



AUGUST MARTIN HIGH SCHOOL

# **AT AUGUST MARTIN HIGH SCHOOL, A NEW PRINCIPAL HAS MADE ALL THE DIFFERENCE.....**

AUGUST MARTIN HS HAS A NEW PRINCIPAL WHO HAS PLACED AN EMPHASIS ON LISTENING TO THE NEEDS OF ALL STUDENTS.

THE SCHOOL HAS SEEN SIGNIFICANT GAINS IN GRADUATION RATES, ATTENDANCE AND COLLEGE-READINESS DUE TO STRENGTHENED SUPPORTS FOR TEACHERS, STUDENTS AND FAMILIES.

# AUGUST MARTIN HIGH TAKE PART IN SUMMER JOBS THAT DOUBLE AS STEM EXPERIENCE



August Martin High School student Treasure Russell (l.) with her peers from the Solar One Career CLUE program, which provides students with a holistic summer job employment opportunity, while engaging in STEM-related activities



The students with their solar energy cars they learned how to build in the program.



For Abdul Ahmed, 15, also a junior, enjoyed spending his summer days learning inside and outside of the classroom while receiving a stipend and academic credit for his participation.

August Martin junior Abdul Ahmed says... "I thought it would be a good thing for me and I learned a lot from this program — the food that we eat, how we can use solar panels for energy, the rising sea levels," Ahmed said. "The program is a fun process but it can be work, it's fair. Overall, it was a great experience and I'll continue to go on trips and learn more about what is going on in the world."

Solar One's Career CLUE program was recently selected as a 2019 winner of the national UL Innovative Education Award (ULIEA) and will receive \$50,000 to further expand its summer youth program for low-income and at-risk students. The UL Innovative Education Award is a first-of-its-kind initiative designed to invest up to \$250,000 annually in environmental and STEM education, sustainable communities and youth empowerment.



The students will wrap up their summer service learning experience with a final presentation on Aug. 15. According to Bruno Estrada, an environmental educator at Solar One, Career CLUE provides students with a holistic summer job employment opportunity, while engaging in STEM-related activities.

“Many times many of these students don’t have the opportunity to get a job over the summer because of their age or because they may not have the experience or necessary skills to hold a job,” Estrada said. “One of the greatest impacts [of the program] is having that work experience ... although it’s a classroom setting, they sign in everyday, they go through evaluations every three weeks and work on a group project together. It’s a step into what work life is like, and keeps them motivated throughout the year.” Solar One’s Career CLUE program was recently selected as a 2019 winner of the national UL Innovative Education Award (ULIEA) and will receive \$50,000 to further expand its summer youth program for low-income and at-risk students. The UL Innovative Education Award is a first-of-its-kind initiative designed to invest up to \$250,000 annually in environmental and STEM education, sustainable communities and youth empowerment.

“We’re super excited to receive this funding to allow us to support the existing program but to also expand it hopefully for next year, to just continue to improve it and to particularly improve the experience the students had,” Alsen said.

The ULIEA program is celebrating five years of recognizing organizations that demonstrate effective educational programming and community engagement. Past winners have promoted E-STEM in a variety of ways, which include providing opportunities to make direct improvements in their communities, using hands-on education through experiences like cleaning up a mock oil spill and onboard floating classrooms.

“There has never been a more important time to engage youth across North America in environmental issues and education,” said Christiane Maertens, program director for the UL Innovative Education Award. “The partnership with UL and NAAEE has demonstrated increased interest in E-STEM among youth.”

For the past three years, students at August Martin High School in South Jamaica have had the opportunity to participate in a unique summer youth employment program that blends for-credit academics, personal development and engagement through environmental sustainability through career exploration and service learning.

The Career CLUE program is an initiative of the NYC Department of Education (NYC DOE) and the NYC Department of Youth and Community Development Summer Youth Employment Program (DYCD, SYEP). Solar One is a nonprofit organization that delivers environmental education programming to New Yorkers of all ages throughout the five boroughs and beyond, and was the first nonprofit STEM Education partner for Career CLUE, which has now expanded throughout the city.

Solar One's Career CLUE program builds student knowledge through experiential learning while imparting the mix of skills necessary to thrive in the emerging green careers of the 21st century.

"Career CLUE provides experience for 14- and 15-year-olds to get paid while learning about green jobs and careers growing here in New York City," said Karen Alsen, director of education at Solar One. "During this program we deliver our green design lab curriculum, which is our K-12 curriculum. It focuses on environmental sustainability, energy, food, water, materials, recycling and air quality."

August Martin High School, located at 156-10 Baisley Blvd., is one of six schools participating in the six-week summer program, which runs from July 8 to Aug. 15. Career CLUE was launched at August Martin in 2016 and has received a positive evaluation from students.

"I hope this program lasts a very long time," said Treasure Russell, 15, a rising junior. "It's very fun and educational for science. I wanted to learn about topics like water pollution and how our food was sent to us. So far, I've learned the different types of farming, food waste and the amount of water we use ... we built solar cars, went on trips to different areas like a recycling center in Brooklyn."



World famous chef & Douglaston resident Lidia Bastianich cooks with culinary students in Jamaica at August Martin High School Q400.





An internationally renowned chef stopped by a [Jamaica](#) high school to collaborate with culinary students to decide which appetizer will be served at an upcoming gala.

Lidia Bastianich, who is a restaurateur, author, Emmy Award-winning television host of “Lidia’s Kitchen” and a Douglaston resident, visited with the culinary students and faculty at August Martin High School (AMHS). She led the young chefs and their instructors in making two recipes – a beef bruschetta with arugula and homemade spicy giardiniera, and a cheesy zucchini crostata.

“Lidia’s Bastianich’s visit evoked a range of emotions for our students: they were moved, motivated and validated by her genuine interest in their career goals and words of advice,” said Saran Shields, program director for The Child Center at AMHS. “Being around someone so famous and accomplished may have intimidated them at first, but in the end, they shone with pride in their two successful dishes.”

After enjoying their delectable creations, the students voted on which of the two would be featured at The Child Center’s annual gala, which will be held on May 14 at The Lighthouse at Chelsea Piers. The bruschetta ended up winning by one single vote.

“I loved visiting August Martin High School,” Bastianich said. “When you start to see children come out of their shells, take the reins (or the chef’s knives) and really go for it, it gives you a great feeling – you really are helping them to find their voices. There is vast potential in these young chefs.”

The Child Center gala will celebrate the organization’s 65 years of service to thousands of children and families of New York. Lidia Bastianich will serve as an honoree at this milestone occasion.

In December, Chef Lidia visited one of The Child Center’s Head Start programs in Woodside, reading from her children’s books and engaging the young children in a lively demonstration on fresh herbs.

“As a Queens resident, immigrant, woman and mother, Lidia Bastianich really embodies what The Child Center is all about,” said Traci Donnelly, CEO of the Child Center. “The culinary – and life – lessons she shared at August Martin this week are inspirational to me personally, but they also greatly honor our mission as an agency.”

# COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

The Child Center of NY is a leading provider of NYC community schools, where students receive high-quality academic instruction and extended learning opportunities.

The Child Center works to engage youth and families in every aspect of the school community and offers a variety of services and support – from school-based mental health clinics that make mental health an integral part of students' education to targeted attendance outreach, which is proven to significantly increase high school graduation rates.

The aim is to ensure students can succeed academically, socially, and emotionally, and graduate from high school with skills and confidence.



# College Talk.....



***MAYOR DE BLASIO SITS IN ON A CLASS AT AUGUST MARTIN HIGH SCHOOL IN QUEENS ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE 2017-18 SCHOOL YEAR.***

This year, August Martin seniors are helping mentor New Visions' juniors on how to navigate the college application process. One August Martin student, Stephon Jones, said his biggest piece of advice is to start thinking early on about what you want out of college. "That's going to help me find the career I want," he said, adding that he's considering becoming an actor or wrestler.





# JAMAICA STUDENTS FROM AUGUST MARTIN HIGH SCHOOL AVIATION ACADEMY RECEIVE FLIGHT-TRAINING SCHOLARSHIPS FROM JFK



The New Terminal One Team at John F. Kennedy International Airport took to the skies on June 27 announcing an innovative community initiative to provide flight-training scholarships to 29 rising students in the August Martin High School Aviation Academy in Jamaica, as the air travel industry predicts a global shortage of pilots in the future, officials said.

The announcement comes as The New Terminal One Team ramps up its local presence as part of the JFK Redevelopment Program, a \$13 billion infrastructure project underway with the first phase scheduled for completion in 2023.

The New Terminal One Team, collectively known as the “Consortium,” comprises operating and financial partners led by CAG Holdings and The Carlyle Group, JLC Infrastructure, and Ullico. The Consortium was selected by the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey to undertake the redevelopment and expansion of JFK’s Terminal One. The plan was first unveiled in Gov. Andrew Cuomo’s Vision Plan for JFK in 2017.

“The New Terminal One Team is thrilled to award flight training scholarships to these 29 exceptional August Martin students,” said Amit Rikhy, president and CEO of CAG Holdings. “We are proud to support the development of the next generation of aviation professionals by providing young people with access to Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) experiences.”

The innovative student flight training initiative comes as mandatory retirement and stricter rules requiring co-pilots to have more flight time have industry experts predicting a need to fill thousands of pilot vacancies during the next several decades. Under the grant initiative, the 29 students will receive flight training at the Academy of Aviation in Farmingdale, New York, officials said.

The Aviation Academy at August Martin High School, located at 156-10 Baisley Blvd., helps prepare students for careers in the air travel industry. Students receive training on In-Flight Simulators at the school. They also receive observation hours, flight hours and classroom time with flight instructors off-site.

Khandakar Shohan, 18, a senior in the Aviation Academy whose family immigrated to New York from Bangladesh, said the academy has been a life-changing event.

“The free flight training scholarships by The New Terminal One Team in partnership with the JFK Redevelopment Program has brought new energy to the school and direction to the Aviation Academy,” said Shohan. “The resources they are providing are beneficial because, without it, some of us wouldn’t be able to achieve our dreams to become pilots.”

Cashele Brown, 18, also a senior, expressed gratitude to the school, the New Terminal One Team and the JFK Redevelopment Program for the flight training program.

“I want to be a pilot or an emergency room physician, but I know that the training and guidance I have received at the Aviation Academy will help prepare me for both,” said Brown. “The flight-training grant and scholarships are nothing but a terrific opportunity for all students in the program.”

Hadia Ghuman, 17, who immigrated to New York from Pakistan with her family, said the program will give students a better opportunity and chance to reach their goals before going to college.

August Martin High School Principal Rory Parnell, said one of the most important components of the Aviation Academy is that scholars can accrue actual flight hours in an aircraft.

“Thanks to The New Terminal One Team providing funds for our scholars to receive the first stage of their flight time as a result of our partnership with the JFK Redevelopment Program we have opened the door to internships, technical training, and a direct pathway to a myriad of career options within aviation,” said Parnell. “We look forward to continuing to find ways to create new opportunities for our scholars as we work to shape the aviation leaders of tomorrow.”

Queens Borough President Melinda Katz congratulated the students on their achievement.

“These students represent the future of aviation and deserve all of the support we can give them,” said Katz, co-chair of the JFK Redevelopment Advisory Council. “The New Terminal One Team deserves to be commended for helping these students to reach the skies — literally.”



# *Academy of Aviation*



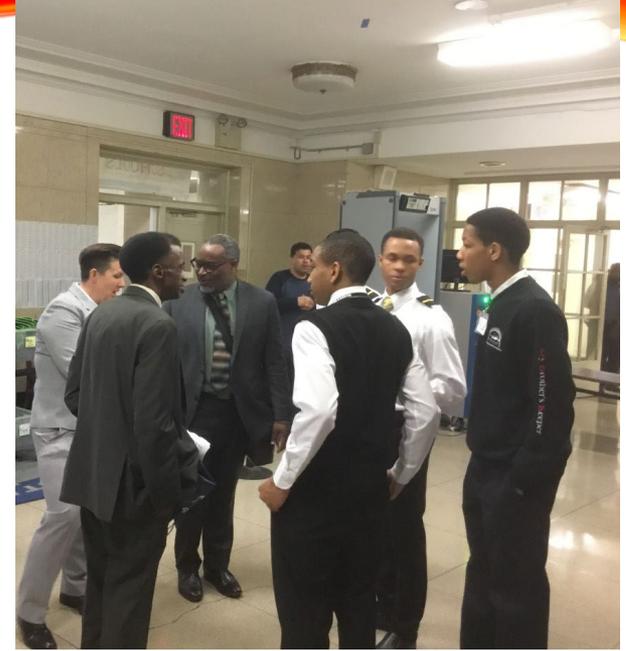
***Become a Pilot***





**LET'S TAKE A GLANCE  
OF OUR JOURNEY  
TOGETHER IN THE  
YEAR OF 2019**

# District 27 Aviation College & Career Fair





THE NEW TERMINAL ONE  
Date: June 11, 2019  
Grant awarded to: August Martin High School  
For: Flight Time for Scholars *The New Terminal One at JFK*



THE NEW TERMINAL ONE  
Date: June 11, 2019  
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# AMBASSADOR STEP UP/MBK

# CEREMONY

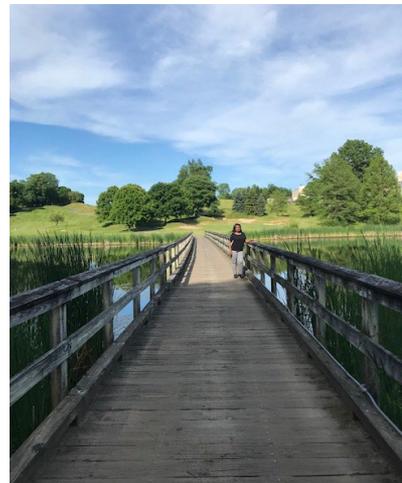




# ANNUAL MULTICULTURAL COMMUNITY POTLUCK FORUM







**AUGUST 2019**

**WELCOME BACK!**



**LET'S DO  
THIS!**

**NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION**







**SEPTEMBER**  
**2019**



**“DAD TAKE YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL DAY”  
2019**





# CULINARY DEPARTMENT







**OCTOBER 2019**



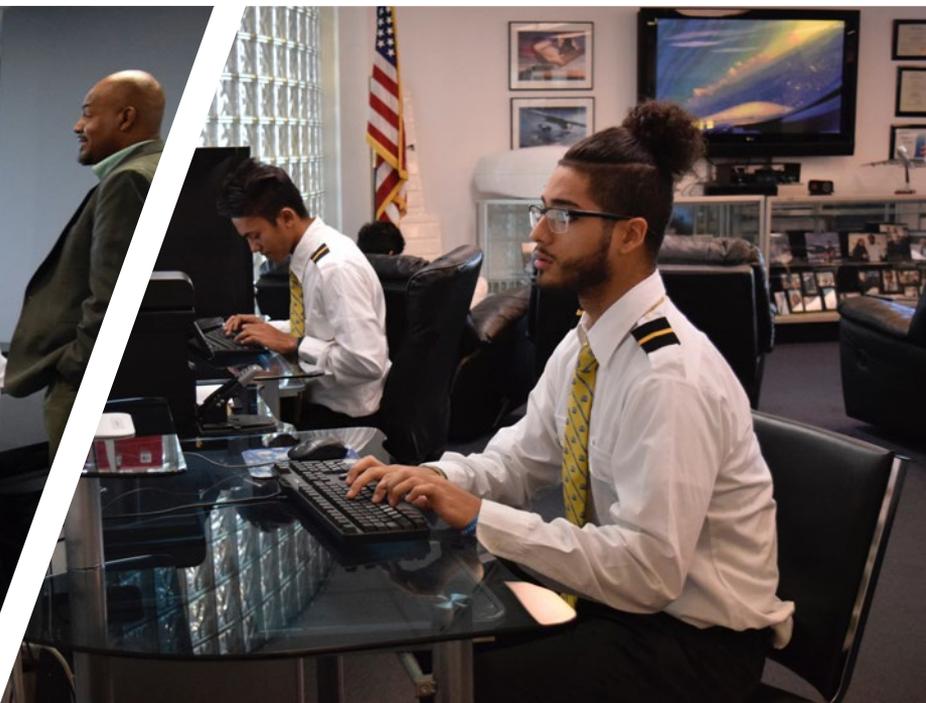
# RECRUITMENTS 2019





# AVIATION DEPARTMENT







# 2019 PUMPKIN CARVING















**NOVEMBER 2019**









# ANNUAL THANKSGIVING FEAST















**DECEMBER**  
**2019**



# MUSIC DEPARTMENT















2019 AUGUST  
MARTIN H.S.  
COLLEGE FAIR











HOLIDAY DOOR DECORATION [DEC. 16 - 18, 2019]









KNOW YOUR  
IMMIGRATION  
RIGHTS  
PARENT WORKSHOP  
[DEC. 18, 2019]



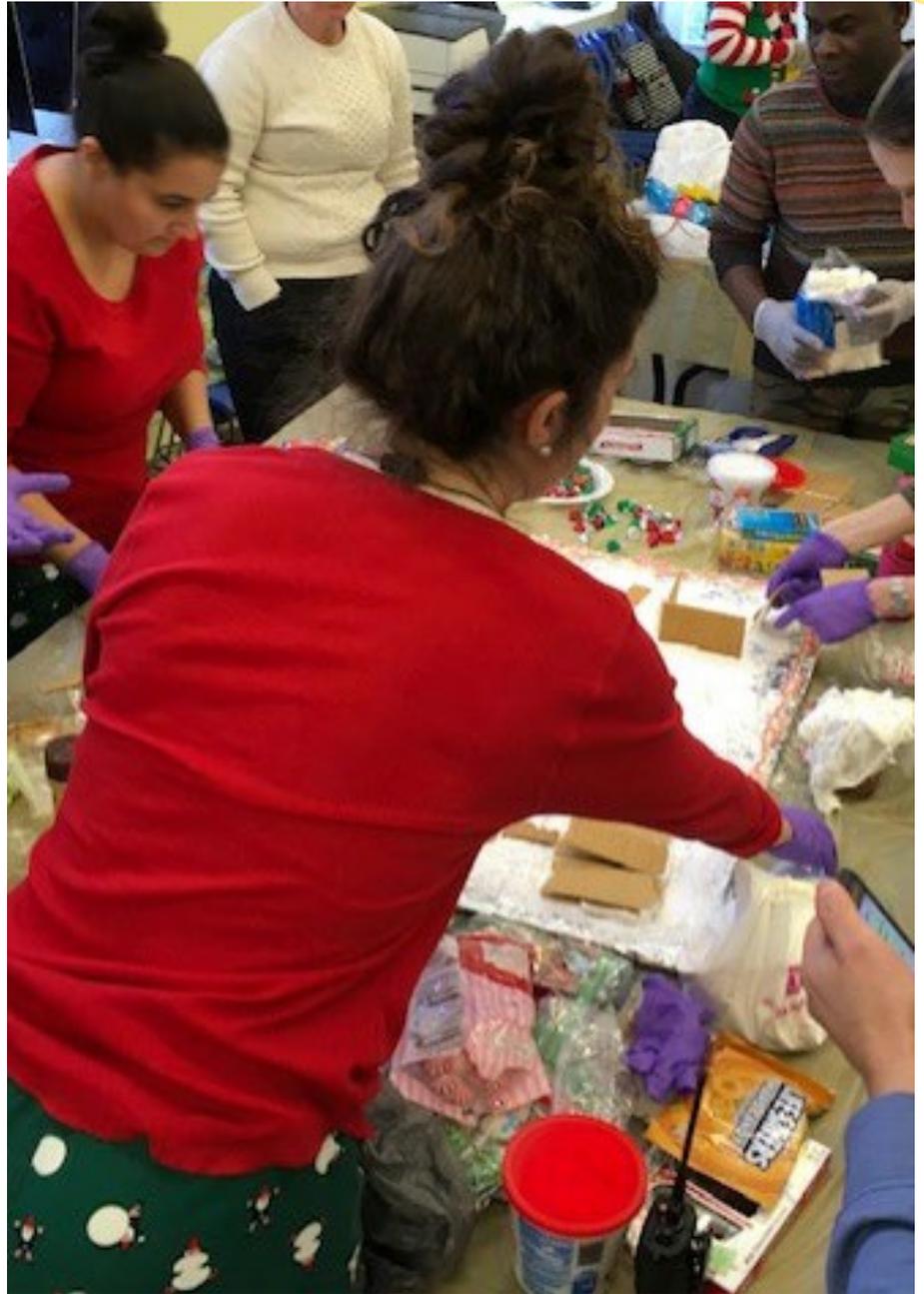




**STAFF  
GINGERBREAD  
CONTEST**

**[DEC. 19, 2019]**







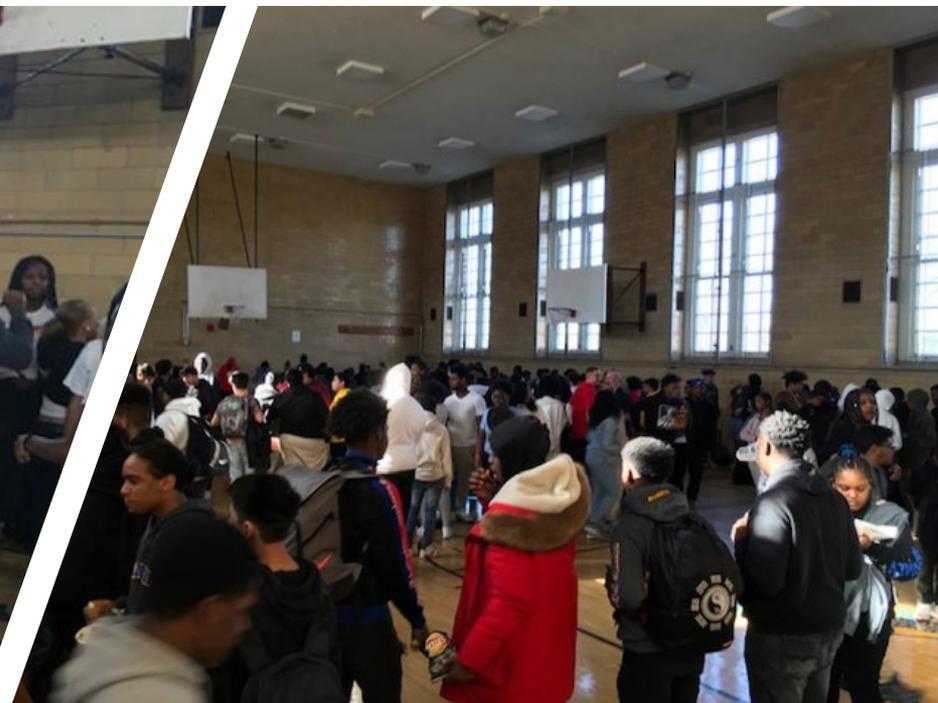


# LAST DAY OF SCHOOL HOLIDAY CELEBRATION [DEC. 20, 2019]









**We will now start a new chapter. See you all in the new year.....**



Always

remember

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”

- Nelson Mandela



And never doubt it



# FEATURE STORIES ILLUSTRATING SOCIAL CONCERNS



*Art teacher A. A. Sieunarine works with students at August Martin HS in Queens.*

Every day, the students in A. A. Sieunarine's Studio Art 2 class at August Martin HS in Jamaica come prepared with five pieces of news to discuss. "I want them to know what's happening outside of Queens," Sieunarine said. "We don't live in a vacuum."

With that goal, Sieunarine designed a social justice art project inspired by Pablo Picasso's famous "Guernica" painting, which depicts the Nazi bombing of the Basque town during the Spanish Civil War. The students' paintings reflect Picasso's style and illustrate subjects including the conflict in Syria, climate change, 9/11 and school shootings.

The four-months-long project evolved from the course's "introduction of social and political concerns," said Sieunarine. Before students began painting, they spent two months preparing — from researching the history behind "Guernica" to studying Picasso's Cubism. She said art teachers must integrate their activities with the state learning standards. "The students must read, write and talk, and then make art," she said.

Art teacher A. A. Sieunarine works with students at August Martin HS in Queens. Sieunarine "sets the bar extremely high" and "stretches students to think creatively," says music teacher Gladys Byrd. "She uses artists as a foundation and backdrop and then gives students those tools to take their inner vision and creativity and express them through art."

Sieunarine said her students "became very articulate by listening to the news." She wanted them to consider, "What is war doing to other children in the world?"

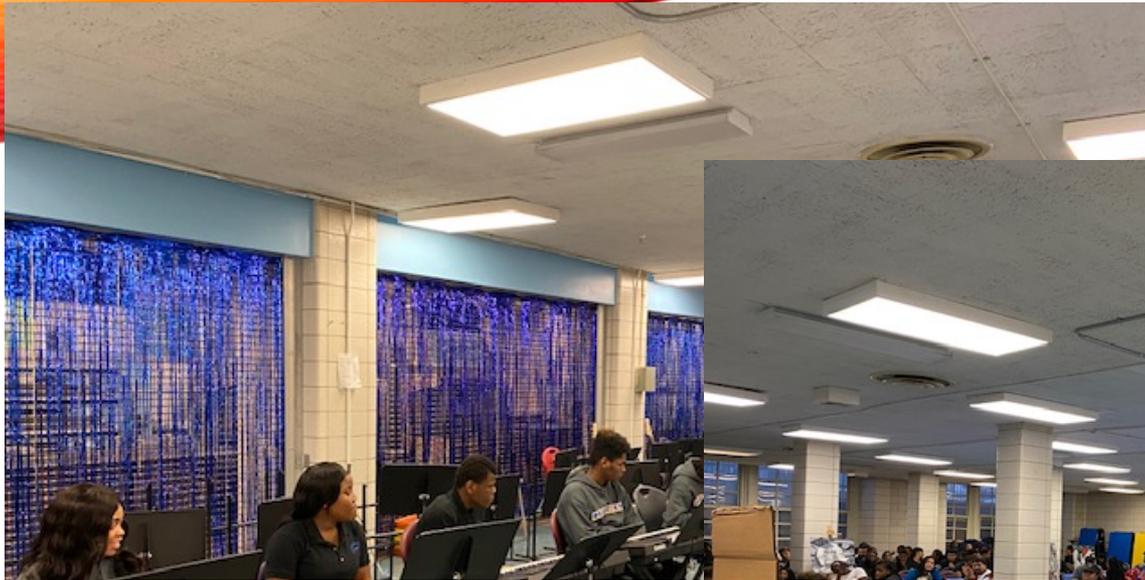
Tenth-grader Trudy-Ann said her painting portrayed Syrian children "who don't have a voice," featuring "blank eyes with no emotion." Her classmate Bryce said their class discussions influence their art. "A thought creates an image in your head and on the paper," he said. English teacher Erika Maldonado, the UFT chapter leader, said, "We want our scholars to learn content, but we also want them to learn to be thinkers."

She said it's important to give children space to express themselves. When Aamir Griffin, a 14-year-old student from the same neighborhood, was killed by a stray bullet in October 2019 [see story on page 52], Sieunarine's project was "healing" for those affected by his death, she said.

Maldonado said Sieunarine gives them outlets they're comfortable with so they can "get these feelings out and come to terms with things. I think that's quite magical."













## HIGH SCHOOL VISIT DESCRIPTIONS

Participants will choose visit sites upon registration. August Martin High School has focused on improving formative assessment practices so both teachers and students are aware of up-to-date academic performance, as well as next steps for improvement. Ongoing communication between teachers and students is paramount to this initiative. The school's focus on improving formative assessment practices has empowered students to take ownership of their own learning. Factors contributing to the success of the initiative include powerful modifications to professional learning, supervisory feedback practices, systems for monitoring progress, weekly cabinet inquiry meetings, and town halls designed to give students a voice and change the way they think about their learning. This school was a featured presenter at the 2016 NYSED Promising Practices Conference.



**Coming  
together is a  
beginning;  
keeping  
together is  
progress;  
working  
together is  
success.**

..Henry Ford