

Student Teachers take time to reflect while on their April Break

On Thursday April 11, 2019 I was fortunate to participate in *New Visions*, the annual Art Education show in the LEG. I had the opportunity to display several amazing linoblock prints from a group project by the Graphic Design II students from West Springfield High School, as well as papier-mâché Greek-inspired vases by my 6th grade students from JFK Middle School, Northampton. Both lessons were tied to the Massachusetts Visual Arts Curriculum Frameworks. It is wonderful to show off all the hard work that students had put into both of these projects. I was happy to see one of the Graphic Design II students come to the opening reception and see her own work hung up alongside her peers' work. I also had the opportunity to display some of my own recent ceramic work.

It has been a great learning experience to see the work done by students of other art educators. I really enjoyed being with Ryan Jobb, another senior, at West Springfield High School for part of the practicum experience, so it was great to see some of the work that he has been doing now in Holyoke, and having conversations about how our lesson plans are related to one another even when we are at separate schools. It was inspiring to see the student work done in art classes where UMass grad students are teaching, and to have frank conversations with them that will help me when I think about what may be my next steps as an educator.

Nicole Zadykowicz

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With four weeks completed for the second site of full time student teaching, and only thirteen more days to go, student teachers are starting to wrap up their practicum experiences. Ryan Jobb and Nicole Zadykowicz will be licensed to teach Visual Arts from the level of pre-school through grade 12, an accomplishment that makes them very desirable to future employers. While other graduates in Massachusetts receive either the preK-8 or the 5-12 Visual Arts license, the fact that Nicole and Ryan surpass that is beneficial for their future as educators. Public school districts across Massachusetts invest considerable sums of money in preparing their staff, and having an art teacher who is able to be moved from one level to another, in the event of a reorganization of their district provides stability to the teaching force.

When Ryan and Nicole start teaching on Monday, they will be carrying the full load of responsibilities, including creating lesson plans, grading, recess and lunch duties, maintaining the art room and supplies, even buttoning sweaters and tying shoes at the elementary level. They will be planning with their supervising practitioner how to wrap-up their lessons, and provide for a smooth transition for the teacher to take back the classroom. We know that Ryan and Nicole will sail through these next thirteen days. Best wishes!

## More New Visions



West Springfield High linoprints and JFK, Northampton papier mâché Greek vases



Nicole Zadykowicz's ceramic work, above and below.



"I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO BE PART OF A UNION." RYAN JOBB, BFA 2019, on becoming a member of the Massachusetts Teachers Association



## OUT AND ABOUT

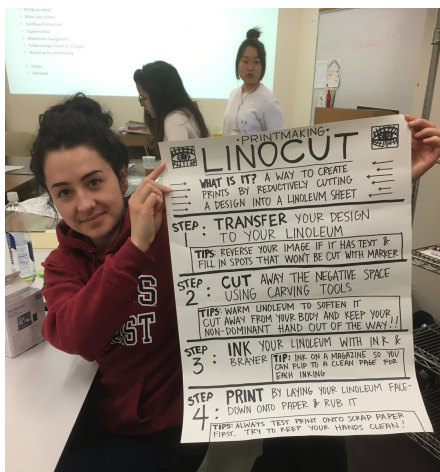
Even though this has been the April break for K-12, *Ryan* and *Nicole* have used the time to plan lessons for the remainder of their student teaching experience. Both have been submitting lessons, for required review prior to implementation, to three people for feedback. Papier mâché of all sorts is the medium of choice, with cultural and art history emphasis, and components that include some of the elements and principles.

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Students in Art 311: Visual Arts and Human Development II have been practicing the use of materials and methods of instruction as part of their journey to be art teachers. What makes children tick? What skills do they need to have? How does art influence and empower them?

The materials in many public schools is scare, and often second rate at best. Learning how to adapt to that paradigm shift is an essential component of K-12 instruction.

What have they been doing this semester? Be on the lookout for the first ever display of artifacts that will be used for student teaching experiences, from September 23 - October 2 in the LEG. Participating students are *Betsy Mitchell* and *Tessa Chambers*, who will student teaching this coming year, along with *Michelle Arsenault*, *Hannah Exum*, *Chuck Frost*, *Lydia Giangregorio*, *Isabel Henn*, *Jessica Jiao*, *Alicia Nunes*, *Angela Salazar*, and BDIC student, *Elizabeth Polvere*. *Betsy Mitchell* below



## OUT AND ABOUT

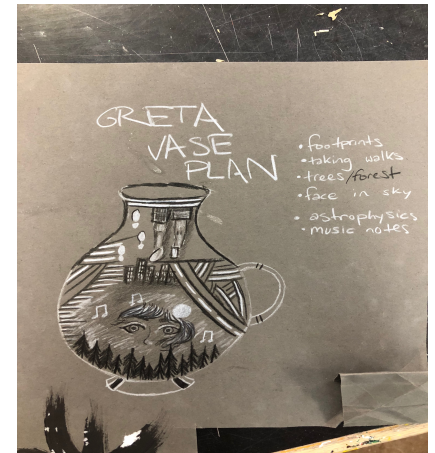


Which is the real hammer? West Springfield High rocks papier mâché.

First grade students from McMahon School, Holyoke, have no idea how incredibly powerful their abstract collage pieces are. A favorite at the recent *New Visions* art show, they were created with simple poster paint (tempera), stamping, and cut paper. Who wouldn't want to own one of these precious gems?! Kudos to McMahon students, and *Melissa Lawson*, Supervising Practitioner, and *Ryan Jobb*, Student Teacher.



## OUT AND ABOUT



Making plans to change up the papier mâché Greek vase assignment from JFK Middle School in Northampton, originally seen at *New Visions*, *Nicole Zadykowitz* and *Michelle Mallory* brainstorm ideas.



Phase 1 of papier mâché from JFK.



Students are working on their vases, which will be changed out to Greta vases, a form of self-portraiture on papier mâché.