



THE WRITING ON THE WALL

Middle School Highlights from Mr. Stonewall

January 24, 2025

Happy Friday Wildcats!
Congrats to our wrestlers on a great home meet!

UPCOMING EVENTS:

1/27 – 1:30 PM
Dismissal
(Professional Dev.)

1/27 – MS Wrestling
@ Earlham

1/28 – MS Wrestling
@ Pleasantville

2/3 – MS Wrestling

Girls @
Woodward-Granger

Boys @ Van Meter



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FAST testing

We just finished up our winter round of Fastbridge testing. These are tests that our students take 3 times a year (fall, winter, spring) as a “screener” to see how they are progressing.

We use these tests to make instructional changes and to make sure students are placed in the correct classes. Depending on the results of these tests, student schedules may change to make sure they are receiving the instruction they need.



ISASP

IOWA STATEWIDE ASSESSMENT of STUDENT PROGRESS

ISASP Testing

Formerly known as ITBS & Iowa Assessments, the Iowa Statewide Assessment of Student Progress (ISASP), will be here before we know it. Here are the testing dates at the middle school:

Wednesday, March 26 - Science

Tuesday, April 1 - Math

Wednesday, April 2 - Reading

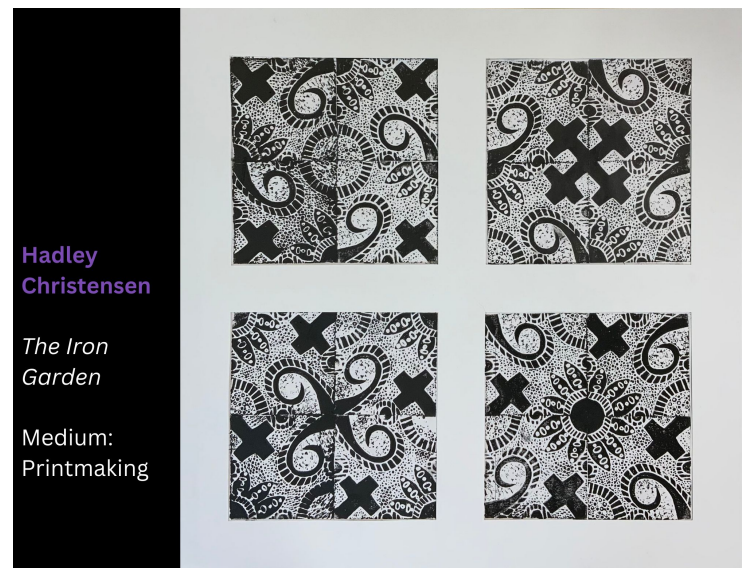
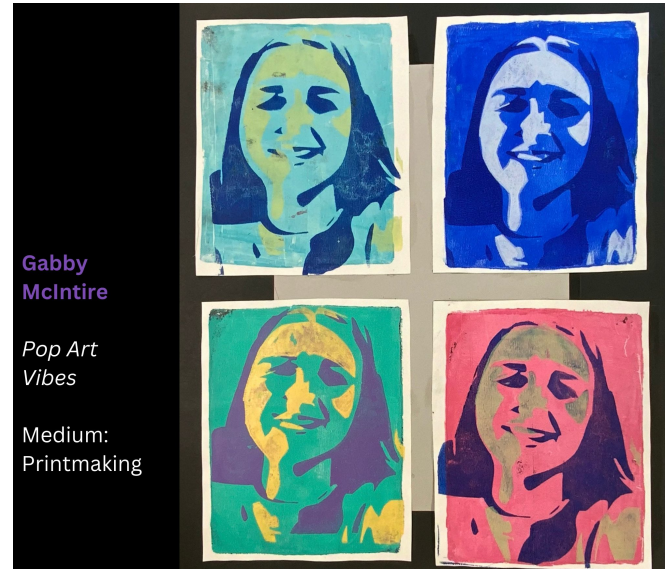
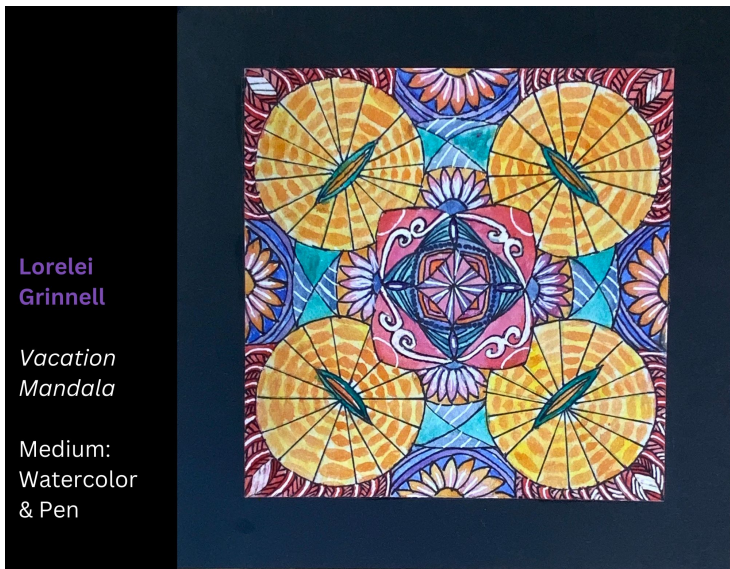
Thursday, April 3 - ELA/Writing

****Please try to avoid appointments & absences on these days.**

Thank you!

Middle School Art Competition

Submissions – Youth Art Month (YAM) is the month of March. Here in Iowa, teachers who are AEI members have the option to enter ten works of art to be judged, and if chosen, will be on display in the state-wide art show. The top 20-25 works of art in grades K-12 will be displayed at the Iowa State Capitol building, know as the Governor's Show. These are the 10 being entered into the competition this weekend:



Mila
Orr

*Oliver,
My Love*

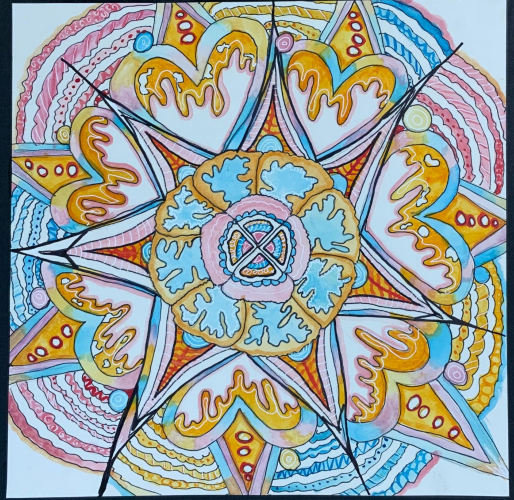
Medium:
Watercolor
& Pen



Sophie
Davis

*Sorbet
Sunburst*

Medium:
Watercolor
& Pen



Paige
Bleckwehl

*Ramsey,
My Majestic
Steed*

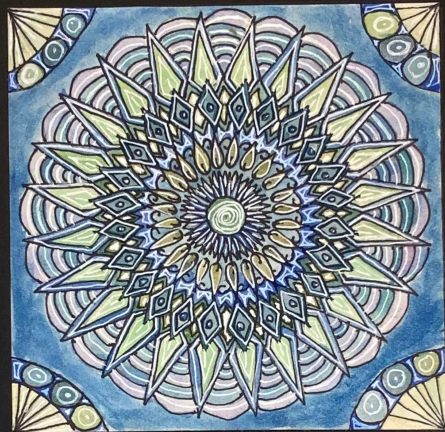
Medium:
Watercolor
& Pen



Isabella
Corbett

*Ice
Queen's
Mandala*

Medium:
Watercolor
& Pen



Ryan
Forcht

*'My'Lar
Balloon R*

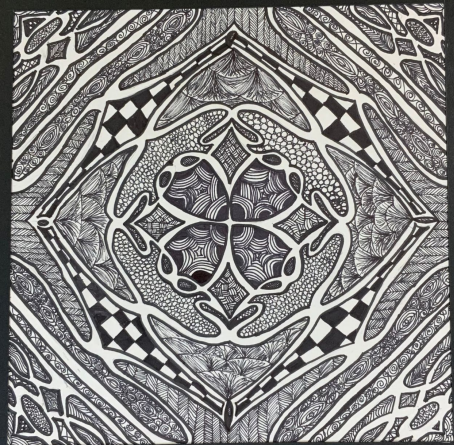
Medium:
Charcoal



Henry
Craig

*Henry in
Patterns*

Medium:
Pen





2nd Semester Updates

Grades: Last week we sent out 1st semester/2nd quarter grades. If you ever have any questions about grades please reach out to your student's teacher(s). Grades can be accessed at any time on JMC by students & parents. Once a week during advisory (touch base Tuesday) we have our students check their grades on JMC.

Parent communication: One of our goals this year has been to increase communication & engagement with parents. At WCVMS, minor behavior infractions are documented as "strikes" or "documented behaviors." When a student accumulates an excessive amount of strikes in a certain time period, parents/guardians will be notified by email from their student's teachers. In cases of "major" behaviors, the principal will reach out to the parent/guardian. We believe that if we provide clear & consistent learning environments while keeping parents informed, students will thrive academically.

Attendance: Even with the recent illnesses that have been going around, our attendance has been much better than it was last year. Last year's 1st semester daily attendance rate was 92.9%. This year the first semester daily attendance rate was at 93.91%. This is a significant improvement and we appreciate your help in getting the kids to school. We also really appreciate the fact that we have been receiving doctor's notes to excuse absences. With the new attendance laws, most absences can not be excused without a doctor's note. Thank you for your help in getting those notes to us!

****Reminder – Monday, January 27th is a 1:30 Dismissal**

Have a great weekend!