

THIRTEENTH ARTWORKS PROJECT IS IN THE BAG



On Friday, August 4th, students enrolled in Operation Right Choice completed their thirteenth Artworks project entitled “A Journey Through Huntington.” Under the leadership of sculptor, Kevin Lyles, Art Professor at Rio Grande College and Andrea Gilman, Youth Programs Coordinator for the Huntington Housing Authority, these students gathered each day for two weeks at the Huntington Museum of Art from 10 am to 4 pm.

The project started by loading the group up in a van and driving all around Huntington taking pictures of landmarks, buildings, places of interest and structures unique to Huntington. Then the group printed each picture and began to put together a collage that would be the foundation for the art piece.

These pictures were then transferred to clay molds measuring approximately two feet by two feet. Once the clay mold hardened the mold was painted with shellac and made ready to receive the paper pulp. Strips of cotton fiber were mixed with water and placed in a blender where it was turned into a wet pulp. This pulp was scooped out and pressed into the clay molds. The water was removed and the molds were allowed to dry, resulting in a stiff sheet of paper being formed. The stiff pulp was removed and turned over resulting in what is called a relief.

Each relief was removed from its clay mold and placed in a wooden frame measuring two feet by eight feet.

During the two-week session, students also got to experience pottery and ceramics. On several afternoons the students were allowed to go to the pottery studio and try their hand at making pottery.

Kevin and Andrea did a wonderful job of keeping the students engaged as well as giving each one the opportunity to learn something new. Throughout the project the group took various tours of the museum to expose them to various art media such as oil painting, sculptures, fabric, print making, abstract art, modern art, contemporary art, poetry and glass blowing.

The sculpture is on display in the lobby of the Huntington Banks on the 900 block of 5th Ave.

