



Extraordinary

The 2023 International Art Portfolio

Our daily lives are often a series of routines. However, occasionally something out of the ordinary happens that stands out to us as especially memorable.

This year we asked ArtLink students to create pieces of art illustrating something "Extraordinary" that they experienced in their lives and culture, whether large or small, to exchange with their international peers.

This portfolio showcases a thought-provoking sampling of the thousands of art pieces created by young artists from 13 countries. We hope you will enjoy their creativity and insights.



Watching An Extraordinary Sunset, Nickos, age 11

For me to watch a beautiful sunset makes my day extraordinary. It is good to admire the beauty of nature.

My family has three members: me, my father and mum. My father is a Police Officer. I like programming and Rammstein (German Neue Deutsche Harte Band). I want to be a programmer because I love programming.



Football, Nikita, age 16

In my drawing, I am trying to describe a football match. It happens in the stadium in the summer. As you can see in my picture, I made a bicycle kick and scored a goal. It was by accident which made this moment so special. It is a moment I will remember for a long time.

My family is quite huge. My parents are kind and responsive people. Also, I have a brother and sister, they are older than me. I find my sister to be friendly and sociable, my brother is the complete opposite. I like spending time with my siblings and I dislike seafood. I want to become a professional football player and an architect because I like to draw.



City Of Banjul, Maimuna, age 11

I spotted this unusual site in our city of Banjul: The traffic was blocked and the cows were crossing the road. The building you see on the right hand side is our school and the building on the left is my house. Beside the building there is the tree where we wash cars.

I dislike playing volleyball. I enjoy reading. My dream car is a Maybach. My favorite dish is Jollof Rice. [A rice dish from West Africa. The dish is typically made with long-grain rice, tomatoes, onions, spices, vegetables and meat in a single pot.] When I grow up I want to be a doctor because I like science.



Creation, Antony, age 14

My piece describes my mom and I enjoying God's creation. I admire His creation, it's extraordinary.

I live together with my dad, my brothers, my grandparents, and my uncles. In my free time I like to play soccer, ride horses, and study. To help the environment, I pick up trash and I clean my house. My goals are that I want to continue my education and to graduate.



Unity In Diversity, Lavanya, age 10

India has its unique culture and tradition which makes it distinct from the whole world. Despite having so many cultures, traditions and religions, the people live in peace, harmony and love showcasing the unique culture of Unity In Diversity.

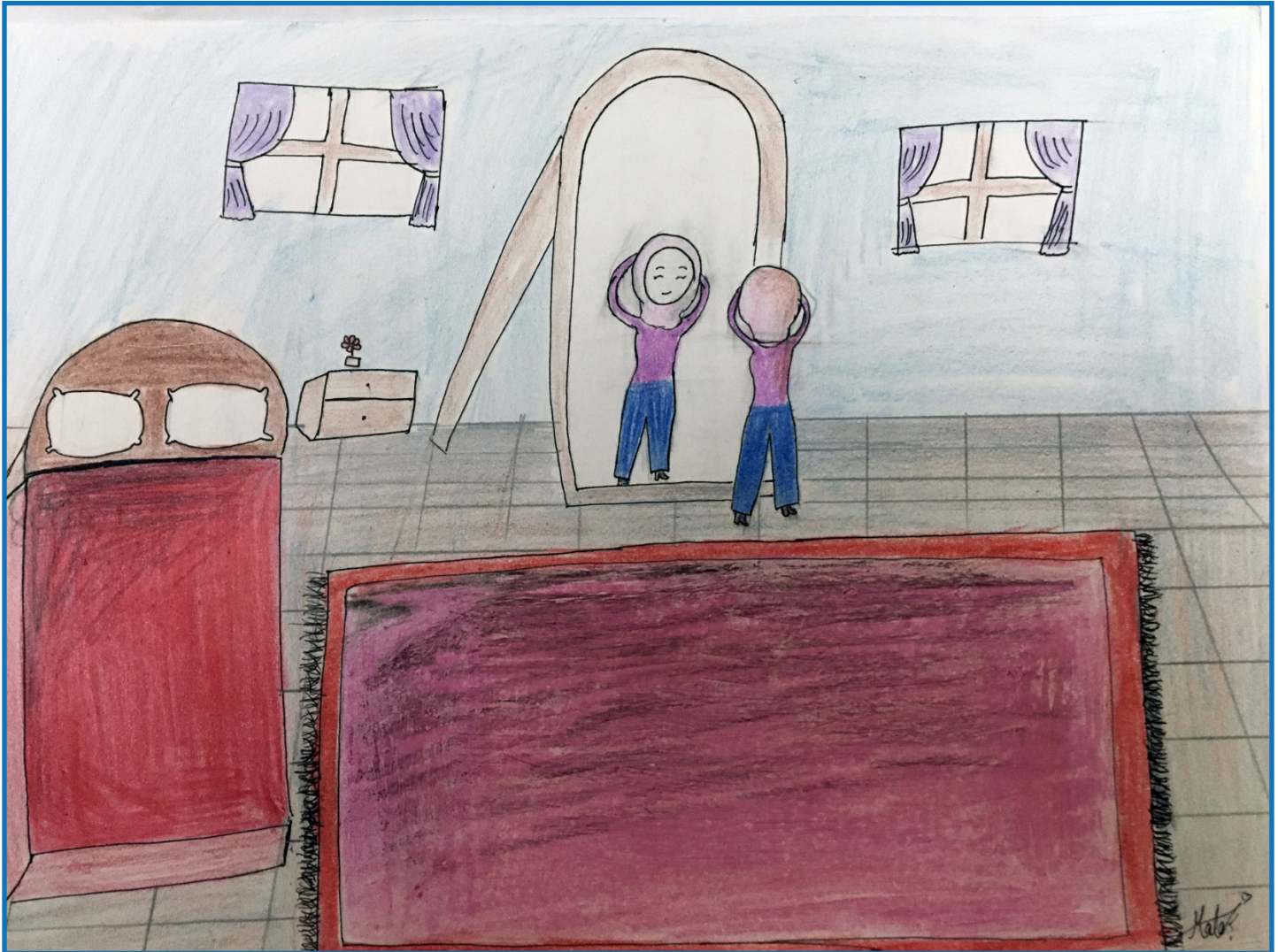
I have one sister who is six years old. My father is an Engineer and my mother is a HR Manager. I like drawing and painting. I want to be an artist. I want too be a good human being when I grow up.



My Farm, My Life, Moya, age 9

The picture is of me and I am on my family farm. I am cleaning the calves' pen. You might think it is extraordinary, but I love doing it. I have a value of hard work and I am willing to stay until the work is done.

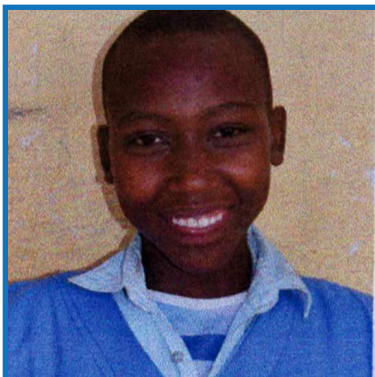
I have two dogs: Daisy & Mo, two turtles: DJ & Bob, an older sister: Kayla and a Mom and Dad. I like to work with animals and playing GAA (Gaelic Athletic Association) and athletics. I don't like Harry Styles.



Hijab, Malak, age 13

I'm in my room wearing the hijab for the first time. I am illustrating Islamic morals.

My family consists of seven people. We are different from each other but in harmony with each other. I like knitting and I dislike cooking. My goal is to be a writer and I want to be a dentist when I grow up.



During Election Period, Emma, age 14

Elections do not happen every day. William Ruto is giving a speech in Uhuru Park. He wants to be elected president. He is our president by now. It is important to hold peaceful elections in Kenya.

There are five members in my family: my mom, grandmother, two siblings and me. I like reading story books and I dislike gossiping. When I grow up I want to be a neurosurgeon.



The Extraordinary Future, Keilija, age 15

In my artwork you can see robots and other extraordinary things like houses which are floating in the sky. All of them are on or beside the beach. The robots are happy about life, they are smiling. My piece shows that the future could be completely different from the present. It can be extraordinary!

I have a big family. Grandparents, siblings (sister and brother), cousins, aunts and more, and of course my loving parents. I really like reading and cooking for my family. I don't like arguing or if I don't know what to do. When I grow up I want to be an art teacher.



Beauty Of Our Dancing Culture, Deborah, age 12

Firstly, it's actually one of my classmates in this painting. It took place during inter-house sports and she was showing the beauty of our dances. Though there were other cultural dances, her dance was the most beautiful. The value that my drawing shows is how some parts of our culture and traditions always stick with us.

My dad is a warehouse manager and my mom is the head of operations for the same company. I have three brothers. I like dancing, singing, listening to music and K-drama. I dislike people who are wasteful, selfish and boastful. One day I will be a surgeon.



Trip to Minneriya National Park, Sri Lanka, Theertha, age 9

During our school vacation we went to Minneriya National Park with our family friends. The park is one of the world's most significant places where Asian elephants are living. I was very excited to see many elephants roaming around.

There are three members in my family, my father, mother and myself. I love to draw something everyday. My favorite sport is swimming and I love playing badminton with my friends. I love to eat pizza and I don't like to eat dark chocolates. My ambition is to be an artist and doctor.



Hot Soup, Darya Ceylin, age 11

This is me in the kitchen. Typically I can't drink boiling soup, but seven years ago we got a call that our friend was in the hospital. We had to go in five minutes. Before the call, I was trying to cool down the soup, but when I heard about our friend, I drank it without hesitation. Love can make you do things that you never thought you'd do.

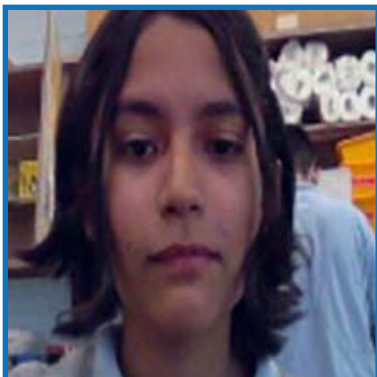
I don't have any siblings. My mom's name is Iclal and my dad's name is Cenk. I also have a dog, his name is Yumak. I like playing the piano, drawing, reading, animals, playing tennis and studying. My goal is to have a job that makes me happy.



From The Garden, Shanillah, age 12

This is a scene I know and remember. It takes place in the garden, the mother with a child on her back is carrying oranges and tomatoes in a basket on her head while the other son is carrying firewood on his head.

There are six members in my family. We are loving and work hard to care for each other. I like arts and crafts and cooking. I dislike lazy people. I want to be a fashion designer when I grow up and create the most beautiful clothing.



The Third Gift, Bianca, age 12

My piece includes my mother, father, brothers, and me. This takes place on October 23, 2013 in a hospital room on the day my brother was born. I am holding my little brother on the couch while the nurse is taking the picture.

My dad works at BNSF railroad (one of the largest freight railroad networks in North America). My mom is a stay at home mom. My older brother, Max, is a senior in college and he would like to be a physical therapist. My little brother is now 8 years old and we attend the same school. I also have a pet cat named Meatball and he is 6 years old.



An Activity : Discover More!

2023 International Art Portfolio

We invite you to examine each of the art pieces created by student artists found in the International Art Portfolio describing something extraordinary in their lives or in their culture. Please read their descriptions and answer these questions:

1. Find the piece from Cyprus with the blue faced boy.

What makes his day extraordinary?

2. Find the piece from Uganda entitled "From the Garden."

Who do you think is working hardest in this scene and why do you think so?

3. Find the piece featuring a sports scene from Estonia.

What happened when the artist made a bicycle kick?

4. Find the piece depicting an extraordinary view of the future from an artist in Latvia.

What are people replaced by?

5. Find the piece of man standing in a truck in Kenya.

What is the man in the truck doing and what is he hoping to win?

6. Find the piece taking place in a USA hospital.

What extraordinary event is described as "The Third Gift"?



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7. Find the piece with 8 ladies dancing in bright clothing.

What does the artist from India find extraordinary in India's diverse mix of cultures?

8. Find the 4 pieces that describe extraordinary encounters with animals.

- How many elephants can you find in the Sri Lankan painting?
- What type of animals are crossing the street in the middle of a Gambian city?
- What is the Irish artist doing that she loves?
- What 4 different animals are illustrated in the Guatemalan piece?

9. Find the piece with an unsmiling girl eating at her kitchen table

When this girl found out a friend was in the emergency room of the hospital, what extraordinary thing did she have to do?

Questions to explore...

- What memorable experiences have you had while playing or watching sports?
- What extraordinary experiences have you had with animals, whether they are wild, domesticated, or pets?
- What unforgettable experiences have you had in nature?
- What amazing things do you think our future will hold?
- What memorable things have you done with (or for) your friends?
- Why is diversity important in a culture?