MLK PORTRAIT PROGRAM: OPEN CALL TO HIGH SCHOOLS

In honor of Dr. King and to celebrate equality and working together, the Portrait Project will consist of 16 different panels, created by multiple students, all expressing their own style and creativity; ultimately creating one moving portrait with eclectic style of Martin Luther King, Jr.

Panels will be created by students from different Long Island high schools. Each student receives one or two panels of the 16 panels used to create one of the portraits of MLK.

Once complete, EEA will arrange to collect all components of each school’s MLK portrait and organize hanging them at each participating school for a one-week span of time with the help of student volunteers.

Currently, seven Long Island high schools are participating. Please contact Kathleen Ruscick at kruscick@eastendarts.org if you would like your high school to participate.
MEET THE ARTIST: RANI CARSON

Artists Bio:

After graduating from Barnard College as an English Major, Rani Carson began her painting career in the Caribbean. She then studied with NY rooftop painter, Herman Rose, lived in Paris, studied paintings throughout Europe, and returned to earn her MFA from Brooklyn College. She began teaching at the Grant Campus of Suffolk County Community College in 1974 where she was a Professor of Art and Curator for the Campus Art Gallery. She has also taught at the Edna Manley College for the Visual and Performing Arts in Kingston, Jamaica. Rani Carson has had many one-person exhibitions in the U.S. and Jamaica, including the Allan Stone Gallery in NYC, the Vorpal Gallery in San Francisco, and at the Crayola Gallery in the Banana Factory in Bethlehem, PA. She has also regularly shown her work at two cooperative galleries in NYC, the Prince Street Gallery and the First Street Gallery, and has exhibited at Vassar College. She participated in such group shows as “Figurative Artists of Park Slope” at the Brooklyn Museum, the Small Works show at N.Y.U., “Movietone Muse” One Penn Plaza, and “Art Against Apartheid” exhibitions throughout the New York City area. Her work has been included in an international exhibition at the Meguro Museum of Art, in Tokyo, Japan. Ms. Carson’s paintings have also been shown in many annual and biennial exhibitions at the National Gallery of Jamaica in Kingston. Her work has been reviewed in several publications in the U.S. and Jamaica, including the Winter/Watercolor edition of American Artist. Now a resident of Riverhead, N.Y., she travels several times a year to her studio in Oracabessa, Jamaica.

SIGN UP NOW FOR WINTER CAMP FEBRUARY 15 - 19

A wonderful week of art and music for your children to expand their creative muscles. Also to give all our hardworking parents a break! EEA’s Winter Camp works with children’s literature to explore different topics that connect with the Winter Season. Each topic expands into art projects and musical fun! Stay tuned for more information!

On-going FREE PROGRAMMING

- Meet the Masters Class with Artist Kenneth Jackson, All Ages, December 5, 2020 (Jackson Pollack with a touch of Kandinsky) & January 9, 2021 (artist to be announced)

- Bi-Weekly Talent Shows - Dec 3 & 17, 2020 & January 7 & 21, 2021, Ages 8-18, via Zoom

- Art with Kat, Dec 7 & 14 & January 4, 11, 18, & 25, 2021, All Ages, Via East End Arts School Facebook

Have your next BIRTHDAY PARTY AT EAST END ARTS!

Celebrate your child’s next birthday with EEA! Parties include supplies for up to 12 children including the birthday child!

Want to book? kruscick@eastendarts.org or 631.369.2171
MEET THE TEACHERS: NICK & JOHN  
**EEA Rocks Directors John Tocco and Nick Bavaro**

Nick and John joined East End Arts this past Summer and ran the music segment of our Summer camps and Rock That Band camps. They teach private music lessons, both *virtual* and in-school lessons. In addition, Nick ran EEA’s homeschool music programs this Fall. EEA Rocks was born while reimagining our courses to include a performance piece. When approached to direct this program, both Nick and John were eager to be instructors. Nick and John were very passionate about the project. John stated, “EEA Rocks has been a lot of fun, working with such talented kids is both rewarding and humbling. As happy as I am to pass my knowledge on to these students, I’m even happier to be able to learn from them myself.” Nick felt equally positive and commented, “Working with these students has been one of the most rewarding things I’ve had the pleasure of being part of. The amount of growth that they’ve shown in the short time we’ve been together is nothing short of incredible and I can’t wait for them to showcase their talents to the East End of Long Island.”

East End Arts is very lucky to have such dedicated teachers and musicians working at East End Arts!

John also commented about Anna, our December Student Spotlight, “I’m very proud of Anna because she stuck with guitar despite her initial reluctance. She gave it an honest try and she could’ve stopped, but she didn’t. She’s only improved and has become more open to learning and trying new things.”

John Tocco is a guitarist, vocalist, songwriter, and composer who has been a member of the Long Island music scene for the last several years. His diverse musical output encompasses many styles, including pop, rock, funk, jazz, and musical theatre. In addition to his original work, John has played guitar as a sideman backing a wide variety of artists, both live and in the studio, including Broadway performer Shoba Narayan (The Great Comet of 1812, Hamilton), saxophonist Bruce Johnstone, actor and singer Timothy Mitchum Jr. (Across the Universe), YouTuber Emi Pellegrino, and the grammy-winning New York Voices.

Nick Bavaro is a percussionist and singer who has performed with various metal and alternative rock bands across Long Island. He is also active in the musical theatre scene playing in pit orchestras for different Long Island community theaters. Nick has over 19 years of drumming experience, learning under former Black Sabbath drummer Bobby Rondinelli and well-known Long Island percussionist Gary Hodges. He was also a member of the St. John’s University Pep Band as the head drummer for three of his four years there, allowing him to play at well-known arenas such as Madison Square Garden and Barclays Center.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT  
**ANNA LEE FISCHER**

Anna is such a kind soul. She has three older brothers and a dog, Dally. Her interests include singing, sewing, and hanging out with her many and diverse groups of friends. She was previously very involved with musical theatre and notable roles have included; Annie in Annie at Riley Avenue Elementary, the Tin Man from the Wizard of Oz, and Edwina in Dear Edwina; both Westhampton Beach Performing Arts productions. Anna enjoys surfing and playing tennis. She is community centered and created a charitable fund for a local animal shelter called, Pennies for Pets.