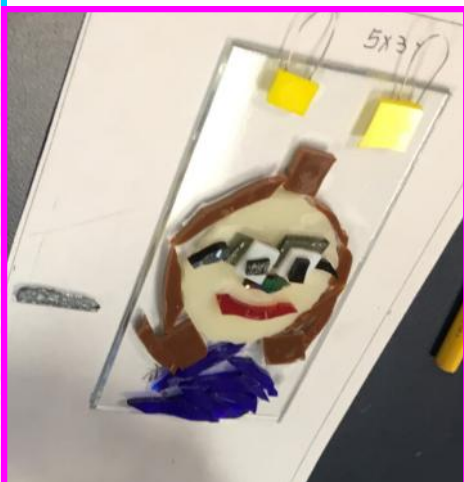


Livia is 9 years old and in grade 3. She is a passionate, driven, and creative artist. At a young age she showed a great interest in drawing and crafts. One of her favourite places to be was in front of her kid sized art easel doodling, painting, and letting her imagination run free.

Her favourite colour has always been pink, but now as she has gotten older her favourites have become more specific. She now likes lavender purple, light sky blue, and all types of pinks as long as the pinks don't look too red.



Her artwork is often inspired by her love of food and animals. Her favourite foods are tacos, ice cream, and sushi. She loves butterflies, flamingos, lady bugs, and all cute baby animals. In her earlier works she has many paintings of butterflies, bees, and flamingos. Lately she has been interested in origami and drawing.



One of her strategies for growing her art education is to watch videos and look at other people's art works. She likes to learn from others but doesn't copy, and instead adds her own details.



When she has spare time, she often goes into our art supply bucket and will come up with her own creations. She says it's a great place for her to get art ideas. Her creations involve a mix of different materials and she doesn't mind trying a few different ideas until one comes together.

She proudly displays her art all around the house.

art is
not what
you see,



but what
you make
others see.



Izyan Ali, or Izy, has been with the NHCA Art program for a couple of years and has been doing art for quite some time now. Engaging in arts such as landscape and contemporary photography, sketching, acrylic painting, band, theatre and other forms of media, he is quite literally the definition of a walking paintbrush.

Starting out when he was in kindergarten, he was not as fond of art and looked down on it. However, as years progressed, a perfectionistic side began to shine in Izy and he began to create wonderful art in his classes. He has submitted many paintings over the years to many different programs and contests and has participated in the makings of some Calgary murals and was in an ART BATTLE. Izy also began to see a plus side to his artistic skills; he could make money from his art! He sold a bulk of his acrylic paintings and made quite a bit of money. However, painting wasn't all Izy had learned; he started to learn other forms, for example, street art, with the use of spray paint and paint markers as well as photography (as mentioned in the last paragraph).

Izy has also shared about his journey through getting better at art and refining his skills. He, in fact, did not take any lessons over the years. With guidance from his mother, who is also a talented artist, he was able to improve his skills. He says, "Practice and extra emphasis on perfection, might seem scary, but it's noticing your mistakes and the ability to be self-critical that really allows for your artistic perspective to shine". That is his advice for aspiring artists. Izy takes inspiration from many artists on social media who make beautiful art and he strives to learn from them so that he can further improve his skills. Izy also wants to mention that, "If you ever need more practice, you have to find something you like to draw, really, it can be anything, as long as you genuinely enjoy drawing it. For me, it's skulls, but for you, it could be rainbows or dogs".



As mentioned twice, Izyan also does photography and his artistic perspective makes it look surreal. How did he get into photography you might ask? He saw a different perspective in inanimate objects and decided to capture it. He



looked at the skies at sunset and sunrise and was in complete awe. With his phone camera, his mom's old camera and his drone, he was able to capture sunsets and pink skies with birds and landscapes. He hopes to get a camera of his own so he can capture more perspectives. A quote that really represents his passion for photography is, "A picture is worth a thousand words" - Henrik Ibsen.

Art is a big part of Izy's life and it will always be part of him. He wishes the best for aspiring artists and seeks out to become a better artist because no artist is truly perfect. He now attends Western Canada High School as part of their Fine Arts program. He will continue to make art and take photos to gain a broader audience on social media and to fuel his passion for art (his Instagram is @applejuiceizay_official).