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SHELDON ART GALLERIES FEATURES WORKS BY YOUNG ARTISTS FROM GIANT STEPS

ST. LOUIS, MO - The Sheldon Art Galleries presents *Other Worlds: Work by Young Artists from Giant Steps, St. Louis and St. Louis Community College at Meramec*, June 10 – August 6, 2016 in the AT&T Gallery of Children’s Art. An opening reception will be held on Friday, June 10 from 5-7 p.m. The Sheldon Art Galleries are open Tuesdays, Noon – 8 p.m.; Wednesdays - Fridays, Noon – 5 p.m.; Saturdays, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. and one hour prior to Sheldon performances and during intermission. Admission is free. For more information on exhibitions, visit the galleries’ website at TheSheldon.org.



Complementing *The Brightest Corner* exhibition, *Other Worlds* presents an exhibition of 40 prints, drawings, paintings and mixed media artworks created by students at Giant Steps, St. Louis, a school for children living with Autism Spectrum Disorder. Giant Steps is a therapeutic school, serving students ages 6 to 21. Students of varying abilities spend from once or twice each week to everyday in art class, where they work with a variety of methods of artistic expression, including drawing, painting, printmaking, photography and sculpture. Much of the work they do is material-oriented, using collage, recycled materials, clay, canvas, wood or Papier-mâché. Work in this show was made under the guidance of art teachers Edo Rosenblith and Andrea Wood.

Unlike exhibits of work shown in commercial galleries, the young artists showcased in *Other Worlds* make art for their own benefit rather than for recognition or monetary gain. Emanating from deep within their being, the works they create shine in their originality, conceptualization and mastery of technique. Each piece in the exhibit offers an insight into the artist’s interests, thinking, and unique way of bringing order to the world.

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Sheldon Art Galleries/ *Other Worlds: Work by Young Artists from Giant Steps, St. Louis and St. Louis Community College at Meramec*
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Also included in this exhibition are etchings and silkscreen prints that were part of a collaborative project between Giant Steps students and printmakers at St. Louis Community College Meramec (STLCC). In these works, Meramec students translated the work of Giant Steps' students into print. Editions were printed and then given to the students to share with friends and family. The exhibition is organized by Living Arts/VSA Missouri and curated by Ken Wood, professor of printmaking at STLCC Meramec.

The not-for-profit Sheldon Art Galleries exhibits works by local, national and international artists in all media. Over 6,000 square feet of the galleries' spaces on the 2nd floor are permanently devoted to rotating exhibits of photography, architecture, jazz art and history and children's art. A sculpture garden, seen from both the atrium lobby and the connecting glass bridge, features periodic rotations and installations, and the Nancy Spirtas Kranzberg Gallery on the lower level features art of all media. The Sheldon actively supports the work of St. Louis artists in all mediums and features a dedicated gallery with museum-quality exhibits by St. Louis artists, past and present.

Financial Assistance for this project has been provided by the Missouri Arts Council, a state agency. Support is provided by the Regional Arts Commission and the Arts and Education Council.

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Image caption: Daniel S., Mary A., Taijen A. and Jordan L., *Untitled*, 2015, melted wax crayon on wood panel, 48 x 38 inches, credit: artwork image courtesy of the artists and Giant Steps of St Louis.