



## Student Ag-art-culture



### Artistic Statement

We make art because it is a way of expressing ideas and ways of life, and everyone can talk to each other with art; there is no language. The theme for our art project is different activities people can do to benefit the environment. Techniques we used to create our art project are to brainstorm ideas and collaborate as well as finding different ways we can all contribute to putting our different kind of art together on linocut blocks. Steps we made as a group to make this possible in our project was talking, expressing ideas and coming up with brainstorms. We sketched fruit pears doing environmentally friendly activities. We transferred our sketches onto linocut blocks, and then carved the sketches out using gouges. After we have finished that, we inked the blocks that have been carved using brayers. When we finished with that, we printed it using the print press. Different kinds of art we've done in the past are graffiti, musical experience, oil painting, water color painting, architectural sketching, paint with oil pastels, graphic animating, wood carving, and finger painting. We feel this project is different from previous art we've made in the past because most of us have never worked with this kind of carving tool, and it is a new experience for us.

— Tj, James, Preston, Seth of Klahre House



*Concern for community grows from two different, yet connected, creative projects*

### Photos and article by Kirby Neumann-Rea News editor

"We're learning a bunch of cool stuff about art and I'm also happy we helped our community."

That's what Carlos Najera said about the agricultural mural project he and 25 fellow sixth-graders are working on in the waiting room at the new FISH food bank.

Located across town, but connected, is another student art expression rooted in the county's orchards, on display at Hood River Library. High schoolers from Klahre House alternative school created linocut prints that allowed them to explore their own artistic possibilities while interpreting the value of agriculture. Klahre House is a program of The Next Door, Inc., and serves youths in foster care or who are at-risk.

In the Klahre House and HRMS efforts, students looked at the role of food that is grown in this county and its role in sustaining community. They called it "Present Day WPA: Exploring Our Agricultural Heritage through Art." Artist in residence Kelsey Mosley oversaw the project along with staff member Maya Trook. It was funded through Arts in Education in the Gorge and Hood River Cultural Trust. A year ago, Mosley also worked with students on a series of portraits and descriptions of cultural and historic heroes of the Columbia River Gorge.

See ARTIST, Page B12



**TEACHER JENNIFER WILSON**, above, looks on as students add glass beads around figures on the FISH food bank mural. At left, Klahre House students talk with visitors at the April 8 art opening at Hood River Library. In the food bank mural, farmers and other food providers are depicted in a variety of ways. Inset: one of hundreds of ceramic fish acknowledging FISH building campaign donors, in the mural designed by Alison Bell Fox.

### WHERE TO SEE THE ART

Klahre House exhibit remains on view during regular library hours through April, in the ground-floor Jeanne Marie Gaulke meeting room. School mural will be a permanent part of the new FISH food bank, now under construction on Tucker Road next to Our Redeemer Lutheran Church (see related story).  
The Hood River Middle