



HOUSATONIC
MUSEUM OF ART

FROM THE CONCRETE ROSE ART EXHIBITION

FRIDAY, JUNE 16 - FRIDAY, AUGUST 4

Burt Chernow Galleries, Lafayette Hall
Housatonic Community College

PREVIEW RECEPTION

Thursday, June 15

FEATURED ARTISTS

Jasmine Acevedo, Robert
Bartlett Jr., Raheme Baskin,
Kathia Carcamo, Bianca
Espinoza, Jamel Ford, Josiah
Hartwell, Jaylynd Leon, Garrett
Schmidt, and Marvin Y. Verano



ABOUT THE EXHIBIT:

FROM THE CONCRETE I ROSE:

BREAKING GROUND FOR THE NEXT GENERATION OF ARTISTS

Inspired by Tupac Shakur's poem, "The Rose that Grew from Concrete," this exhibition examines the power of art to transform young lives. Students developed their artistic voices with their mentors as they created images of self-empowerment, discovering new ways of seeing the world and sharing their unique perspectives. Like the delicate but strong rose that pushes through the concrete, the students emerged with artwork that fills the gallery with beauty. The exhibition is made possible by the generous support of [The Eileen Harris Norton Foundation](#). Special thanks to [Milford Photo](#). Curated by Robert Stone, M.F.A., with support from the Housatonic Museum of Art staff. Share your stories of who inspired you using the hashtag [#fromconcreteart](#) on social media.

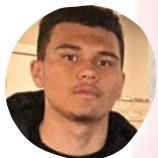
ABOUT THE ARTISTS

JASMINE ACEVEDO



I am 17 and a third-year student attending Bridgeport Military Academy. Whether I'm painting, drawing, or just taking photos, art is like a way for me to escape the world. I find art fascinating since every item is always unique. I'm also inspired and excited by it. I want you to experience the same things through my pieces of art.

ROBERT BARTLETT JR.



I'm 16 years old, and I enjoy music. The title of my work is "Transparency." I want people to think outside the box and not have the same perspective when they look at it. I'm pretty laid back and recently discovered my interest with art. My goals are to complete high school, study law, become a successful lawyer, and have a family.

RAHEME BASKIN



I am 12 years old and attend Capital Prep. I am finishing 6th grade. The art sessions were amazing and fun. I really enjoy myself and expressing myself. I want to be a boxer, NFL, or NBA player.

KATHIA CARCAMO



I am 12 years old. I like to go out and explore places with my family and friends. I attend the Catholic Academy of Bridgeport St. Augustine. I felt I was able to express myself in this art piece, and it made me think more than I wanted to, so I hope you enjoy the view!

BIANCA ESPINOZA



Originally from the Bronx, I am 14 years old and a Thomas Hooker Graduate. I like painting, reading, and the outdoors. My inspiration for her untitled painting came from Hip Hop recording artist Tyler the Creator. His lyrics and messages in his music inspired my creation.

JAMEL FORD



I'm from Bronx, New York, and I moved from there to get a better life. This piece is filled with writing magazine cutouts and stickers. It's supposed to show a kid from New York, his goals, his future, his past, and his growth. I hope you like the drawing.

JOSIAH HARTWELL



I am 12 years old and born and raised in Bridgeport. The character I chose for my painting was Black Adam because he is powerful and strong. One day I would aspire to be like him. My goal in life is to be successful.

JAYLYND LEON



I am a fast learner, mysterious, and friendly. This experience has been fun, and I have enjoyed learning something new. I didn't know this experience would turn out the way it did and exceeded my expectations. I plan to continue my journey in art.

GARRETT SCHMIDT



I am 17 years old, attending the University of New Haven in the fall. "The Power of Emotion" was inspired by an image I found on the internet that I could make more personal and connected to my life. "Hope" piece represents moving through negative issues in your life to focus on hope and a new beginning, not the end or death.

MARVIN Y. VERANO



Born in San Germán, PR, my father is Mexican, and my mother is Boricua. I am BoriMex. I attend Bassick High School. I aspire to be a barber and poet. I love my city of Bridgeport.

HOUSATONIC MUSEUM OF ART

The [Housatonic Museum of Art \(HMA\)](#) holds one of the largest art collections of any community college in the United States with almost 7,000 artworks. The HMA offers students and the community alike the opportunity to view original artworks spanning from ancient to contemporary art throughout the 300,000 square foot campus. Visitors also enjoy the special exhibitions and programs offered in the Burt Chernow Galleries.

The HMA is free and open to the public Monday - Friday from 8:30am - 7pm. Free parking available in the HCC lot (870 Lafayette Blvd). Call 203-332-5052 or visit us at www.housatonicmuseum.org.



Established in 1985, [Regional Youth Adult Social Action Partnership \(RYASAP\)](#) is a proud catalyst for positive change in the greater Bridgeport area. By incorporating youth mentorship into our comprehensive range of services in the community, including Restorative Practices, social emotional learning, mental health and substance misuse prevention, and advocacy, we further strengthen our commitment to the underserved and marginalized, no matter where they are on their personal journey. Together with our dedicated mentors, we strive to create a brighter future for the next generation, providing healthy outlets for sometimes difficult conversations. For more information, visit ryasap.org.

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