

**Hello Washington! Volume 2 /  
Issue # 5 / April 18, 2023**



## Thinking Out-of-the-Box in Washington's Academics

### Third Graders Interview Author of their Book Report Book

Our 3rd Graders were finishing their literary analysis on *Ese Brillo en La Mirada*, written by Ms. Elvia Silvera, when our Spanish Department decided to invite the author to come to Washington Academy. Ms. Silvera explained the creation process of the book and students were able to ask her, firsthand, about the characters, plots, and other areas of interest. Among the many interesting questions made by students were: What was her favorite book? What inspired her to write *Ese Brillo en La Mirada*? What did she study in college?

Ms. Elvia Silvera is a Venezuelan author and editor with several publications such as: *La Isla de Cartón*, *Amor se Escribe Al Revés*, *Cándida*, *Yoyo Llega*, among others. Many of her books have won national and international awards such as: "Los Mejores del Banco del Libro" (Venezuela 2004 y 2009) and "IBBY's Honour List" (2004). IBBY is a non-profit organization that was founded in Zurich, Switzerland in 1953. Today, it is composed of 80 National Sections all over the world. It represents countries who are doing pioneer work in children's book publishing and promotion. Its Honour List, published biennially, of recommended works for children by outstanding writers, illustrators and translators from its National Sections.

It was a privilege that our students were able to meet the author of their book report book, let alone ask her questions about it; specially a Venezuelan author with such an international recognition.





## Washington Academy's Logic and Math Club

At the beginning of our Second Term, our Math Department Head decided to open a Mathematics and Logic Club for students from 4th through 7th Grade. This after-school activity takes place on Wednesdays, from 2:30 to 3:30 pm in Upper Elementary's Room 8. Here students have the opportunity to tackle challenging logic and math problems and share their solutions with their peers. This club supplements student learning by teaching concepts, answering questions, working through sample problems, and making math more enjoyable for them. The main purpose of this activity is to aid and encourage students interested in algebra, arithmetic, calculus, and geometry, and, thus, propel the subject of math in Washington Academy to new heights!



## Lower Elementary's Student-of-the-Month Award

On the first Friday of every month, Lower Elementary (2nd - 4th Grade) gets together in our Central Courtyard to honor students with the best sustained efforts throughout the previous month. A "Student-of-the-Month Award" is given to one or two students per each grade section (A and B). This distinction is bestowed upon children who not necessarily have the best grades, but have shown evidence of a prolonged conscious attempt to improve in any area of their development. Grade Teachers and Lower Elementary Coordinator meet on Mondays to discuss student's progress and possible candidates. They make a final decision at the end of the month. This accolade was created to show appreciation for students' sustained effort, hard work, and improvement, and to motivate students in giving their best no matter how far it takes them. Because it's not about being the best, it's about being better than you were yesterday!

# 6th Graders Promote Healthy Living

MYP's Physical & Health Education (PE) teacher planned a transdisciplinary project in which 6th Grade girls had to promote healthy living through the elaboration of a series of breakfast recipes that included the right amount of proteins, carbs, healthy fats, fiber, minerals, vitamins, and water. Seven groups, of 3 students each, had to create a recipe and bring samples for faculty and staff attendees. Presentations included the importance and benefits of having a complete breakfast, what a complete breakfast entails, an explanation of their recipes, and a tasting of the samples. Students were also asked to reflect upon their work to identify which attributes of the IB Learner Profile were used in their project. The presentations took place in the High School Biology Lab, and their main purpose was to create awareness among our Washington family of the importance of a balanced diet in our health. It was amazing to see how creative and delicious the recipes came out. An example was a group that used beets, yogurt, and honey to create a delightful breakfast dish. Great job girls!



# Volunteer Parents Help Preserve our School Books

Throughout this school year's 1st and 2nd terms, our Lower Elementary's (LE) official Room Mothers and other volunteer parents (including some dads!) assisted in covering our English Department's classic books with contact paper. The idea behind this project, organized by Room Mothers and our LE Coordinator, is to preserve our English Department classic books in good condition for future generations. We want to express our gratitude to all the volunteer parents who donated time from their busy schedules to support school projects. This generous spirit is what makes Washington Academy a caring family.



## Dr. Florencio Quintero and the Importance of Art in Regulating our Emotions

Dr. Florencio Quintero, psychiatrist, author, and WA Dad, was invited by our Elementary Art Teacher to come visit the 3rd Grade during their Art sessions to talk about his book *La Melancolía de Hércules*, a collection of poems that includes one dedicated to his son, Lorenzo, a WA 3rd grader. Dr. Quintero introduced himself, and from a psychiatrist's viewpoint, spoke to our kids about the advantages of using art as a tool that helps us regulate our emotions. He encouraged them to express their feelings through drawing, coloring, painting, poetry, or any other art form. Then, he formally introduced his book and read aloud *La Seriedad del Niño que Juega*, the poem inspired by his kids.

Third graders were able to ask him questions about the poem and its creation. After this, students drew pictures inspired by the poem. He later observed and analyzed some of the illustrations with the kids. Afterwards, our Elementary Art teacher created a beautiful bulletin board dedicated to his presentation with all the work done, throughout two consecutive weeks, by the third graders in regards to this theme. In appreciation for Dr. Quintero's time and generous spirit, students and instructor prepared a keepsake for him. They created a beautiful booklet with all the third graders' drawings inspired by *La Seriedad del Niño que Juega*.



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**Hello Washington! Volume 2 /  
Special Edition: IB DP Art  
Expo 2023 / April 3, 2023**



## Special Edition: IB DP Visual Arts Expo "Lost and Found"

### Meet the Artists

[We invite you to watch the installing process here](#)



Daniel Moreno



Ignacio Hernández



Diego Armas



Norberto Pérez



María Corina De Zabala



Gabriella Riccobono



Ana Isabella Hernández



Mariana Mendoza



Alan Chen



Daniel Armas



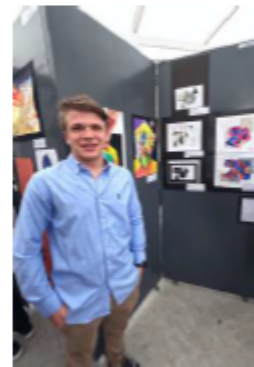
Alessia Ceccato



Oriana Sogbi



Angela Youssef



Gabriel De Sousa



Ana Paula Gadea



Rodrigo Casanova



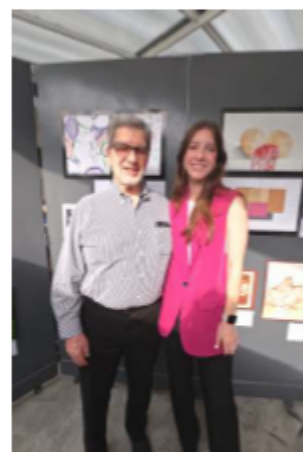
Washington Academy hosted, on Friday, March 10th, an art expo where our Seniors, (12th Grade / IB DP Year 2) who are enrolled in our IB DP (International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme) Visual Arts class, presented original artwork they have been curating since last school year. The showcase titled *"Lost and Found"* was named by the students themselves.

The exhibit opened with words from our Academic Principal, Miranda Di Silvestri, congratulating the artists for the successful completion of their final Visual Arts project. This was followed by speeches from two student representatives.

At 4pm, our Art Hallway was bustling with students, our Board of Directors, faculty and staff members, and invited families. During the gathering, the artists had the opportunity to explain the creative process or their pieces. The quantity of work was contingent upon the student's level in their IB DP Visual Arts class (High level or Standard Level). The rest of the afternoon was spent between drinks and hors d'oeuvres.

We want to congratulate all the artists for a wonderful presentation and a remarkable demonstration of their creative talent, resourcefulness, and compromise.

## Family, friends, teachers, and staff showed their support!

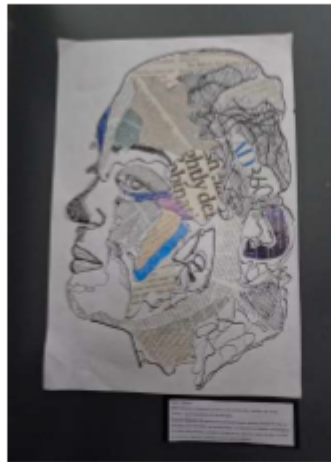
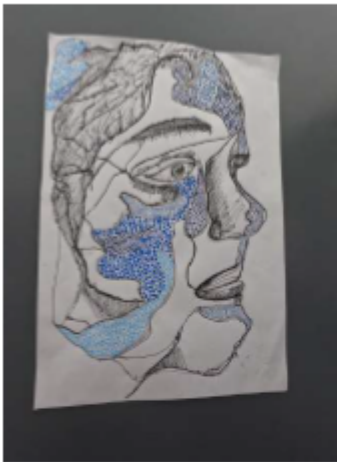








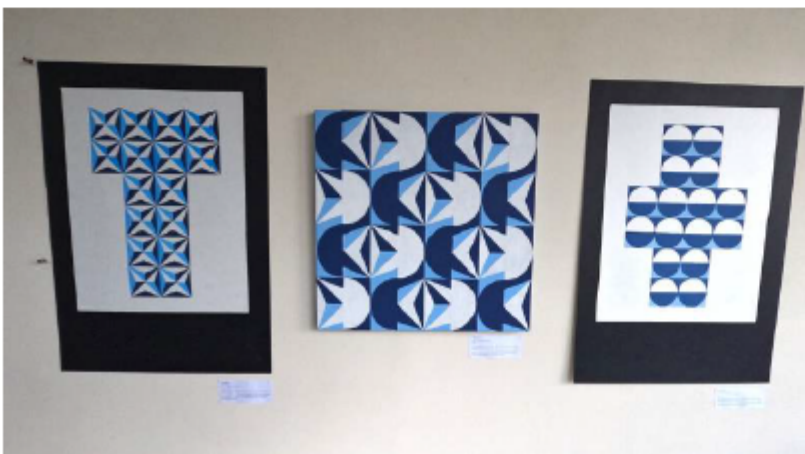
# A little sample of the exhibit



Alessia  
Ceccato



Ignacio  
Hernández



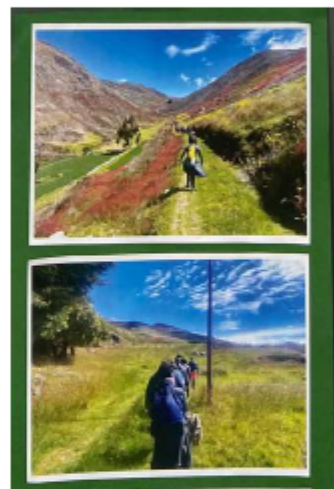
Mariana  
Mendoza



María  
Corina  
De Zabala



Daniel  
Armas



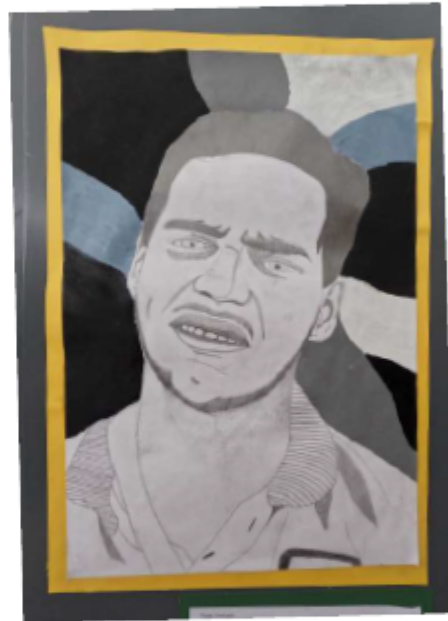
Rodrigo  
Casanova



Alan  
Chen



Daniel  
Moreno



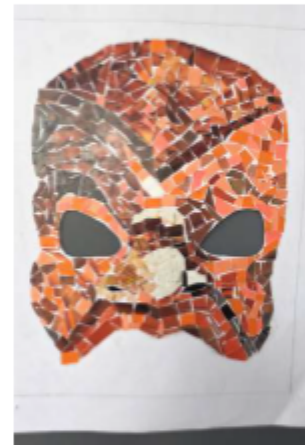
Angela  
Youssef



Ana Isabella  
Hernández

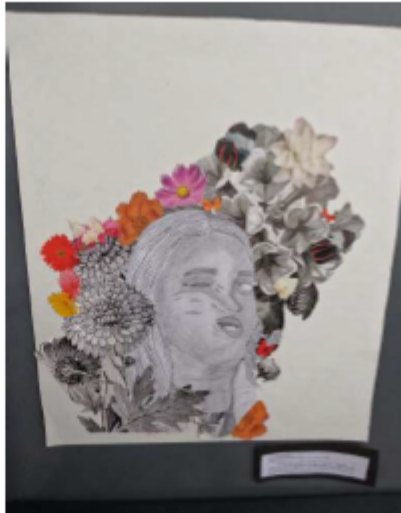
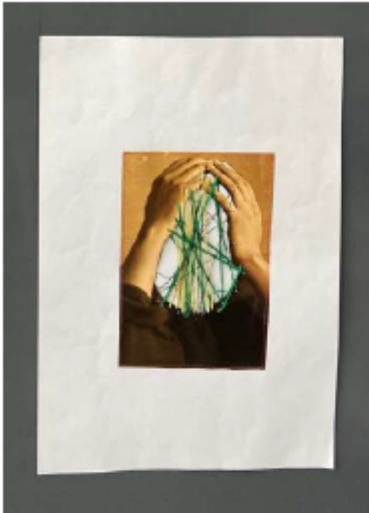


Norberto  
Pérez



Diego  
Armas

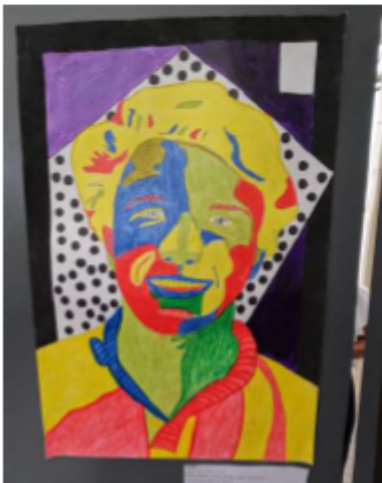




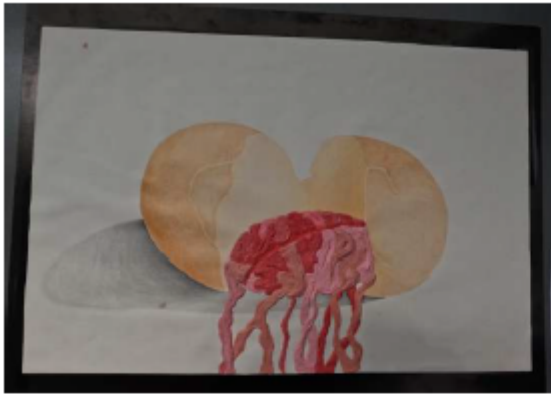
Oriana  
Sogbi



Ana Paula  
Gadea



Gabriel  
De Sousa



Gabriella Riccobono

