in Biochemistry with a minor in Nutrition Science. She had a great first year and maintained a 3.1 GPA. Parbati will continue her education at UC this Fall and will receive the **P&G Scholarship** for the second year.

LaNiya Crooms is attending Jackson State University studying Computer Engineering. She had a great first year and maintained a 3.2 GPA. LaNiya will continue her education at Jackson State University this Fall and will receive the **P&G Scholarship** for the second year.

Dijaye Hankerson is attending University of Cincinnati and is majoring in Pre-Nursing. She had a great first year and maintained a 3.2 GPA. Dijaye will continue her education at UC this Fall and will receive the **P&G Scholarship** for the second year.

**\$110,000 in scholarships were awarded to CATS 2020 graduating seniors.*

In addition, two more of CATS 2020 graduates will be identified for scholarships from CATS community partners this summer!

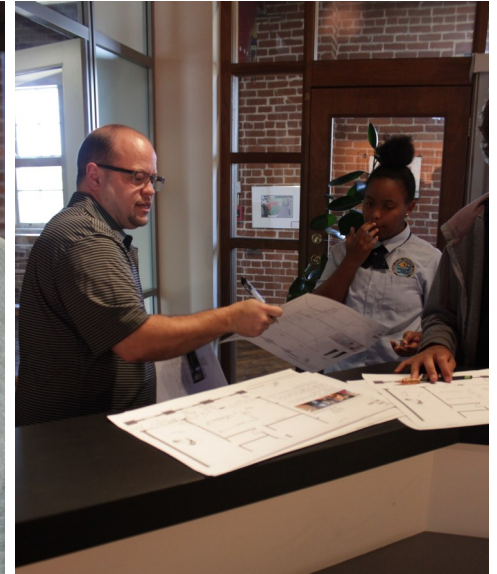
What's New?



New CATS New Board Member:

CATS welcomes Dr. Whitney Gaskins, Assistant Dean of Inclusive Excellence and Community Engagement at the University of Cincinnati. A mentor, adviser, and community activist, Whitney Gaskins has dedicated her life to motivation and philanthropic endeavors. While community service is one important factor in her life, education would have to be another one. Ms. Gaskins graduated from the University of Cincinnati with a BS degree in Biomedical Engineering in 2008, a Master of Science in Quantitative Analysis in 2010 and a Doctorate of Philosophy in Biomedical Engineering in 2014. Along with her scholastic achievement, Ms. Gaskins has worked as an engineering professional for companies including General Electric, Atricure, and Toyota.

NEW TO THE CATS TEAM!



In the studios....

New CATS Staff:

Kerri Bram, 3D Instructor is an artist and art educator. Kerri joined the CATS staff after she spent fifteen years teaching art in a traditional high school setting nearly forty miles from home.

Why CATS? “CATS has provided me an opportunity to not only reconnect and build rapport with the young people who make up my community but to serve as a leader in the transition from high school to the next phase of their lives. Doing this while utilizing my knowledge and passion for art in a small group setting is icing on the cake.”

Jay DeFazio, 2D Instructor and instructor at large is an art educator with a BFA from Northern Kentucky University and MAT from Thomas More University.

Why CATS? “I love connecting with young people through art, helping them work through the fear and uncertainty that is so often part of the creative process. CATS is the first place I’ve encountered dedication, caring and kindness in EVERY teacher and staff member involved. That’s what makes CATS such a valuable and influential experience for students.”

Amanda Hudson, 2D Instructor, is a painter with a passion for teaching. She loves to explore materials in her work and often brings that exploration into her classroom. She has a BFA and is also teaching at the Art Academy of Cincinnati.

Why CATS? “I love art history. I also love creative thinking and doing things in a way that fits YOU. I knew I could bring those two things into a studio experience at CATS in a way that students would appreciate and get excited about”.

Andrew Hampton, CATS CYC College Access Mentor is a recent graduate from Bellarmine University in Louisville, Kentucky. Andrew has a bachelor's degree in English. As the AmeriCorps College Guide for CATS, Andrew serves students by helping them solidify their post-graduation plans.

Why CATS? "CATS is such a unique place in that it allows students to experiment with multiple forms of art. I really enjoy working in this environment because it's really conducive to creativity, and that is contagious.”

Kerri Bram



Jay DeFazio

Amanda Hudson



Andrew Hampton

What's New?



New Sponsorship of the 3D studio by Procter & Gamble:

On behalf of Cincinnati Arts and Technology Studios (CATS), we would like to thank Procter & Gamble for generously sponsoring the CATS 3D Studio this year!

Procter and Gamble has been a great supporter and generous ally to CATS. From providing two key board members in Kathleen Fish and Kevin Grandison to the amazing scholarship opportunities they have provided for CATS seniors to the new sponsorship of the CATS 3D studio, we continue to be reminded that we are very lucky to have Procter and Gamble as a strong community partner.

Research asserts that a 21st century learning environment and opportunities that keep pace with the modern work world are essential to prepare students for the challenges of work, life, and citizenship. Please join us in thanking Procter & Gamble and Western & Southern Financial Fund for their generous support in helping transform the lives of at-risk teens into self-sufficient adults.



Miami University Summer Scholars at CATS

The Miami University Summer Scholars Program brought recent high school graduates who intend to enter Miami as freshman to CATS under the direction of Miami University's Farmer School of Business Director of Innovation, David Eyman and Associate Clinical Professor Dr. Jim Friedman.

The Miami Summer Scholars students were given a challenge to ponder the possibility of a mobile creative lab that CATS could deploy to work the magic of the transformational power of art at a number of locations throughout Cincinnati thereby engaging the community in the CATS mission on a much broader scale.

After seeing and hearing about the mission and vision of CATS and taking a tour of the CATS environment, these students were unleashed to think creatively and collaboratively to envision what that mobile creative lab might look like and feel like. Each group presented their ideas to the client at a gathering on Miami's campus.

All came away from the experience excited about this new idea and the possibilities of adding a mobile creative lab to the CATS menu of services!



What's New?



CATS has on boarded software from Grad Leaders the market leader in student recruitment and career services technology. Grad Leaders facilitates greater ability for the CATS College and Career Program Manager, Charlene Smith, to connect CATS partner employers with students and alumni. It allows CATS to do ongoing tracking of current and former students who have engaged in the CATS career pathway program called Bridging the Gap (BTG). This year new fields will allow better tracking of CATS students attending college.



Grad Leaders is an invaluable online tool to maintain data on each student, such as, contact information and job search documents in one place that is accessible from anywhere by me, students and prospective employers.

Charlene Smith,
CATS College and Career Program Manger

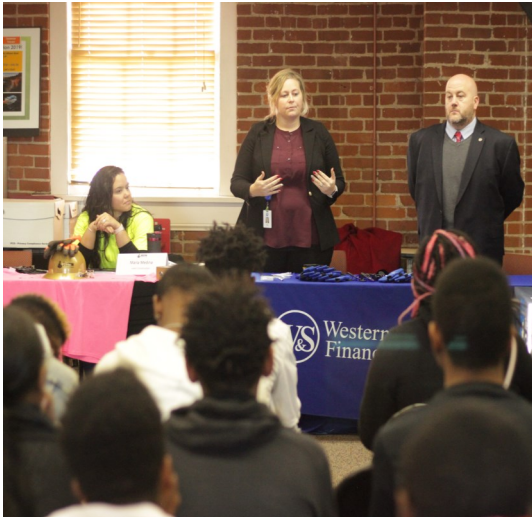


Both students and employers can access the program remotely through their various devices making the program accessible from anywhere!

Already CATS has found this technology to be extremely helpful in the tracking:

- Students that enrolled in and completed the Life Skills workshop
- Students that enrolled in and completed the STNA training program
- Students that pass the STNA certification exam
- Students college status
- Student job placement and job retention rate

New Employer Partnerships



CATS has new employer partners this year including the following:

- Re-engaging with Jostin Construction
- Western and Southern Life
- The Christ Hospital Health Network
- L & H Healthcare Services (Providing STNA Training)
- The Kable Academy (Providing Information Technology Training)

CATS is always re-assessing possibilities for graduating students career pathway options.

WHAT ELSE WE DO



PREPARING FOR LIFE



College and Career Week:

Advice flows freely, as do students' questions as they gather around the presenters for more information. It's always a highlight when former a CATS student sits on the employer side of the room, as did Chantell Sanders (class of 2013) of Fifth Third Bank. Chantell is working as a Lead Teller/Customer Service Representative. She discussed how BTG helped to shape her career. She works part time while pursuing a Bachelor 's Degree.



AFTER HIGH SCHOOL



College Week:

CATS students were provided information regarding campus life and programs, admission requirements and processes during CATS annual College Fair held January 6th–9th. The students heard from Chatfield College, Cincinnati State, University of Cincinnati Main and Blue Ash campuses, Mt. St. Joe, NKU and Christ College of Nursing.

113 CATS students attended the College Fair in January.

Each college presentation ended with a question and answer session. All seniors were provided information on CATS Graduate Services.

WHAT ELSE WE DO



Bridging The Gap

Bridging the Gap (BTG) is a workforce development program that provides CPS graduating seniors with the training, targeted support and appropriate industry credentials to obtain employment within a defined career pathway. Whether a CPS senior has sights on college, wants vocational training, or is undecided about the future, BTG offers stability, gainful employment, and the chance to start a career right after graduation. BTG is created for urban youth and helps students learn valuable life skills, job readiness skills, and earn job specific certifications.

Who is eligible for BTG?

To be eligible for BTG, students MUST:

- Be a senior on track to graduate





What is a BTG career pathway?

1. Employment in entry-level positions in fields that not only currently lack a skilled workforce but also where future deficits are projected.
2. Employment within organizations that embrace professional growth through hard work and ongoing education.
3. Employment in positions include benefits such as tuition reimbursement, healthcare, upward mobility, and pay well above minimum wage.

What career pathways are available to students?

- **Certified Career Pathways:** State Tested Nursing Assistant and Information Technology (CompTIA A+)
- **Non-Certified Career Pathways:** Food Service, Banking, Construction and Manufacturing.

Who are the hiring partners?

Cincinnati Children's
Hospital Medical
Center

The Christ Hospital

Gold Medal Products

PNC Bank

Long-term care facilities

Additional opportunities for training
and development:

Cincinnati Works

L&H Healthcare Services

Festo Didactic

Per Scholas

Kable Academy

BTG Results:

173 CATS students
hired into BTG career
pathways or related
positions with partner
employers.

86% of BTG hires have
retained their position
for at least one year.



What does BTG programming look like? BTG students receive the following:

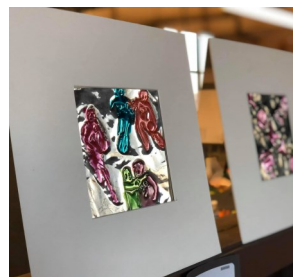
BTG students receive the following:

- 20 hours of *Life Skills* training which emphasizes workplace competencies and financial literacy
- Continued job readiness training at Cincinnati Works
- Post-secondary credential:
 - ➔ Students pursuing the healthcare pathway will earn the State Tested Nursing Assistant (STNA) certification
 - ➔ Students pursuing the technology pathway will be eligible for the CompTIA A+ certification
- On the job training for banking, food service manufacturing and construction
- Support from an adult mentor and CATS staff for 18 months post graduation from High School.

WHAT ELSE WE DO



"Father Time", Daniyah H. Oyler High School, 11th Grade



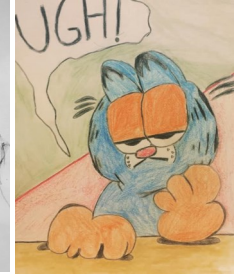
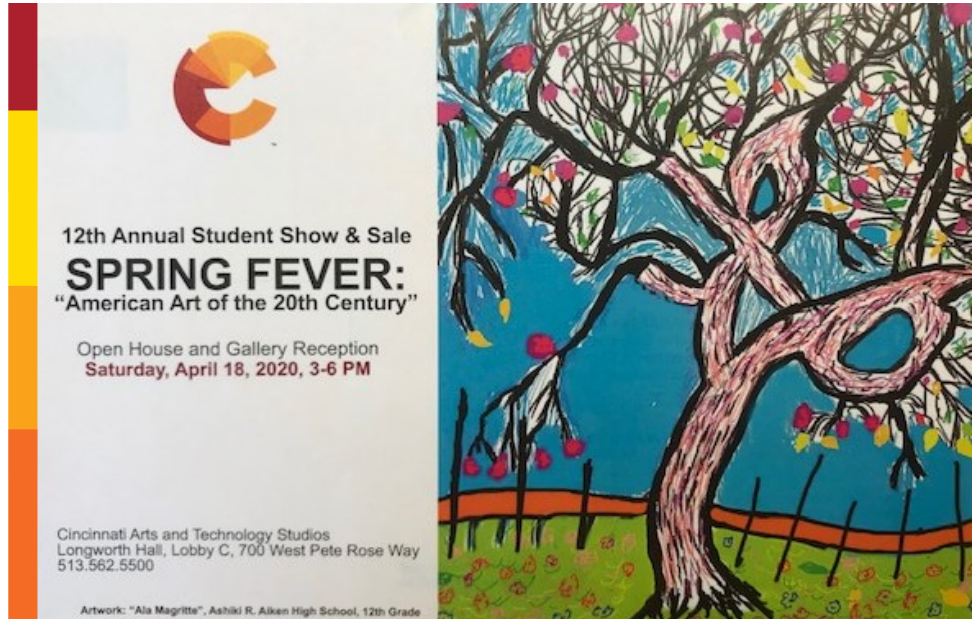
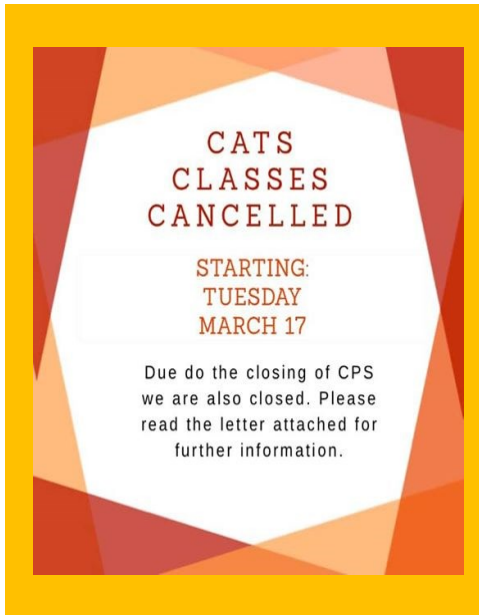
1st SEMESTER EXHIBIT

Our 12th annual 1st Semester Deck the Hall show "Art and the Environment" opened on Saturday, Dec. 7th and was a big success! Students were challenged to think about the word 'environment'. How would you define it? After some discussion, students decided that there are 3 types of environment: the natural, the built and the social. After looking at master artists work on this topic, students were challenged to apply their skills to create their own masterpiece that connects to this theme. What do they want to express about the environment? Why? What personal meaning will their artwork convey?

The hallway and gallery were lined with over 500 pieces of student artwork. All five studios displayed work that exhibited talent, hard work, and dedication by the students.



275 students submitted artwork, 535 Artworks Displayed, 46 pieces sold for a total of \$888.00

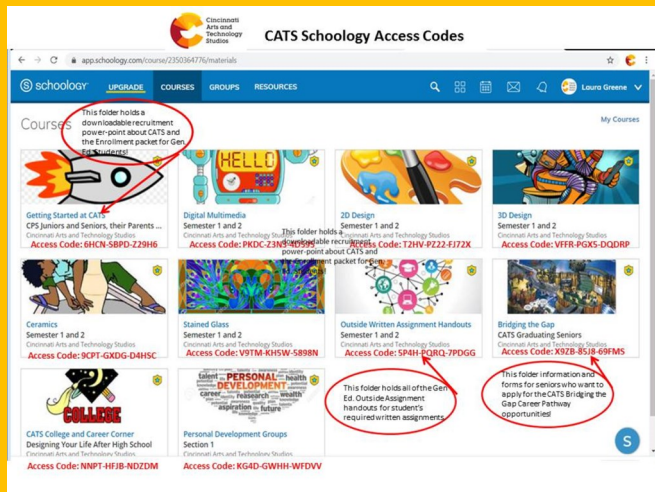


COVID 19 IMPACT ON 2ND SEMESTER EXHIBIT



For our **2nd Semester Spring Fever** show, we had an invitation ready, **students were working hard**, but **COVID19 had other plans**. CATS studios had to close for face-to-face classes starting March 16th due to the shut down order in response to the Coronavirus Pandemic. Students had been studying **“American Art of the 20th Century,”** which included Abstract Expressionism, Op Art, Pop Art, Photo Journalism, and Minimalism. Demonstrating great resilience and perseverance many students continued working from home and submitted work online. Pictured are examples of some of the work submitted for the unit of study and displayed on our social media sites.

WHAT ELSE WE DO

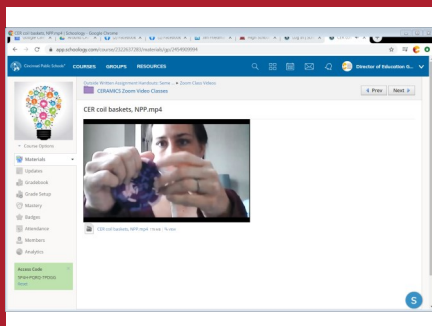


CATS Schoology Account was already in place and served as an online resource for students to access needed materials or continue their work.

What Else do we do? We adapt!

Like the rest of the country, CATS had to shut its doors and create a robust version of the High School Arts Program and Bridging the Gap in a matter of days. What came out of that response to the COVID19 Pandemic was a lot of learning about what worked well remotely and what would need to be improved. CATS will need to be prudent in preparing for both in studio and online work with students not only for next fall but going forward. There is a lot of synergy with this approach and preparing high school students for college and career and including online platforms in our daily practice with students will only help to make transitioning from in person to online learning that much more seamless for them. See at right and below the various strategies employed by CATS to support student learning remotely.

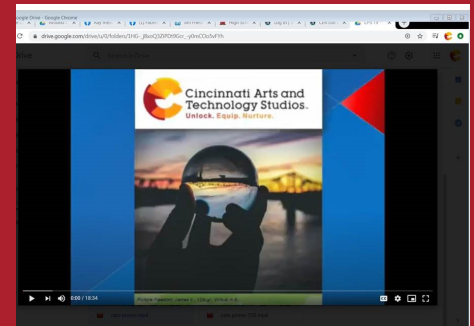
CATS PANDEMIC RESPONSE



Example of a CATS online Zoom Class for students

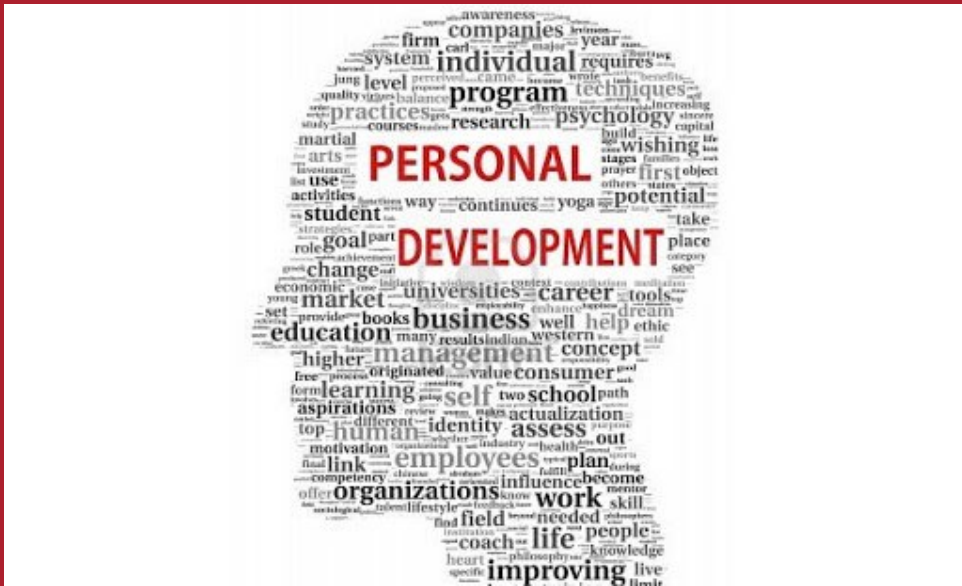


Photo Challenge video on CATS Facebook page.



CATS video about the program was aired on CPS TV

- All schools and all 258 general education students were contacted via School Messenger announcements weekly
- Individual contact weekly by instructors for all students via text, phone email
- 90+ students of all grade levels (both CATS H.S. Program and BTG) responded to our efforts
- 61 H.S. arts program students engaged with us in some way remotely
- 53 increased their credit or grade.
- All 108 Gen. Ed. seniors enrolled were reviewed in Powerschool for credit need in FA/Electives to graduate
- CATS Social Worker calls to all seniors, and personal follow-up where a credit deficit was determined
- All schools received weekly emails, newsletters and reminders to refer seniors needing credit to graduate
- 27 seniors increased their grade and/or credit to graduate
- 6 new seniors entered that CATS Program during the pandemic 4th quarter needing credit to graduate and achieved both.



PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT GROUPS

BE S.M.A.R.T.

TIPS FOR SETTING GOALS

EVERY GOAL SHOULD BE:

S pecific-	EXACTLY WHAT IS IT YOU WANT TO ACCOMPLISH? THE MORE DETAILED AND SPECIFIC, THE BETTER THE GOAL.
M easurable-	IN WHAT WAYS CAN YOU MEASURE YOUR GOAL SO THAT YOU KNOW YOU'RE MAKING PROGRESS? THAT YOU'VE SUCCEEDED?
A ttainable-	IS THIS GOAL SOMETHING YOU KNOW YOU CAN ACTUALLY ACCOMPLISH?
R ealistic-	DO YOU HAVE THE CAPABILITIES, RESOURCES AND PHYSICAL ABILITIES TO REACH YOUR GOAL? REALLY?
T ime-bound-	HOW MUCH TIME WILL YOU ALLOW YOURSELF TO ACCOMPLISH THIS GOAL?

BELIEVE NOTES
www.believenotes.com

Again this year CATS students had the opportunity to participate in **Personal Development Group** discussions and activities hosted by the CATS school social worker or school psychologist. The group activities are coordinated with the semester unit of study theme. Students are immersed in the principle learnings or 'big ideas' in such a way that they can apply them not just to their artwork but to all phases of their lives at home, at school and in their community.

Part of this immersion is learning to set S.M.A.R.T. goals for their work each and every day that they attend their chosen studio. Every nuance of the work the staff does with the students is meant to incrementally prepare them for success now and in the future.

Personal Development Group discussions allow our social worker and our school psychologist to take these experiences one step further by giving students time to process and share how these principles can apply to life in general.

WHAT ELSE WE DO

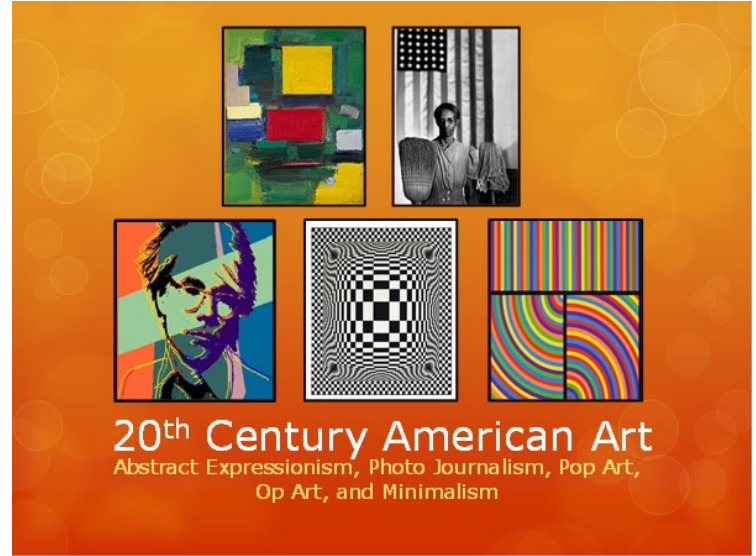


Skill Building

For the first 5 weeks of each semester, students in every studio work on study pieces meant to hone their skills with the media particular to their studio choice.

This practice on particular skill sets allows students to bring them to bear when tackling expressive personal work on the semester theme in the last 7 weeks of the semester.





Semester Themes

Semester 1 Theme: *Art & the Environment*

Developed with the 1st semester college experience E2C in mind, this unit of study explored the world around us; the natural, the built and the social environments we live in and how artists have been inspired by each of these.

Semester 2 Theme: *American Art of the 20th Century*

Piggy-backing off of the learnings about environmental influences on art and artists, 2nd semester's theme continued to explore how the social, natural and built environments influenced an explosion of art styles in America post World War II.

Community Engagement

Congratulations to two CATS students who won awards at Cincinnati Public Schools annual City Wide Art Exhibit . Mylyah J. and Keshawn T. each won an award in the Senior Division (see below) Go CATS!!



Mylyah J. Grade 10, Virtual H.S.



Keshawn T., Grade 11, Aiken H.S.



WHAT ELSE WE DO



Community Engagement 1st Semester: Art in the Community Field Trip

After discussing art and the environment including it's impact and inspiration for artists, students went to the Taft Museum of Art to see "Far Flung" the site specific sculpture made from tree boughs by American artist Patrick Dougherty. Inside of the museum students studied the landscape murals by Robert Lewis Duncan-son. Following this study, students also toured many of the Artworks murals in Cincinnati including those led by CATS instructors Ryan Little and Derek Toebbe. The reknown murals are examples of how artists can impact the built and the social environment of the community we live in.



Community Engagement 2nd Semester:

March: Students in Digital Multimedia and 2D participated in photo field trips and plein air sketching in early March at Findlay Market and Sawyer Point among other local sites.

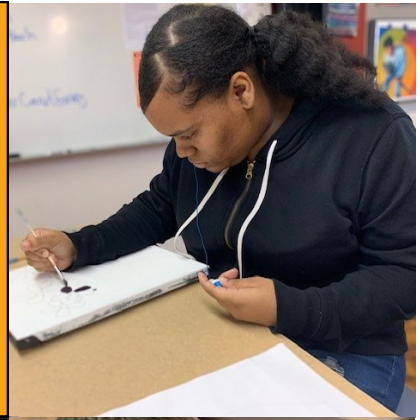
Field Trips to local galleries and museums were scheduled for April but were cancelled due to the COVID19 shutdown of schools and all local venues.





"Thank you for supporting CATS! Without CATS, I wouldn't be graduating with my class where I'm supposed to be. I wouldn't have met all the amazing people I now know without it. CATS is an AMAZING program that I love so thank you so MUCH!"

Sunshine H., Virtual H.S.



"Thanks to everyone at CATS for this opportunity. I came to make art, get credit and have fun but it was so much more! Y'all really help people! Thanks for helping me do my FAFSA application and apply to colleges. I will keep you in my heart and updated on my progress!"

Ndeye Maty N., Dater H.S.



IN THEIR OWN WORDS



"I just love everything about CATS. Even just being in the environment at CATS, going somewhere new, trying new things helps you grow and prepare you for other new things like college and career."

Laddryonna D., Hughes H.S.





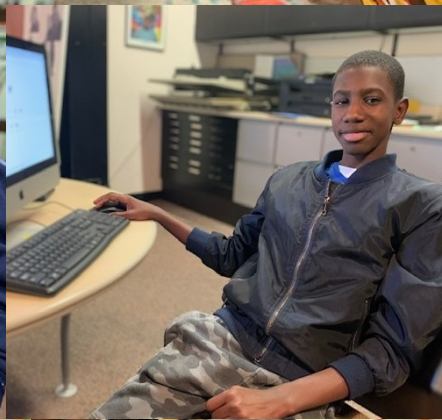
“Without CATS, I would not be able to learn all the skills to make stained glass. I’ve learned patience too when problem solving and I use it at school. We all are thankful for this program. We learn so many new things and things to improve on.”

Marcus G., Hughes Zoo Acad.



“I like it a lot! It’s just a good place. I like the teachers and the whole vibe of the place. It’s cool, I get to express myself but I also learn new things, new techniques which pushes me out of my comfort zone and I need that sometimes”

Jak D., Virtual H.S.



“Thank you for everything! I’m grateful for all your support and kindness. CATS has helped me in a lot of different ways. People here are there standing up for you when you’re down and encouraging you, showing you a different perspective and cheering you on!”

Joyeuse M., Aiken H.S.



“Thank you for coming to our school and giving us the opportunity to come to CATS. Students look forward to seeing people who let them know that they care, it’s so important. Next year’s seniors will be at CATS when I tell them about my experience. Thanks for everything!”

Sierra A., Gamble H.S.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?



Vondane Edwards
CATS, 2018 Graduate
Bridging the Gap, '18

Currently: Full time employee at Cincinnati Children's Medical Center
Vondane continues to give back to CATS by presenting the STNA training program and what employment is like at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center (CCHMC) at the annual CATS Career Fair.



Destiny Bomar
CATS, 2016 Graduate
Yellowstone Delegate 2016
Bridging the Gap, '16

Destiny graduated this year from the University of Cincinnati with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Communications and Marketing.



Twoneisha Burns
CATS, 2019 Graduate
Bridging the Gap, '19

Successfully completed the State Tested Nurses Aid Training (STNA) becoming certified summer of 2019. Full time employee as a Patient Care Attendant since December 2019 at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center (CCHMC)



Ibrahima Athie
CATS, 2018 Graduate
Bridging the Gap, '18

Upon returning from a family vacation in Africa, Ibrahima attended Cincinnati State for one year studying Digital Media before deciding to take a gap year. Ibrahima is now in full time employment at DHL, in Logistics since September 2019.



Chantel Sanders
CATS, 2013 Graduate
Bridging the Gap, '13

Full time employee at 5/3 Bank, Lead Teller/Customer Service Representative. Chantell earned a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration, DeVry University. And gives back to CATS by presenting the BTG program from the perspective of an alumni at CATS Annual Career Fair. She is currently working on a Master's degree in Business Administration from Keller Graduate School.



	Name	Affiliation
Chairman	Hanson, Amy	Advisory Services
Vice Chair	Kolar, Kelly	Kolar Design, Inc.
Secretary	Lecher, Bill	CCHMC
Treasurer	Avila, Stephen	Macy's
	Adams, Douglas	PNC Bank
	Ayers, Andrea	Independent
	Bergman, Peter	Messer Construction Co.
	Carroll, Micah	Rookwood Pottery Company
At Large	Carter, Lee	Independent
At Large	Castellini, Bob	Cincinnati Reds
	DeLuca, Jim	Western & Southern Life
	Fish, Kathleen	Procter & Gamble
	Gaskins, Whitney	University of Cincinnati
	Grandison, Kevin	Procter & Gamble
	Hinebaugh, Jeffrey	Dinsmore & Shohl
	Hulefeld, Rick	Children, Inc.
	Hummel, David	Bank of America
	Murphy, Shauna	Cincinnati Public Schools
	Shea, Carol	Olivetree Insights
	Strickland, Bill	Manchester Bidwell
	Sullivan, Linnell	Merrill Lynch
	Wevers, Kristen	UC Health
	Wideman, Melissa	Castellini Management
Exec. Director	Martin, Clara	CATS



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