

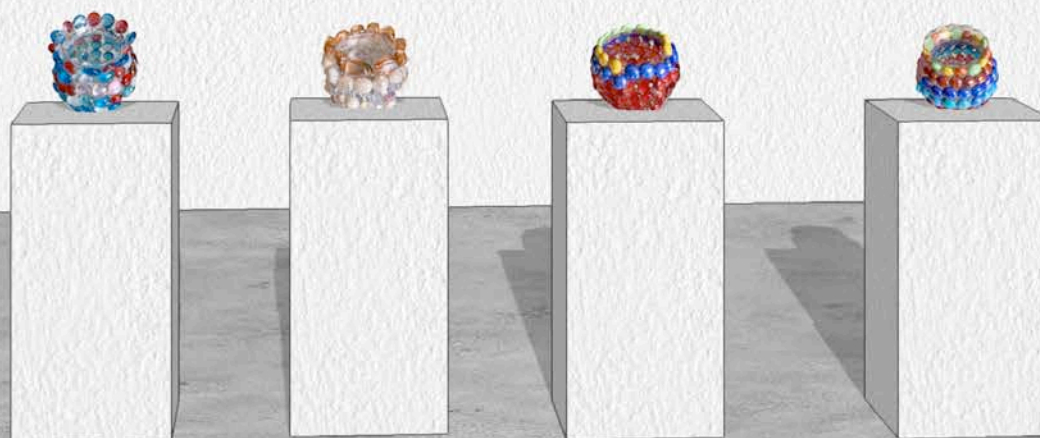
# CHASING SUNSETS

A Southside Youth Program Exhibition



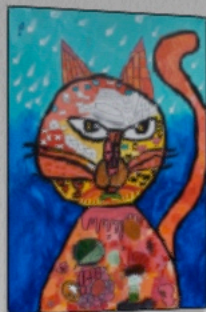
**St. Francis**  
community services

📍 SOUTHSIDE CENTER



Acrylic on canvas and  
glassware





“Animals, Doodles, and Textures”  
Mixed Media





“Experimenting with Color”  
Collage





"Winter has Come"  
Collage





“Let’s Play with Bugs!”  
Hand painted rocks tic-tac-toes

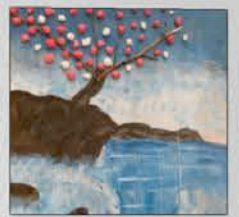
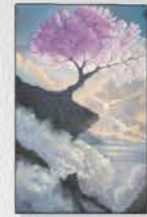
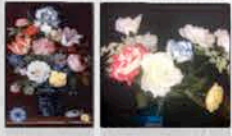




“Chasing Sunrises and Sunsets”  
Acrylic on canvas



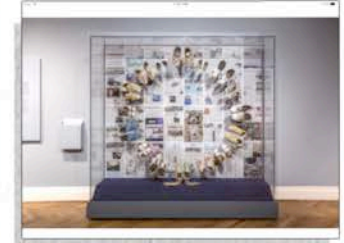




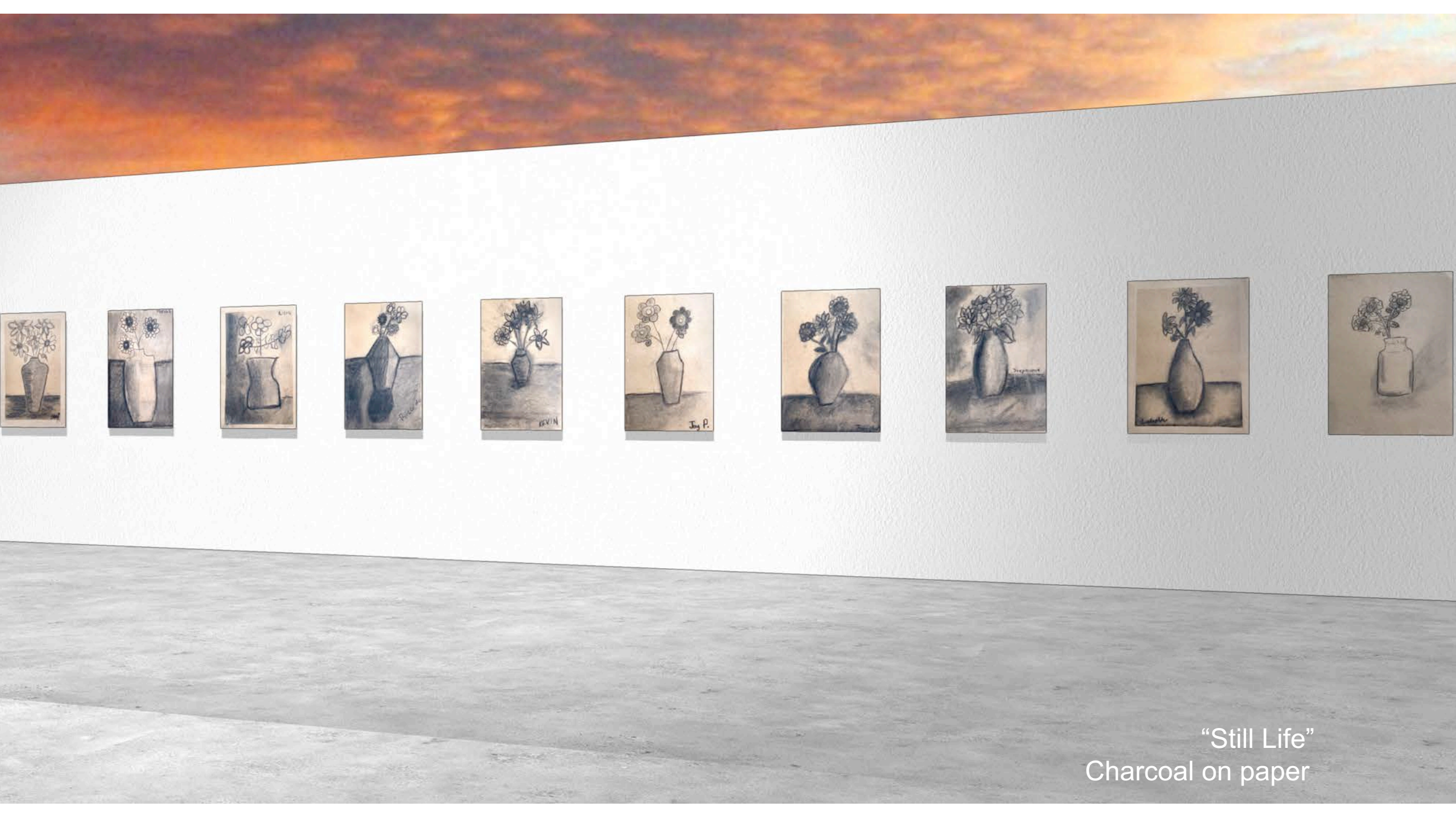
## “Getty Museum Project”

Students recreated the artworks from SLAM using every day objects found at home



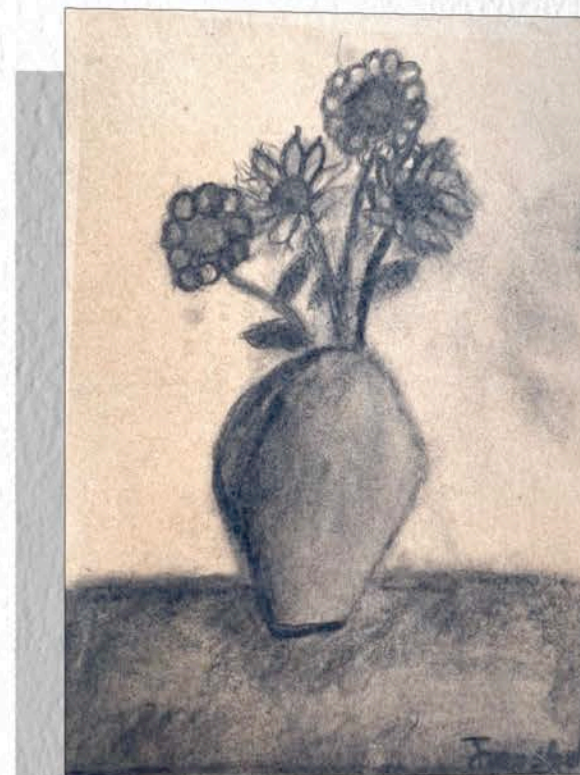
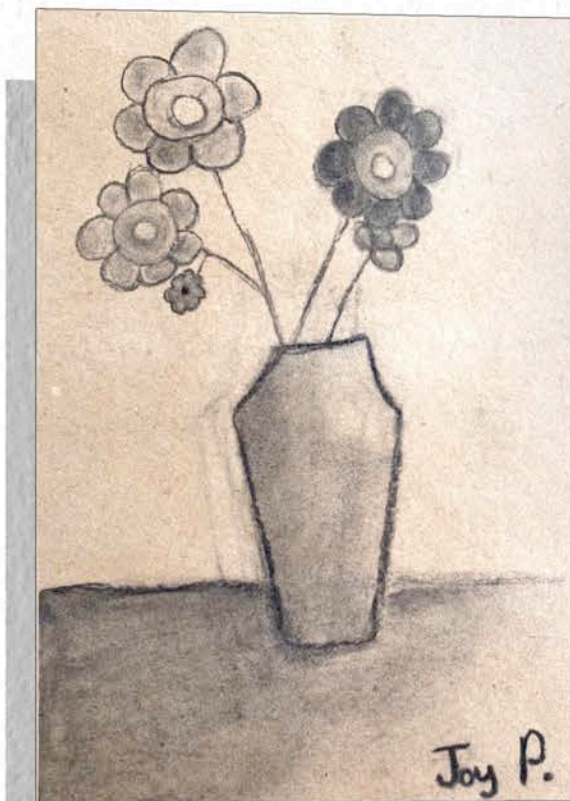
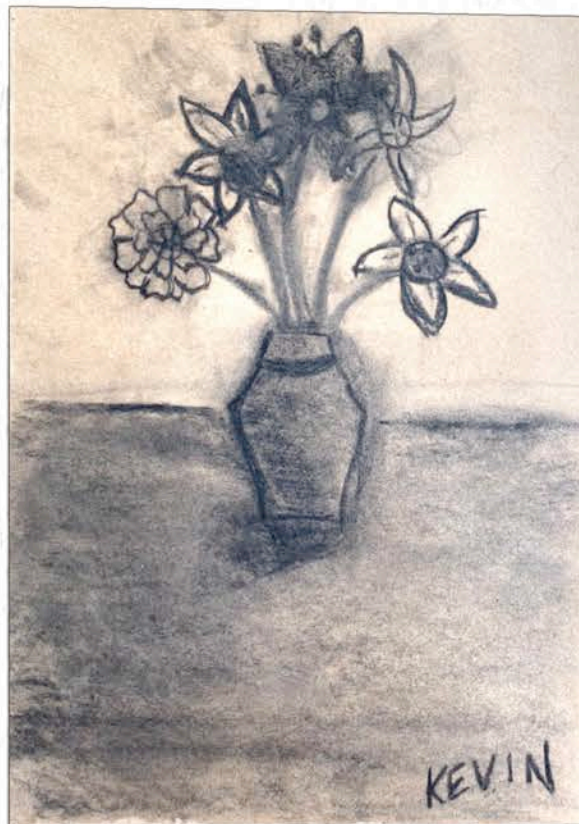






“Still Life”  
Charcoal on paper











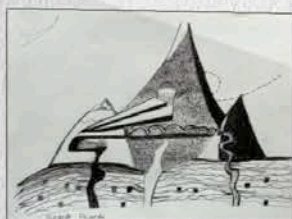






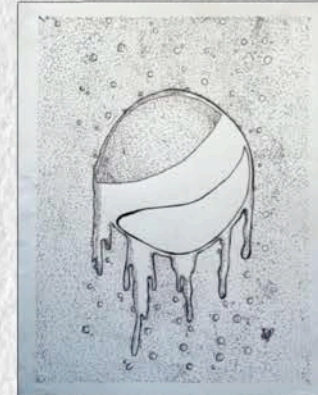
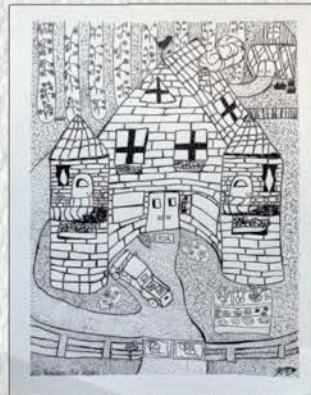
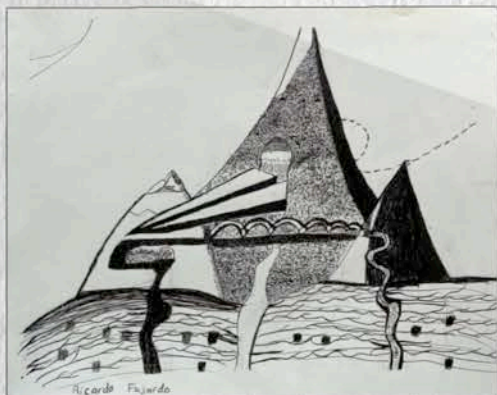
“Falling in Love with the Fall”  
Pencil and ink on paper



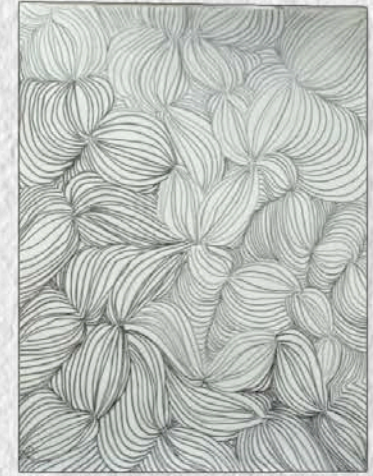
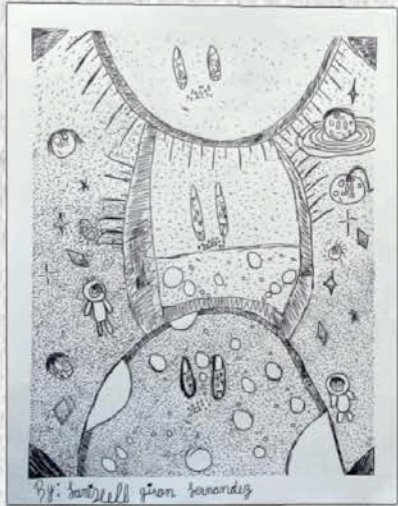


“Lines and Dots  
Ink on paper









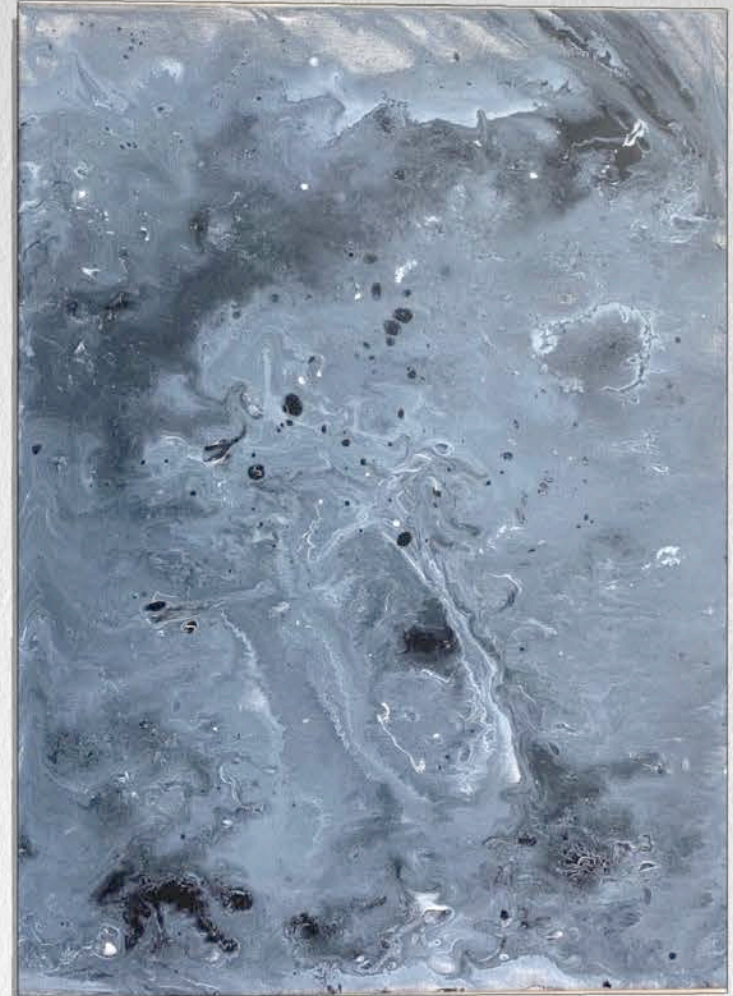




## “Pollock Recreation”

Inspired by Pollock, students created their own abstract paintings





Detail 1





Detail 2





Detail 3



# ABOUT THE ORGANIZERS

## KARINA SKRBEC

Karina Skrbec is the St. Francis Community Services Youth Program Coordinator since 2015. Ms. Skrbec earned her degree in Education in Argentina and has an experience of over 20 years in the field.



## GABRIELA TOUJAS

She is a painter who was born in Buenos Aires, Argentina, and after spending a few years in Germany, she moved to St. Louis. Her own art is a reflection of the different cultures she has Encountered, with a strong South American influence.





# ABOUT ST.FRANCIS COMMUNITY SERVICES

St. Francis Community Services is on a mission to create a world where everyone is valued. Providing integrated services including legal aid, bilingual and immigrant-focused services, and comprehensive case management services, we work to support people in crisis and ultimately prevent those situations from reoccurring. Our staff bring an extensive understanding of the needs in our community, with many of our programs beginning over 30 years ago. St. Francis is proud to be one of the eight federated agencies of Catholic Charities of St. Louis.

In a culturally, sensitive, linguistically competent setting, the Southside Center supports and strengthens immigrant families from throughout the region, while also addressing the needs in the diverse Bevo neighborhood.

The St. Francis Community Services Southside Youth program provides children of immigrant families services tailored to their particular needs. Throughout the school year, the Youth Program's goal is to breach the academic achievement gap by providing students the support that they otherwise cannot get at home. The compassionate and bilingual staff, alongside the reliable and loyal volunteers help students with homework, reading, while always creating a setting where students feel safe, loved, and respected. Throughout the year, the Youth Program also offers a diverse set of activities, like art and music, where students can explore and grow other skills. In summer, the Youth Program staff changes the mindset to entertainment while broadening the children's St. Louis experience. In summer, children experience St. Louis in a different way. They get to know spaces that otherwise were not known to them, like the City Museum, Sky Zone, Cahokia Mounds, etc. The community has forged a relationship such that students always look forward to coming to our programs regardless the activity offered.

Throughout the school year, 17 students participate in the prestigious Art Club & Art Studio Program at Southside. The program is facilitated by Ms. Gabriela Toujas, a seasoned art instructor and accomplished local artist. The instructor instills students with a discipline of work very much appreciated by our participants. As part of the art sessions, the instructor teaches not only a variety of art techniques, but art history, a strong work ethic, and pride of craftsmanship. With an attendance rate of almost 100%, the creativity and quality of the art created by students speak for themselves.