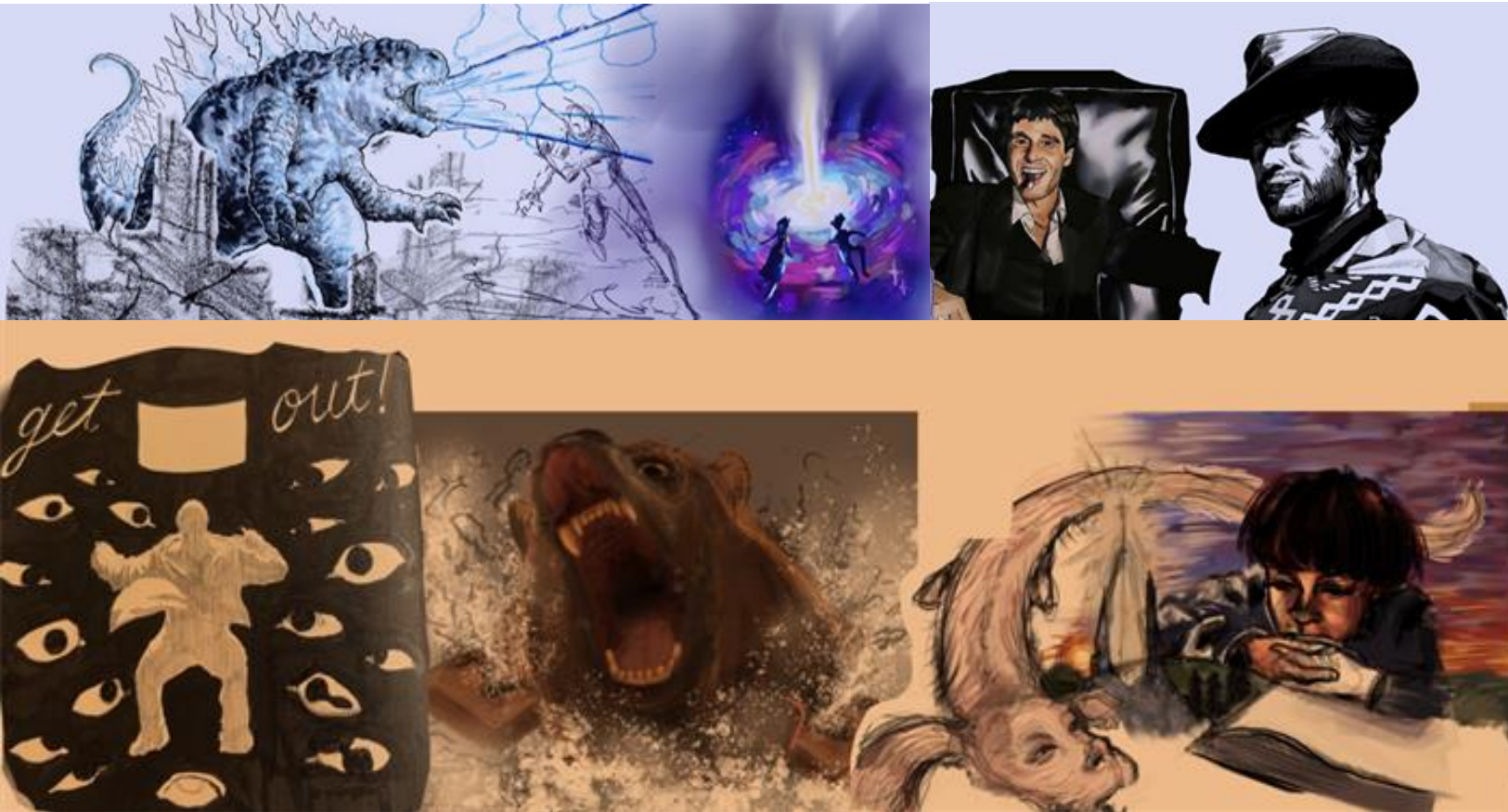


For Immediate Release: June 15 – July 14, 2024
630 Flushing Avenue, Brooklyn NY, 11206
Opening reception June 15, 4 – 7 pm

THE IW GALLERY

COPE NYC

Creative Opportunities Promoting Equality



"HAS 2 Brooklyn" A New Collaborative Student Exhibition
Creating a Bridge Between Two Important Boroughs

A partnership between the Harlem School of the Arts and The IW Gallery – COPE NYC

The Harlem School of the Arts (HSA), Media & Design Department's director AK Lovelace, and Vida Sabbaghi, founder of The IW Gallery, COPE NYC in Brooklyn are delighted to welcome a partnership between the two organizations in the development of a new exhibition featuring the works of HSA students. The brilliant young artists taking part in the "HSA 2 Brooklyn" exhibition have demonstrated a depth of skill that is beyond description and runs the gamut from storytelling, painting, animation, and drawing. Founded by concert soprano Dorothy Maynor 60 years ago, HSA has enriched the lives of tens of thousands of young people through world-class training in the arts. HSA offers its students the freedom to develop the artist and citizen within themselves in an environment that teaches discipline, stimulates creativity, builds self-confidence, and adds a dimension of beauty to their lives, empowering them to become creative thinkers and innovative leaders of tomorrow.

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This group of students from the interdisciplinary arts organization, which is celebrating its milestone 60th anniversary, will be creating a mural in the gallery – the first time since its inception that the gallery will have a mural painted on its walls.

“We could not think of a more ideal cultural center than The Harlem School of the Arts to conceptualize and execute this mural,” said Ms. Sabbaghi. “The Harlem School of Arts has more than 60 years of history as a vibrant part of the NYC cultural scene, which is why we asked their Director of Media and Design, if they could also do a mural on the 6th floor public lobby so the 1,500 plus tenants and visitors can appreciate their creative community talent in a public space as well.”

In addition to the two murals, there will be other multi-media works featuring student contributions from three of the HSA’s Media & Design department’s most ambitious and rapidly growing programs: Animation, Cinematography and Mural production.

“The gallery will be transformed into a movie theatre for the community, complete with murals transporting viewers and casual observers alike into our world,” said Mr. Lovelace. “This is all made possible by the great leadership of our instructors, willing partners, and of course our greatest asset, our students!”

The young artists taking part in this exhibition have been garnering raves for their mural work commissioned by Central Park’s Wollman Rink last summer when the rink was converted for pickleball activities, and last fall when the rink re-opened for ice skating. Two HSA students, Kayin Bann and Nana Adwoa Agyemang, were chosen through a partnership between Harlem Fashion Row, H&M and HSA to design a limited-edition line of hoodies, and this past February, a partnership with a leading law firm during Black History Month saw many of the students’ work displayed at a special exhibition that included an auction where works received exceptionally high bids.

Contributing Creative Talents:

Mural Production

Taylor Denby
Nana Adowa
Amechi Chukwujiorah Strange
Lekia Nwiddo
Jenna Jenkins
Kayin Bann
Alysa Harris
Channing Labonte
Morgan Rozzelle
Mia Alukal

Adv Animation

Logan Johnson

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Everton Martin
Ella Alburez
Lekia Nwiido
Ellis Starr
Princess Koudougnon
Channing Labonte
Tristan Ajayi

Cinematography

Logan Johnson
Everton Martin
Morgan Rozzelle
Lucy Shannon
Greyson Frazier
Princess Koudougnon
Mia Alukal
Eva Carvallo

IN OCTOBER 2021, DIRECTOR VIDA SABBAGHI FOUNDED THE IW GALLERY, INSPIRED BY COPE NYC'S 'AN INCLUSIVE WORLD PROJECT'. IT OPERATES AS A PARTNERSHIP GALLERY WORKING WITH LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL CULTURAL ORGANIZATIONS TO PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR CREATIVES AROUND THE WORLD.
