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# Inheritance: A KSMoCA collaboration between Samantha Wall and students from Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. School

Samantha Wall

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A contemporary art museum in a public school in NE Portland, OR.

### Samantha Wall

Inheritance

A KSMoCA collaboration between Samantha Wall and students from Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. School

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King School Museum of Contemporary Art (KSMoCA) is a museum-as-artwork project within the walls of a functioning Pre K-8th Grade public school in NE Portland, OR. It is founded by Lisa Jarrett and Harrell Fletcher who work alongside students, teachers and administration from Dr. MLK Jr. School and Portland State University's College of the Arts. The project reimagines how museums, public schools and universities shape people, culture and perspectives by cultivating space for art to educate within and beyond the classroom through mutual exchange. Internationally renowned artists collaborate with students on site-specific projects, exhibitions and workshops. In turn, students learn about museum careers as they practice the roles of curator, preparator, publicist, artist, copywriter, registrar and docent.

KSMoCA's program includes quarterly rotating exhibitions with visiting artists, Creative Research Centers with local arts institutions, a 1-on-1 mentorship program with local artists, a public artist lecture series, site-specific commissions, community and neighborhood events, and more. The public is welcome to experience the museum by appointment and during selected open hours. For more information, visit www.ksmoca.com or check out @ksmoca on Instagram for the latest updates.

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Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. School is a Pre K-8th Grade public school located in the King neighborhood of NE Portland, OR. This year (2018) we celebrate the 50th anniversary of our legacy and our name change, a student-led initiative directed by middle school students who worked with district administration to change the school's name just days after the death of Dr. King. At Dr. MLK Jr. School we believe in the unlimited potential of everyone in our diverse community. We believe that a caring well-balanced student will be motivated to become a global citizen who is inspired to take action.

Dr. MLK Jr. School is an authorized International Baccalaureate (IB) Primary Years Programme and Middle Years Programme, a program that helps students develop the intellectual, personal, emotional and social skills to live, learn, and work in a rapidly globalizing world. We are also proud to be a Mandarin Immersion School. Students in the immersion program receive Mandarin instruction for half the day and English instruction the other half of the day. We welcome all families to come find out more about what Dr. MLK Jr. School has to offer both in our Mandarin Immersion and our English only programs.

Portraits record, memorialize, and elevate the individuals they represent. They have the power to act as portals to reveal hidden truths or operate as mirrors for self-reflection. They are proof of presence, immortalizing the stories of those represented. In *Inheritance*, I worked from images of the women in my family and positioned them as protagonists within the family's collective narrative. By weaving the stories with elements from Korean tradition and Classical myth, I am sharing my hybrid perspective as a woman of color and immigrant.

-Samantha Wall

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## Workby

### Samantha Wall

First Born 2018, 25" × 40" India ink on Dura-lar film





Oracle 2018, 40" × 34" India Ink on Dura-lar film



Gatekeeper 2018, 25" × 40" India Ink on Dura-lar film

Gift 1 2018, 20" × 25" Gold ink on Dura-lar film





Gift 2 2018, 20" × 25" Gold ink on Dura-lar film

Gift 3 2018, 20" × 25" Gold ink on Dura-lar film





Gift 4 2018, 20" × 25" Gold ink on Dura-lar film

Gift 5 2018, 20" × 25" Gold ink on Dura-lar film





Gift 6 2018, 20" × 25" Gold ink on Dura-lar film



Okay Soon... Fleece 2018, 25" × 40" India Ink, graphite, and gold leaf on Dura-lar film

Grace 2018, 25" × 40" India ink, gold ink, and gold leaf on Dura-lar film



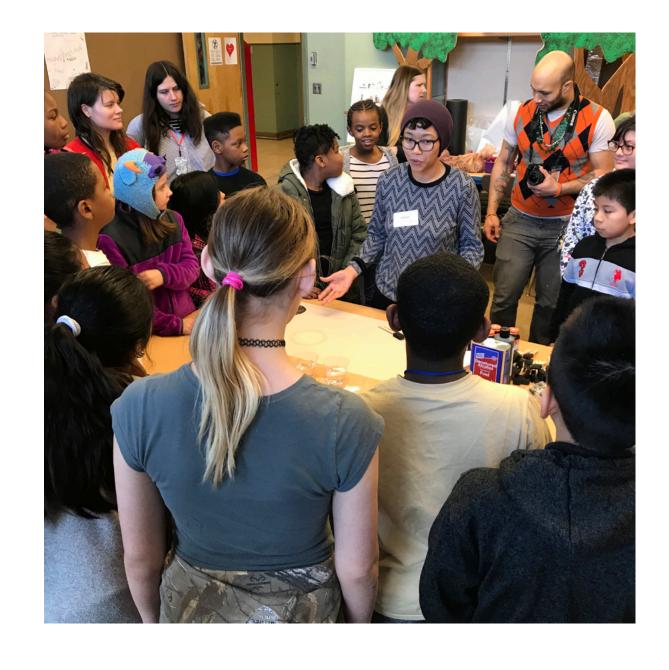


The Elder
2018, 31" × 34"
India ink, graphite,
and gold leaf
on Dura-lar film

### Workshop

Samantha Wall with students from Ms. Jones' 5th grade class

For the collaborative portion of the exhibition, students were asked to work from photographs of people they care for. They chose images of family members, civil rights leaders, and celebrities. The selected photograph was then transferred onto a sheet of film and the students used a combination of water, rubbing alcohol, and ink to render the portraits through drops and washes. These portraits slowed down the process of looking and drawing, allowing the students to experiment with portraiture, representation, and drawing materials.





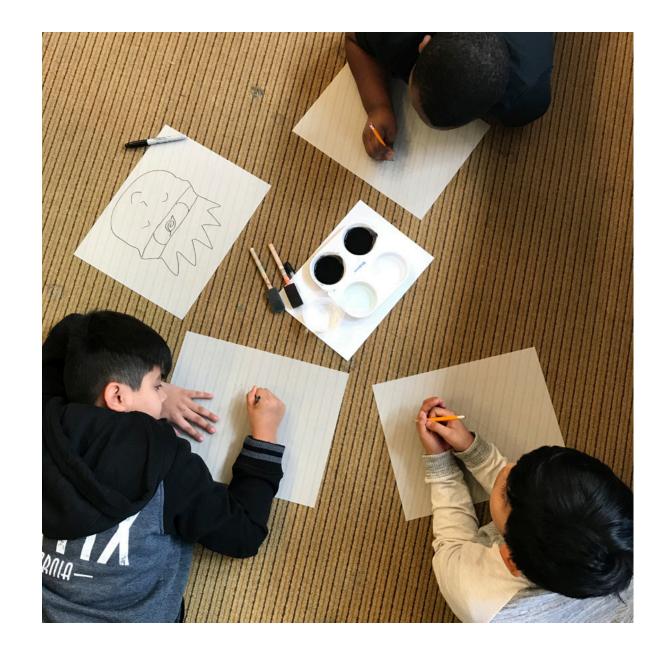












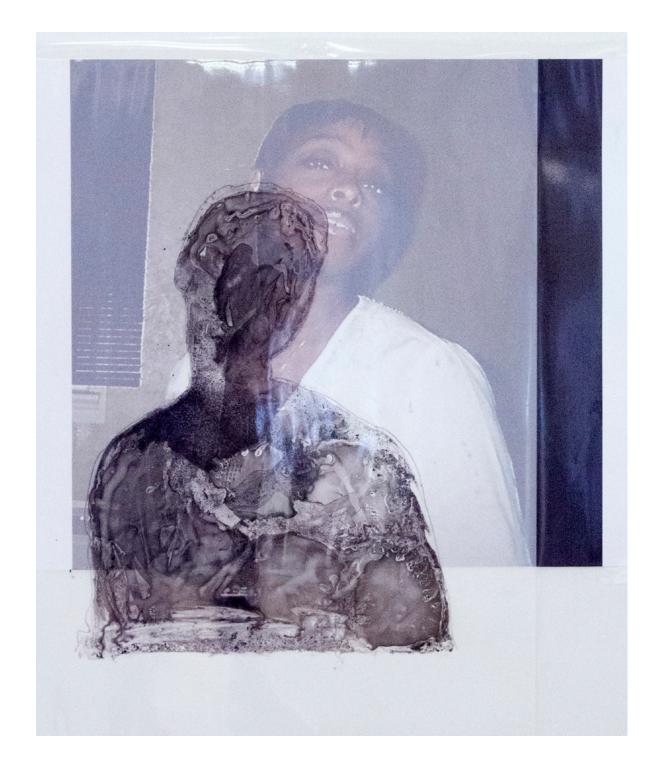
### Workby Ms. Jones<sup>3</sup>

### 5th Grade Class

I am inspired by my grandma because she is a very great person. She teaches me a lot. She is hard working woman that works very hard. She's nice and caring and silly and a very cool Grandma. I'm glad to have her as my grandmother.

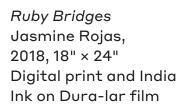
—De'naya

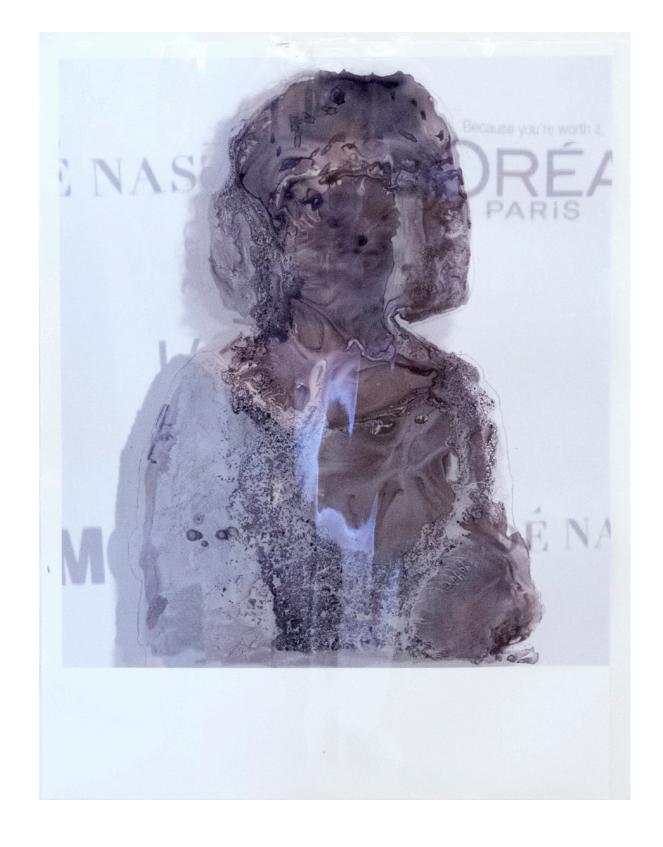




Because Ruby Bridges was the first African American to go to an all white public school and because it was my black history person.

-Jasmine

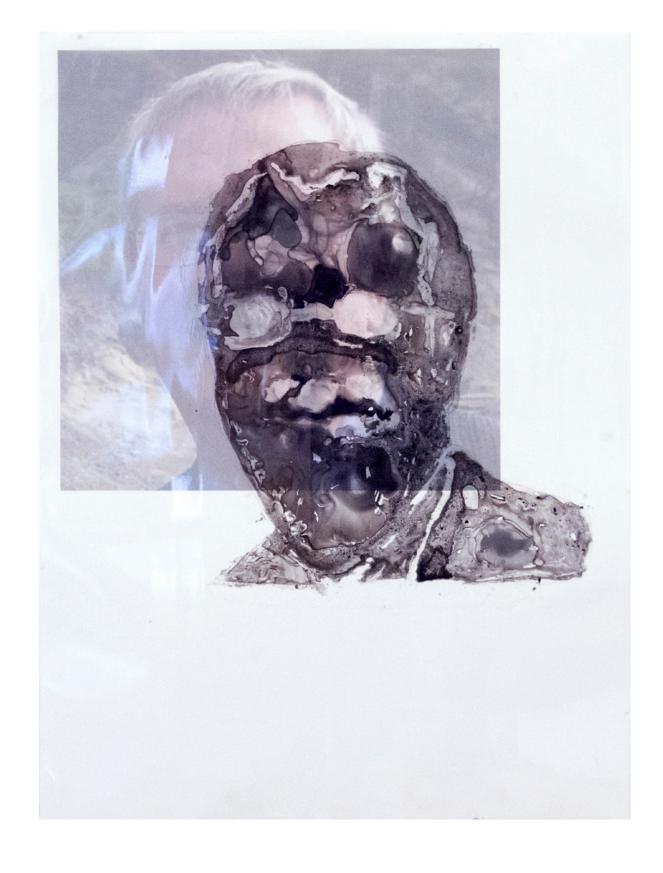




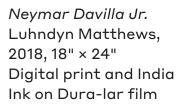
He is important because he is my Granpa. He passed away two years ago from cancer. I chose him because I wanted to honor him.

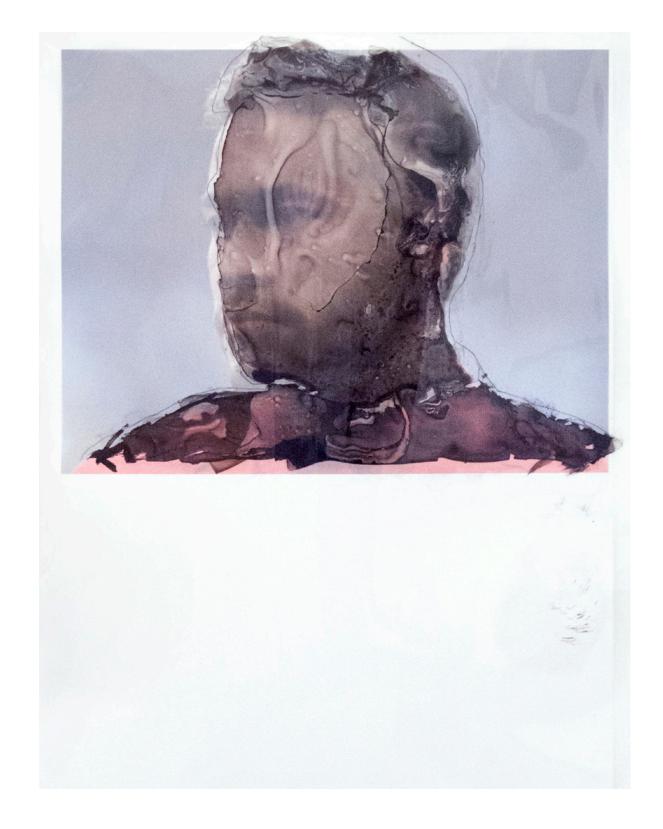
—lo





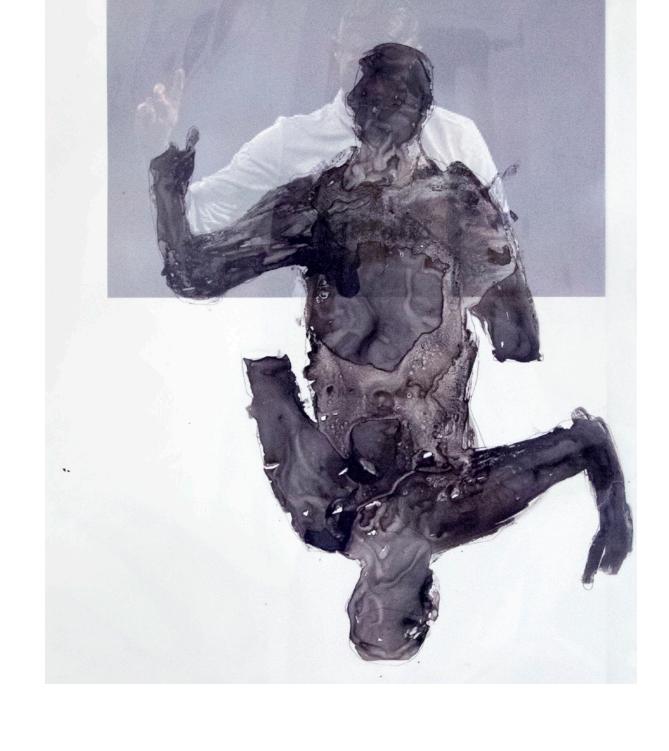
I picked him because I know most about him.
—Luhndyn





Because I've admired him ever since 3rd grade and because they are inspiring.

-Alan



Cristiano Ronaldo Alan Corriteno Apolonio, 2018, 18" × 24" Digital print and India Ink on Dura-lar film

The person I chose is imporatant to me because he inspired me never to give up. He made me feel confident, I admired him because he made me feel proud of myself.

—Jeremy



Malcolm X
Jeremy Sebastian,
2018, 18" × 24"
Digital print and India
Ink on Dura-lar film

He inspired me to play soccer and he is my favorite soccer player.

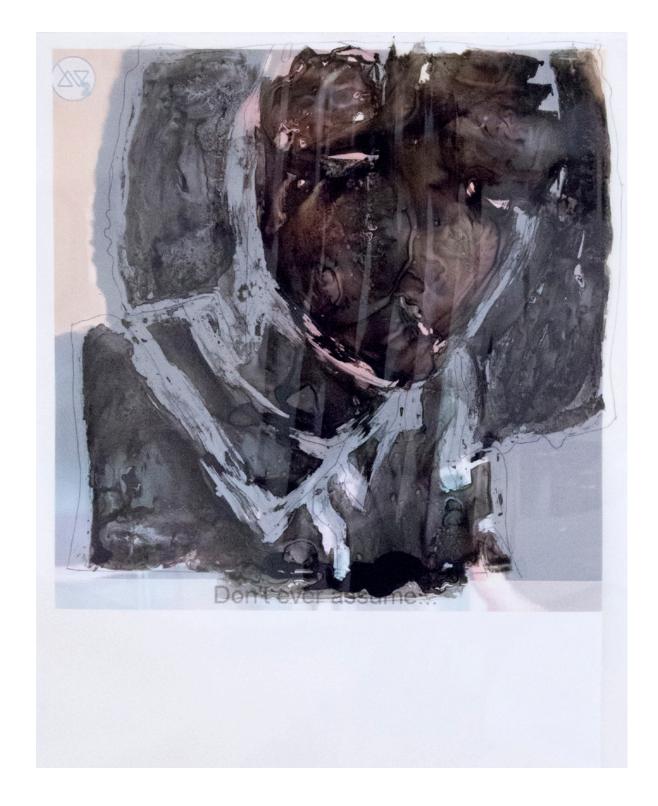
—Eleazar



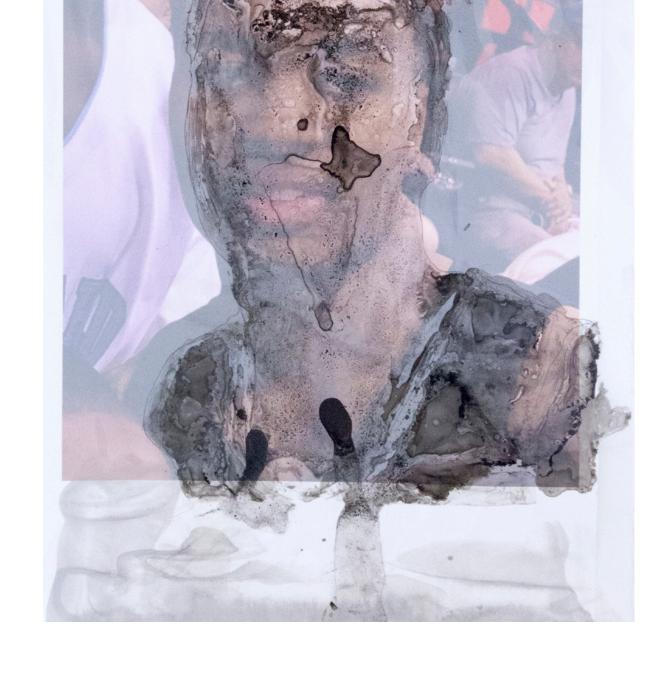


I admire him because he does Vines.
He's on YouTube and he is funny.
—Jasmyne

Hardstop Lucas Jasmyne Ford, 2018, 18" × 24" Digital print and India Ink on Dura-lar film



I admire Damian Lillard because he's good at basketball. And I like basketball. And I hope I'll be good like him.
—J'Varey



Damian Lillard J'Varey Smith, 2018, 18" × 24" Digital print and India Ink on Dura-lar film

I admire this person because he is my favorite soccer player. Also he's good at soccer. Also, Messi plays for my favorite team. It's called Barcelona.

-Samuel



Lionel Messi
Samuel De Leon-Juan,
2018, 18" × 24"
Digital print and India
Ink on Dura-lar film

I selected her because she is really brave. She is really inspiring.

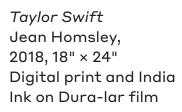
—Lizeth

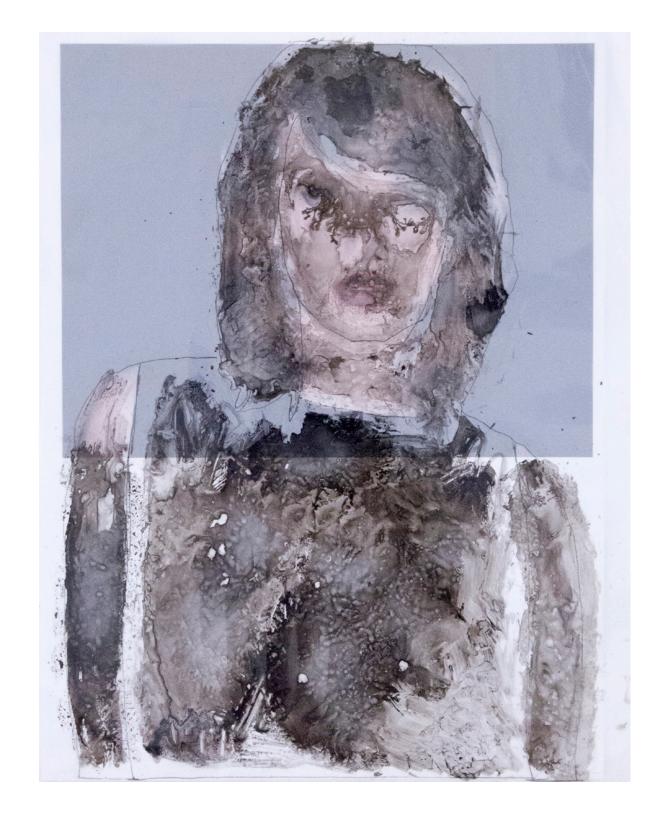


Sacagawea Lizeth Meza-Pulido, 2018, 18" × 24" Digital print and India Ink on Dura-lar film

I admire Taylor Swift because I think she is a good singer. She is a very good actor and singer. That is what I admire about her.

-Jean

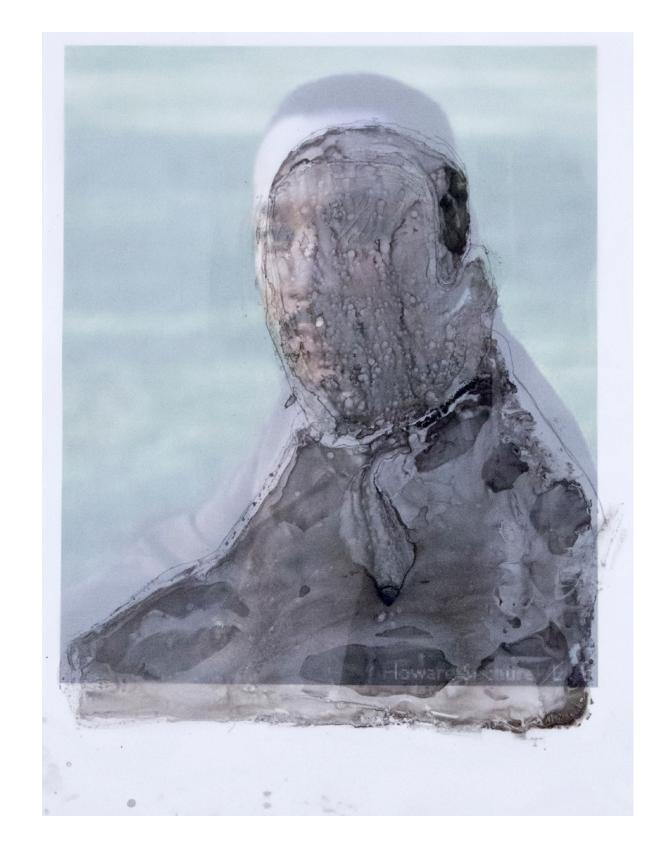




The person that I chose is inpiring me because he did civil rights to change people from their color.

—Lizbeth

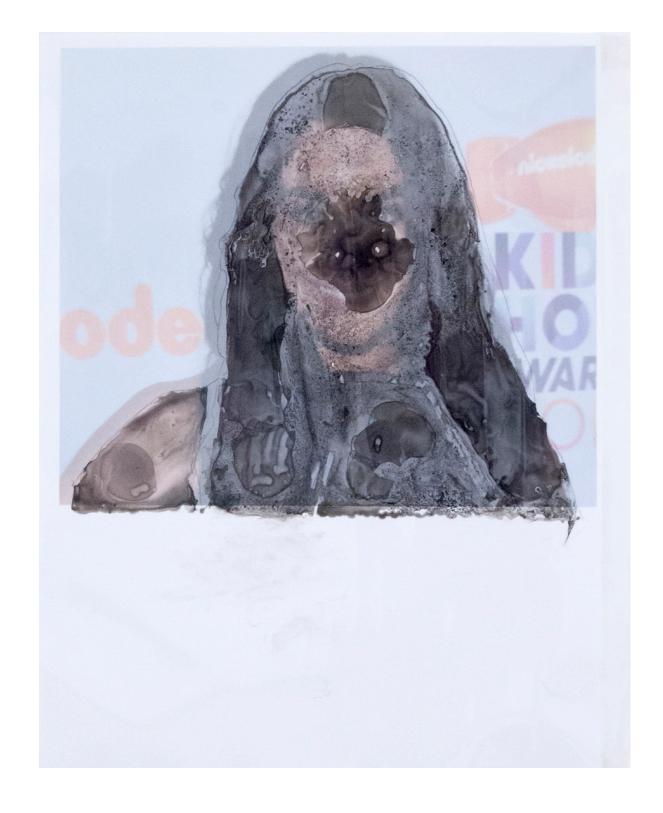




I selected her because she's fearless and she believed her dreams and she has a twin sister. And because they are beautiful and that is why I admire Nikky Bella and her twin sister too.

-Jessica

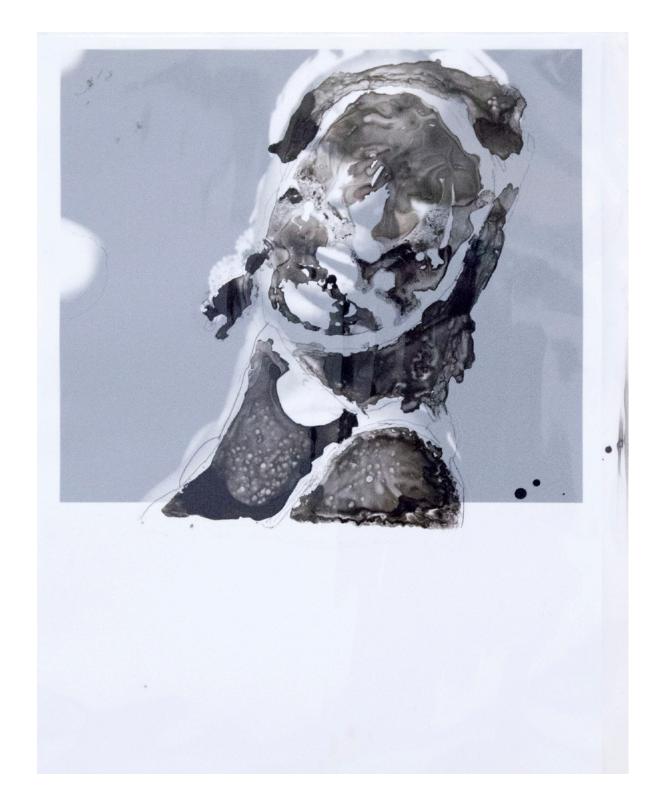




She helped black people go well with white people and she sang relaxing songs that are beautiful.

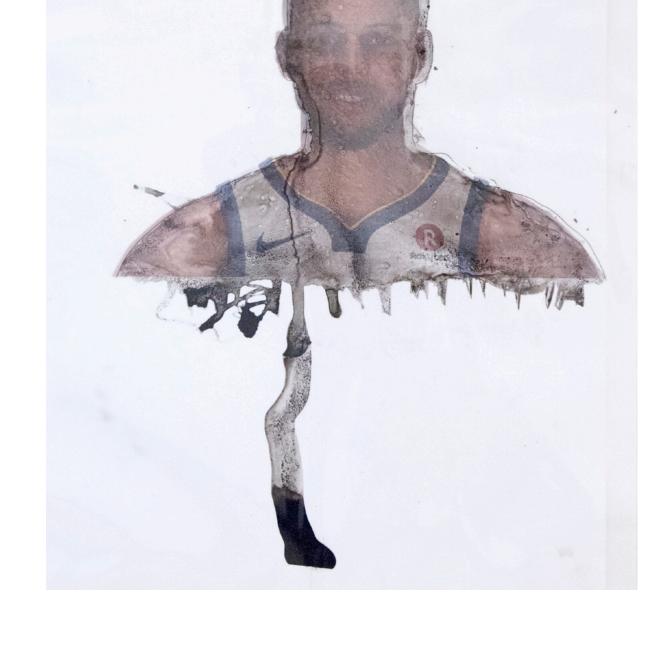
-Selena

Nina Simone Selena Alvez-Jimenez, 2018, 18" × 24" Digital print and India Ink on Dura-lar film



I admire Stephen Curry because he is one of the short basketball players. He is my inspiration.

-Kymari



Stephen Curry Kymari Rhodes, 2018, 18" × 24" Digital print and India Ink on Dura-lar film

They have an ice cream shop. I love ice cream. They also take care of me.

-Michael

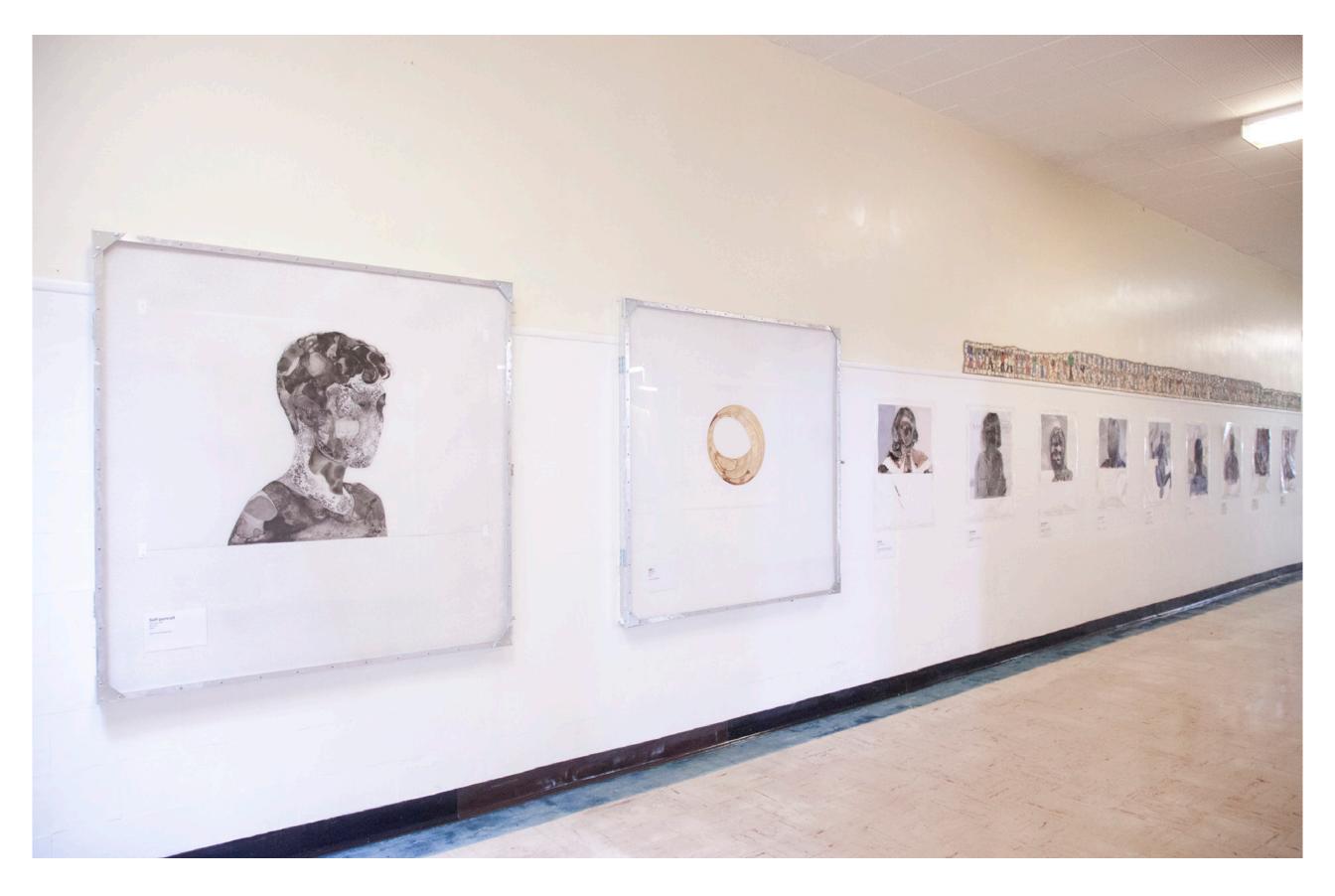


Pat and Fred Trice Michael Esperanza, 2018, 18" × 24" Digital print and India Ink on Dura-lar film

## Inheritance

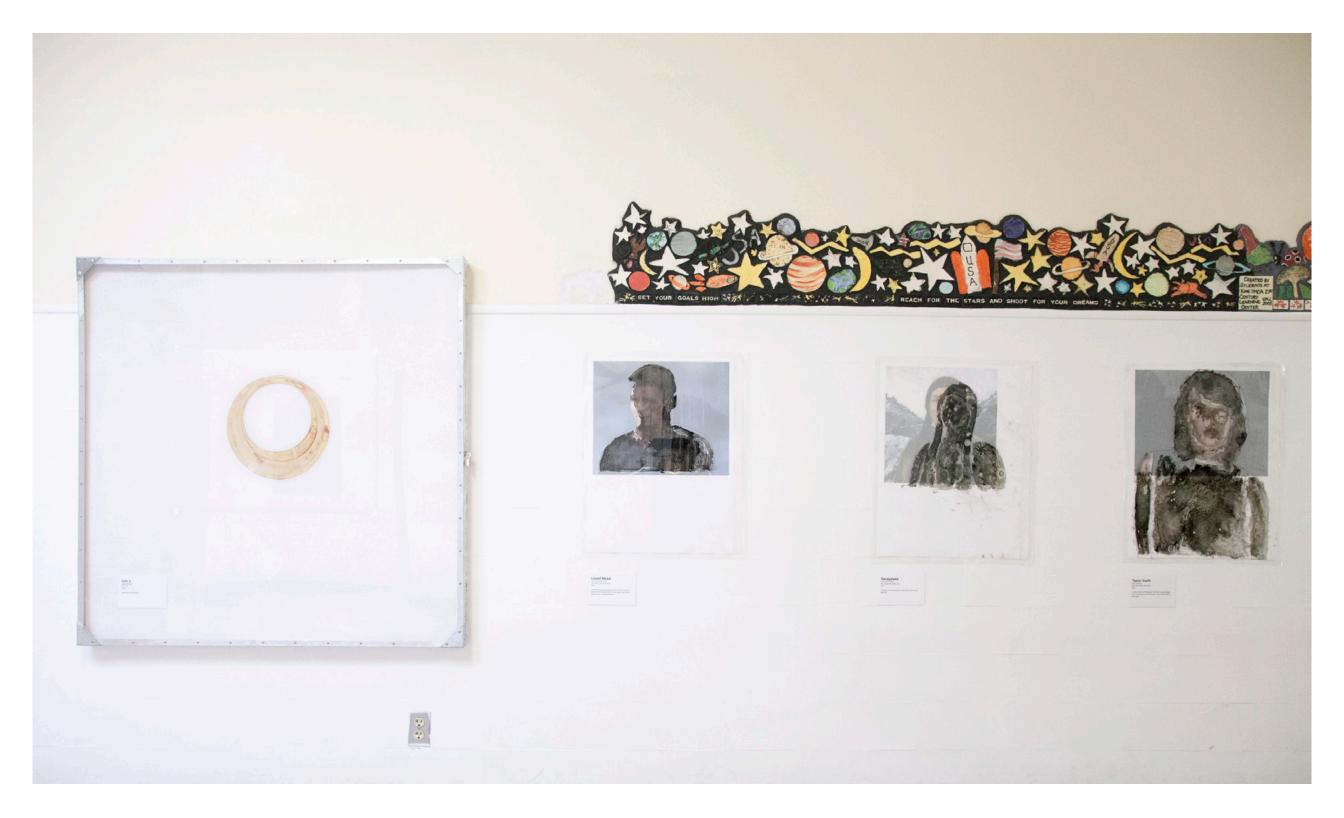
## Exhibition

Work by Samantha Wall and students from Ms. Jones' 5th grade class at Dr. MLK Jr. School









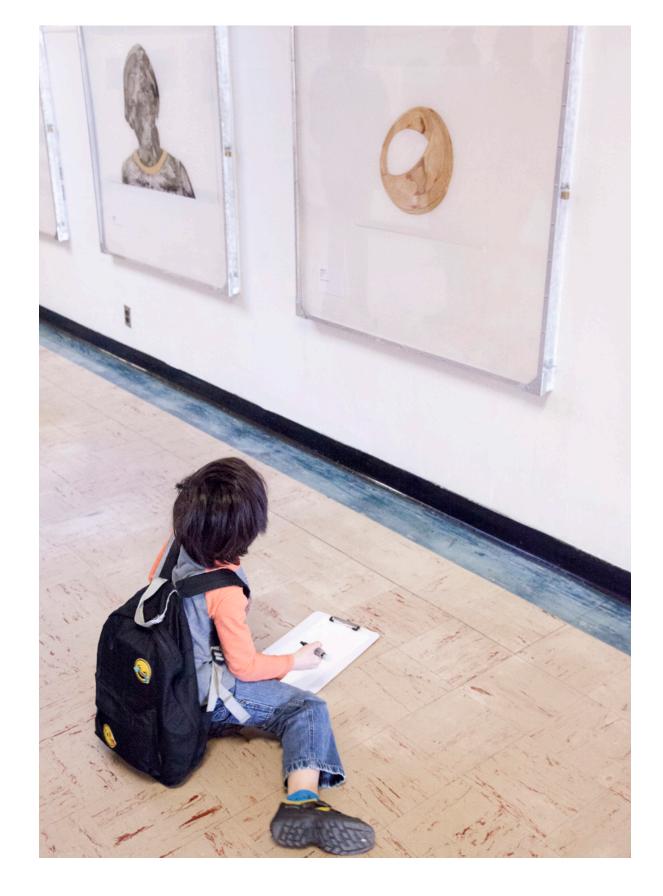


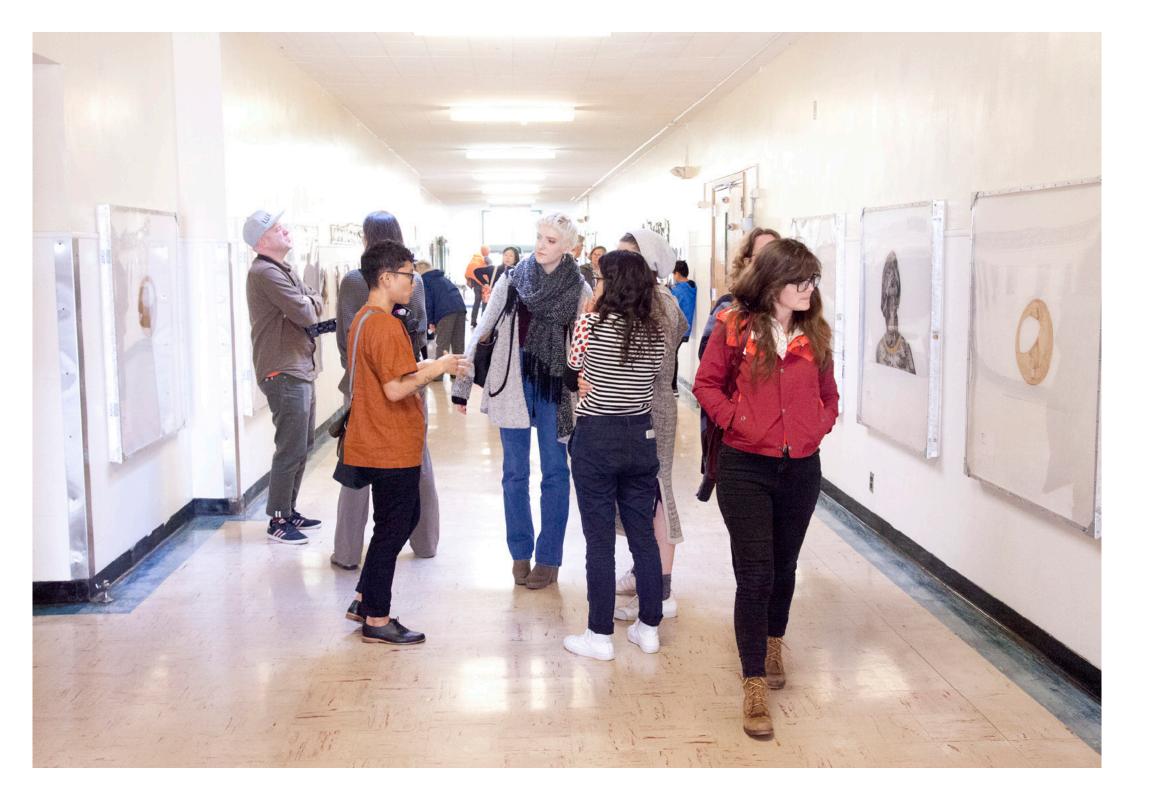
























Samantha Wall graduated with an MFA in Visual Studies in 2011 from the Pacific Northwest College of Art. Originally from Seoul, South Korea, Wall's images explore identity through the push and pull of cultural diaspora and human interconnectedness. Her monochromatic figure drawings feature meticulously drawn women who embody Wall's interest in navigating multicultural experiences. Over the last few years Wall has shown in multiple exhibitions throughout the Northwest, as well as several international exhibitions. She is the recipient of awards and grants from organizations including the Oregon Arts Commission; Oregon's Regional Arts & Culture Council; The Ford Family Foundation; The Hallie Ford Foundation, and The Joan Mitchell Foundation. Most recently, she is the winner of Portland Art Museum's 2016 Contemporary Northwest Art Awards Arlene Schnitzer Prize.

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