



Everything Starts from a Dot

## first grade

The Abstract artist Kandinsky explored shapes and colors purely for those qualities and without the goal of representing any singular object. Kandinsky was a musician as well as a painter, "and thought of colors as music." Kandinsky states, "Everything starts from a dot," and so the first graders were asked to color a dot with their favorite color. The resulting dots form a purely abstract, Kandinsky-inspired "Improvisation."



McKinley's exemplary project, **The Kaleidoscope Project**,

comprehensively integrates the arts into all programs and classrooms. The goal of the project is to reach each learner through engaging activities that involve music, dance, drama, visual arts, and theater arts in conjunction with traditional teaching strategies. Through this arts integrated approach, we provide a rich school experience that develops critical and creative thinking, encourages problem-solving, provides feedback and opportunities for reflection, and sets the stage for academic achievement.

## where learning is an art

### notes and source material

- K:** Brown, Elizabeth (forward). *National Museum of American Art*. 211 (Gene Davis). Washington, DC: Smithsonian Institution, 1995.
- L:** De La Cruz, Hort (revised). *Art through the Ages*. (seventh edition). 815 (Kandinsky). NY: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1980.
- Kohl, Mary Ann. *Discovering Great Artists*. 60. WA. Bright Ideas for Learning, 1996.
- 2:** Atwater, Mary Maags. *The Studies-Craft Book of American Weaving*. Reed Books Ltd., April 2013.
- 3:** Jacobsen, Raham Aarti. *Musicals for the First Time*. NY: Sterling Publishing Co, 2004.
- 4:** Kohl, Mary Ann. *Discovering Great Artists*. 74. WA. Bright Ideas for Learning, 1996.
- 5:** Naubert-Riser, Constance. *Keep The Masterworks*. NY: Portland House, 1988.

The 6 panel artwork (currently installed in the main office), **Kaleidoscope: Multiple Reflections, Infinite Patterns** and this accompanying brochure - art directed & designed by McKinley's Artist-in-Residence, Kimberly Cody, January 2017.



A commissioned, all-school artwork marks McKinley's 2016 completed addition & renovation. The artwork's goal: To create an image for every grade level, representing each individual student. Under the direction of McKinley's Artist-in-Residence, 729 students in 6 grades participated in the series titled, **Kaleidoscope: Multiple Reflections, Infinite Patterns** 2017 January

# kaleidoscope

## kindergarten



Playing By Eye

Taking inspiration from Washington Color Field School painter, Gene Davis, the kindergarten students each contributed a single fingerprint. The subsequent colorful bands are arranged in stripes reminiscent of a jazz music-inspired Gene Davis painting. The side-by-side colors create visual color vibrations, not unlike a series of sounds/vibrations heard in a musical composition.

Gene Davis talked about, "Playing by eye," and so this work is titled the same.

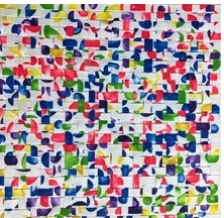




The tradition of weaving is one of the oldest surviving craft skills. Dating back to early Neolithic times, man wove to create fences, to make baskets, to build simple shelters. "When the Mayflower set sail upon her amazing adventure, weaving was a household function." The second graders created the "cloth" for this weaving; printing 3 fingerprints from the choice of five colors. The printed "cloth" was cut into strips and carefully woven into a stronger, tighter "fabric" paper textile.

# 2

## second grade



**A Fabric of Many**



Made from assembling small bits and pieces, Mosaic Art has been around for more than 5,000 years. Throughout history, mosaics have added decoration to ceilings, floors, and walls of dwellings. Some mosaics are story-telling pictures. The third graders created "self-portrait" mosaics during a 5-minute-mini-mosaic session. Nine small paper "tessera" (tiles) are used to design a 1-inch individual mosaic square; those squares are arranged in a grid to create the final work. Mosaic contributions from the office staff and school administration evenly complete the full grid.



**Nine-Square Self-Portraits**

# 3

## third grade

# 4

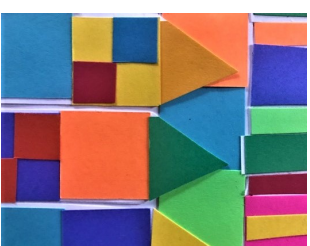
## + MIPA students

## fourth grade

### Collage by Chance

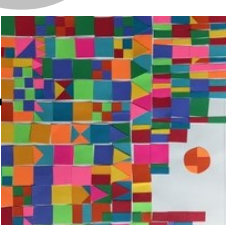


Dada artist & poet, Hans Arp believed in "the artistic law of chance." He designed a collage technique where he randomly dropped pieces of paper and glued them in place where ever the fragments landed on the sheet below. Arp and the Dada artists invented this "chance collage," applying the method to paintings, collages and sculptures. The fourth grade students and the Multi-Intervention Program for Students with Autism (MIPA) explored Dada art ideas. Each student selected a colored tissue circle & randomly placed it between thermal laminating sheets. The heat-set compositions were cut and layered to create the finished piece.



Musician and artist, Paul Klee stated, "One eye sees, the other feels." Klee was interested in calligraphy, Hieroglyphs and pictograms. Stacked squares and triangles become the architectural symbols for houses, windows, and roofs in Klee's work from the 1920's. Fifth graders were asked to select 2 colored squares of their choice, and to paste them down along a penciled line. As artists, the students followed the uneven glued adjacent square, rather than the pencil guide line. The resulting leaning towers of squares look like the stacked squares of Klee's *Castle and Sun* work, 1928. With a bit of scissor-work, fifth grade is represented in this Klee-inspired castle and sun.

### Following the Square



# 5

## fifth grade