



Explorations Biweekly Digest

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Our First Expo!

The Expo department partnered with Materials for the Arts (MFTA) for a cross-grade collaborative art project.



October 2024

An overarching goal of the Exploration department team has been to do a school-wide project where the different grades could learn, work with and form each other. Following the seed idea of Cheryl Grau and Davielle Morton, the 7th grade Expo co-teaching team, in our June planning meeting, days before summer vacation, the department brainstormed working with MFTA. Joy Canning, our coordinator and 604 teacher, reached out to MFTA; the rest, as they say, is history. The Exploration department is happy to present our first cross-grade collaboration.

Students in all grades spent the first two cycles of Exploration collaborating with peers, their teachers, and Kathy Sirico, a teaching artist from **The Material For the Arts**. We had an Expo Share to celebrate the students' art mosaic. They were excited to share their learning and creativity with families and staff.

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THIS WEEK'S



Kathy Sirico

Kathy Sirico is a resident artist with Materials for the Arts (MFTA). Kathy uses textiles, sculpture, painting, collage, and installation. The Brooklyn-based artist spent two cycles with the Expo teachers to help students work through their vision of what they want to convey with their art centered around the theme of 'Being Stronger Together'. In those two cycles, students planned, decorated and mounted their finished collages for our first cross-grade Expo.

The seventh grade visits MFTA on one of their offsite learning trips in the Arts for Social Change unit. MFTA is an NYC arts nonprofit that works with public schools and city agencies to provide creative reuse and repurpose materials that would otherwise end up in landfills. The work of MFTA is generated through creativity, education and unlimited imagination.

To contact Kathy about inquiries about her work and hosting workshops, contact her at ksirico@gmail.com and follow her on Instagram @moonrisekathy. Lastly, visit her website for more information at www.kathysirico.com.

Upcoming Trips

Sixth Grade: Brooklyn Grange

7th Grade: [Noelia Robles](#), Guest Artist

8th Grade: Museum of Chinese in America (MOCA)

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