



The "School of Life" Newsletter

Volume XI, Issue I – Fall 2019



Students from Ms. Abuali's ESOL class line up to apply for jobs with Nichole Jackson from Dick's Sporting Goods Ridge Hill, at the Annual Pathways to Success Career Fair.

A Successful Start to the School Year!

By Principal Susan Naber

Greetings to all students and staff of the Vive School/Pathways to Success! I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your commitment to education. The 2019-2020 school year has gotten off to a great start, and I hope you have had a productive

first two months. Please be sure to take full advantage of the many wonderful academic and career opportunities we have to offer, such as the Annual Vive School Career Fair (pictured above), Friday Art Class and more.

Lastly, I hope that everyone had a very Happy Thanksgiving. With the rest of the holiday season rapidly approaching, please remember to stay focused on your studies, and just keep on learning!

The Annual Pathways to Success Career Fair

Many students are seeking to explore new career opportunities, pursue their education, land full-time jobs, or simply make some extra money for the holidays. Our students had the opportunity to pursue these goals as Pathways to Success hosted its Annual Career Fair on Thursday, October 17.



Superintendent of Schools Dr. Edwin M. Quezada, Principal Naber, Executive Director of School Improvement Elaine Shine, and Budget Analysts Cristina Jarufe greet students and employers at the Career Fair.

Attended by more than 350 students and members of the community, this event was the twelfth Career Fair which has been held here at the Vive School. In attendance were some of the area's largest employers. Students had the opportunity to interview with these employers, fill out paper applications, or apply for positions online in our Computer Lab (or even on their phones). We would like to extend our deepest appreciation to **Shop-Rite of Greenway Plaza**, who generously allowed our staff to park in their lot, making room for the many vendors participating in the fair. And a big "Thank You" goes out to all those vendors: **Stew Leonard's, Federal Express, Dick's Sporting Goods, The Alamo Drafthouse, U.S. Census Bureau, Yonkers Public Schools Food Service Department, 5 Star**

Premier Residences of Yonkers, St. John's Riverside Hospital, Wegman's, Fidelis Care NY, Yonkers Career Center, Barksdale Home Care, ArchCare, Marquis Home Care, ACS Home Care, Hudson Link, Metallized Carbon, New York State Department of Labor Apprentice Training Program, and Empress Ambulance

Following the Career Fair, several students were interviewed and/or hired, such as Leticia Buel. Leticia is a student in Ms. Tamis' class, and she was hired by Federal Express as a Packer ***the very next day after the job fair!*** If you were interviewed and/or hired by any of the job fair employers, or if you need assistance with employment, please see one of the Employment Counselors in Room #104.

Students Enhance Their Literacy via the Arts

In addition to the excellent education and comprehensive support services the students at Pathways to Success receive, they now have the opportunity to express their creative side in TASC Teacher Nichole Gray's "Literacy through the Arts" Class.

Ms. Gray, who has taught Fine Arts at the college level and had artwork exhibited in juried competition, explains how she facilitates her students' creativity: "Every week we try out a certain form of art. I find an example and project it on the wall, teach them a little bit about it and then let them copy it in their own ways. For example, one week we focused on the impressionist style of Pointilism, another week on Vincent Van Gogh, and so forth." As they explore art, students' literacy is enhanced through the introduction of terminology related to the field, as well as discussion of the artwork they are discovering.

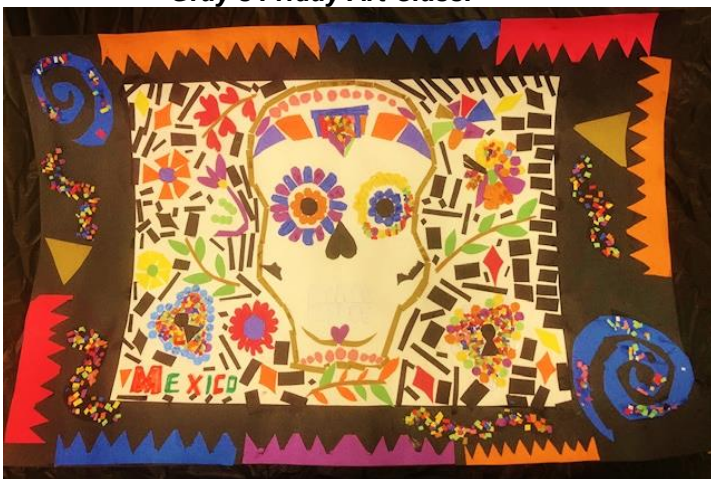
While copying existing works of art was a good introduction, the students sought

greater freedom to express their creativity. “Eventually some of them asked if they could make stuff from their head and I absolutely encouraged them all to push their boundaries,” says Ms. Gray.

“Sometimes we also focus on art forms from the students’ native countries. For example, one day we celebrated the Mexican tradition of the “Day of the Dead,” and we made paper flags known as “papel picado. “The bottom line is, we are having fun!”



Beautiful artwork created by students in Ms. Gray's Friday Art Class.



So successful has this class been that a gallery will be established at Vive to exhibit their works in the near future, and Ms. Gray

is exploring the possibility of taking her class to an art museum. In the meantime, if you are interested in Literacy through the Arts, or any of our other outstanding Friday or Saturday classes, please speak to your Department Counselor.

Helping Students Cope with Everyday Issues

The students at Pathways to Success must deal with a wide range of issues, on a daily basis. In order to assist our students in handling these issues, we are excited to announce that we have initiated a collaborative relationship with New Fronteras Behavioral Consulting Services.

New Fronteras will be providing case management services, workshops and small group sessions covering a wide range of topics, including Healthy Coping Strategies, How to Change Behavior, Socialization Skills, Time Management, Parenting, Coping with the Holidays, Transitioning from School to Work and more, at both the Vive School (day) and PEARLS Hawthorne (evening). In addition, as Yonkers is a My Brother's Keeper District, New Fronteras will offer special programs for young men of color. More topics can be added, based on student interest and need.

If you are interested in participating in any of New Frontera's group sessions, or have an idea for a new group topic, please speak to your teacher, Department Counselor or Linda Bohan in Room #104.

Cultural Celebrations

Pathways to Success is a diverse and multi-cultural program in which people of all ethnic backgrounds are respected and celebrated. Therefore, we would like to acknowledge the following cultural observances:

- **September:** Hispanic Heritage Month

- **October:** Italian-American, Polish-American and German-American Heritage Month
- **November:** Native-American and Ukrainian-American Heritage Month

We recognize the substantial contributions which these cultures have made to our society, and we celebrate our students and staff from these ethnic backgrounds.

Promoting Breast Cancer Awareness (and other topics)

Various activities were held throughout the last two months in order to further promote health literacy among our students, and in recognition of Breast Cancer Awareness Month in October.

Linda Guterrez, a Community Breast Navigator for St. John’s Riverside Hospital, conducted presentations on Breast Health at both Vive Schools and PEARLS Hawthorne. In addition, many teachers created bulletin boards to promote awareness and provide students with important information. In addition, each classroom was provided with information and resources to promote breast cancer awareness.

mammogram, were scheduled to receive a free mammogram through the Hudson River Healthcare Cancer Screening Program.

There have been many other important presentations conducted here at Vive this fall, including “Awareness of Domestic Violence,” given by My Sister’s Place, and “Know Your Immigration Rights,” given by Hudson Valley Legal Services. In addition, Hudson River Healthcare administered 80 free flu shots here at Vive.

Thank you to all of our Literacy Zone partners and staff members for supporting these initiatives.

**For more information about
FREE Adult Education Classes
for Yonkers residents, please contact
Susan Naber, Principal of
CTE/Adult Education
at 914-376-8600 or
snaber1@yonkerspublicschools.org**



That’s all for now. See you in two months!



Students in Dr. Lara’s ESOL class created this beautiful display to promote awareness of Breast Cancer Month.

As a result of these activities 15 women who had no insurance, and had never received a

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