

Children experience full spectrum

Mar 08, 2008

By BEN FIELDS, The Herald-Dispatch

HUNTINGTON -- On top of an icy hill, on a blustery cold night, people were dancing.

It was warm inside the Huntington Museum of Art, where kids from the latest Artworks project performed a dance routine on stage, as a final part of a multi-week project devoted to learning about the arts.

In times past, the kids involved have worked on one project, typically a piece of display art that ended up hanging in a library at Marshall University or in one of the city's prominent buildings.



This time was different.

The children, all part of the Huntington Housing Authority's Operation Right Choice program, spent time working on all types of art, from functional ceramics to paper to making T-shirts. And there was the aforementioned dance routine.

"Before, they worked on one project for seven weeks," said Tim White, program coordinator for the Cabell County Youth Empowerment program. "This has given them so much variety."

The children made the plates they were eating off of at a special dinner Saturday night, after learning about ceramics. They also helped make the food, taking a cooking course as part of the project.

The rest of the program entailed making paper for greeting cards -- "we made it with pulp, not the kind in your orange juice, but the stuff that holds paper together" said one of the kids -- making designs for and producing T-shirts, and learning dance steps.

Fifteen children participated in the program.

