

~ Life in LAMORINDA ~

High school students' collaboration demonstrates power of art – better together



Photo provided

The high school students work on 'Project We' Nov. 1 - a collaborative work organized by Carolyn Considine.

By Pippa Fisher

A local teen has embraced art during the pandemic as a powerful way to bring people together.

Campolindo High School sophomore Carolyn Considine organized the collaborative art project Nov. 1 at her Lafayette home, working with a group of high school artists to complete a painting on an 8 foot by 12 foot canvas. Considine chose to name the artwork "Project We."

"Given the divisiveness in the world these days, collaborative art can send the message that we succeed

most in life when working with a 'we not me' mentality," explains Considine.

This is not the young artist's first experience organizing art. She explains that during the summer in the midst of the pandemic she organized a virtual high school art exhibition with over 100 works of art from youth artists across the county for the Arts and Culture Commission of Contra Costa County (AC5).

Following this virtual show, AC5 Commissioner Beverly Kumar put Considine in touch with Hanna Ma at the Contra Costa County Department of Education. Ma

wanted to organize a physical exhibit for their county building, which is where the painting will hang once it is stretched and framed.

"From my virtual gallery, Hanna, Beverly, and I picked artists whose work demonstrated our theme, The Art of Resilience," explains Considine adding that she wanted to share the message of the project broadly, so she invited a videographer friend to film the painting day. She says that this collaboration project is also a part of AC5's Arts Cafe program.

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