

# CAAP's Annual Trip Report

March 7-April 7, 2023

Children's AIDS Art  
Programme

Mary Miyata



Children's  
Aids Art  
Programme

# Introduction

## CAAP's Trip Report: March 7-April 7, 2023

The Children AIDS Art Programme (CAAP) currently provides art therapy to 106 children and adolescents, some of whom have experienced insufficient support during their upbringing. Frequently, these children are affected by numerous diseases including HIV/AIDS, sickle cell anemia, alcohol fetal syndrome, tuberculosis, and chronic lung disease.

CAAP, a South Africa (SA) Trust, is a fully registered non-profit organization in South Africa. CAAP has been supporting adolescent participants who have completed high school and want to continue their education through colleges, universities and/or trade-schools by joining our Higher Education Programme, which has been operating for more than 8 years.

Mary has been supporting these adolescents, teaching them social etiquette, developing life skills, and guiding them through every step of the way to provide them with a better future. For example, Mary has been training these adolescents to prepare them to take on leading roles, such as becoming paid Art Instructors at the Art School, as well as training them to interview for other jobs they would like to obtain.

This report contains a summary of successes in the CAAP Higher Education Programme and an update from Mary Miyata's recent trip to Cape Town, SA.



## Current CAAP Higher Education Students



**Roger**

Roger Nkunku has been an Art Instructor designing art-lesson plans for the Art Programme for more than four years. He has also been studying to become a Health Care Assistant at Africa Ithemba College, and currently practicing in-person training with patients at clinics and senior care homes.

A week before Mary arrived, an amazing experience happened to Roger. On his rounds at a senior care facility, Roger walked into a room and an elderly man, whose face was bright red, was struggling to breathe. Roger quickly assessed the situation and rushed to find the top medical nurse on staff that day.

The nurse began her treatment of the elderly patient until she had him breathing again. She turned to Roger and called out: "Roger, you saved this man's life!!" This made such an impact on Roger's love of what he has chosen for his life's commitment to assist others. Now the elderly man and Roger are extremely close friends!



**Idrael**

Idrael Mpaka is currently researching higher education in the field of Automotive Machines. CAAP's SA staff is assisting him in joining the Northlink College's Center of Specialization (COS) Occupational Programme in Automotive Machines. The cost of the educational program is R10660, which converts to \$560 per year. This program would provide Idrael with valuable skills and knowledge in the area of his interest.

Two years ago on her trip to SA, Mary visited an orthodontist, Dr. Marius Coetsee, who in the past provided corrective braces pro bono to two girls, Julia and Lien, in CAAP's nonprofit program. Several days before Mary left on her recent trip, she wrote an email to Dr. Coetsee describing the successes and impact of his treatment for Julia and Lien. As COVID is no longer affecting Dr. Coetsee's practice, Mary also requested in the email to Dr. Coetsee if he might provide a similar treatment to Idrael.

Now as you see in Idrael's photo, he never stops smiling showing off the braces on his teeth.



**Merci**

Dieu Merci (Merci) is in his third and final year of completing his degree at Northlink College in Cape Town. His chosen field of study is Human Resources. Along with college, Merci is also working as a paid CAAP Art Instructor as time allows. Merci is a highly reliable young man. He would like to find another part-time job which will allow him to contribute additional funding for his family's living expenses.

Mary is a long-time friend with the Miccoli family, Justin, Irina and their son Michael, in Cape Town. The Miccoli's family business, 3D Modeling Agency, is a top modeling, film, and commercial agency. Irina saw Mary's photographs of CAAP's higher education students and was interested in interviewing Merci for modeling.

After Merci interviewed with Irina and Justin in early April, he was offered a modeling contract on April 17th. He is "over the moon" with excitement!



**Julia**

Julia Nkiese has successfully completed her third year of her academic studies in Tourism at the College of Cape Town. The three-year program is very exclusive and admits only 40 students. She has begun her year and half internship as a requirement to complete her diploma in Tourism.

Julia has been CAAP's Head Art Instructor for many successful years.

She is currently employed in the World Travel Market (WMT) Africa as a host of the conventions that are held in Cape Town. WMT delivers the leading global events for the travel industry, hosting over 6000 travel industry professionals. WMT Africa delivers a mix of networking, hosted buyers, media representatives, and travel trade visitors, providing customers with quality contacts and communities.

Julia has also been employed as a top model for 3D Agency for the past seven years. Recently she was selected to have a part in Sony's global film starring Viola Davis, named "The Woman King."





**Suzana**

Suzana Madelana is currently living at Vulasamango Children's Home in the township of Philippi. She has been attending CAAP's art classes for the past 8 years. Suzana would love to earn a Bachelor of Arts in Business. She graduated from high school earlier this year.

Mary arranged a meeting between Suzana and professional counselors, a team of a husband and wife, Nobu and Themba. Nobu and Themba are employed with Master's Degrees in the University of Cape Town (UCT). They told Suzana that she needs to improve three of her grades to apply for a business degree in UCT. Nobu and Themba are currently researching an excellent tutor that CAAP will employ to coach Suzana to receive higher grades on those three classes.

Together with the CAAP, Nobu and Themba will continue to provide guidance for Suzana to be accepted in a good university, such as UCT.



**Filipe**

Filipe Nsodi has successfully worked at Vulasamango ("Open Gates") Children's Home as a Youth Facilitator for the last nine years. Filipe has been running daily programs for children and working with adolescents to guide them towards a brighter future.

Filipe is also employed as CAAP's Programme Manager, overseeing all art instructors.

Vulasamango (Open Gates) is undergoing an exciting new restructuring, and Filipe is working with partner organizations to reach out to children in different communities in Cape Town. The goal of this effort is developing a Vulasamango Resource Center for children of all ages, and equipping adolescents with skills and training such as carpentry, music, dance, and art.

Filipe would eventually like to go on to college and prepare for a degree in social work. He is also passionate about learning languages and completed his first-year certificate towards learning Deutsch and is currently preparing for his second-year exam.

## Inception

Mary Miyata, Executive Director and Founder of CAAP left California in 2002 to follow her dream of helping children with AIDS in Africa by providing art therapy education classes.

As a volunteer, Mary established the first art programme at the Cape Town located of Nazareth House HIV AIDS Children's Home (orphanage) in January 2002. The artwork projects were prominently displayed at art installations in South Africa and London with enthusiastic public response. In September 2004, Mary expanded the program and taught art in the informal settlements of Harare, Khayelitsha. Soon after, she began teaching in all four of the Nazareth House community homes in the greater Cape Town area. This was a major expansion of the Art Project.

While assisting the children at Nazareth House, she established relationships with many high-profile corporations and individuals from the U.K., Australia, Ireland, South Africa, and the U.S. to support the Non-profit Organization (NPO). She developed a market for the children's expressive artwork in exhibits in Cape Town, London, and Dublin which helped to fund the Nazareth House Program. Mary's art teaching experience, extensive marketing experience, and her high-profile effort helped her establish her own NPO, Children's Art Aids Programme USA registered 501(c)3.

In 2005, Mary was recruited by Nobel Peace Prize winner Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu to join the Desmond Tutu HIV Foundation at the Institute of Infectious Diseases & Molecular Medicine, situated at the University of Cape Town Faculty of Health Sciences. The center is involved in medical research, training, prevention, and treatment of HIV/AIDS-related diseases. Mary's role was to provide fundraising for the Desmond Tutu Foundation.

On 18 January 2012, CAAP (SA) received its Certificate of Registration of Non-Profit Organization. The formal name of this NPO is "Children's Aids Art Programme, South Africa Trust," which was established through legal pro-bono efforts from Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr in Cape Town, South Africa.



Written by Rosalia Sibulelo Mashale  
07 October 2022

*In Mary's words,*

*Rosie Mashale is an extraordinary woman who I have known since I first arrived in Cape Town in 2002. She founded the Baphumalele Children's Home and has cared for over 5,000 orphan children. My art school functioned out of Baphumalele for 10 years. Rosie has been a trustee of CAAP, a South Africa Trust, since 2012.*

*Rosie was always so humble and loving in her work. She was visited numerous times by President Nelson Mandela and Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu (Both Nobel Peace Prize recipients). She was honored in 2012 as South Africa's Woman of the Year and was flown to Johannesburg for a televised dinner and presentation with the president and parliament of South Africa. Please enjoy.*

*“It took me four years to paint like Raphael,  
but a lifetime to paint like a child.”  
-Picasso*



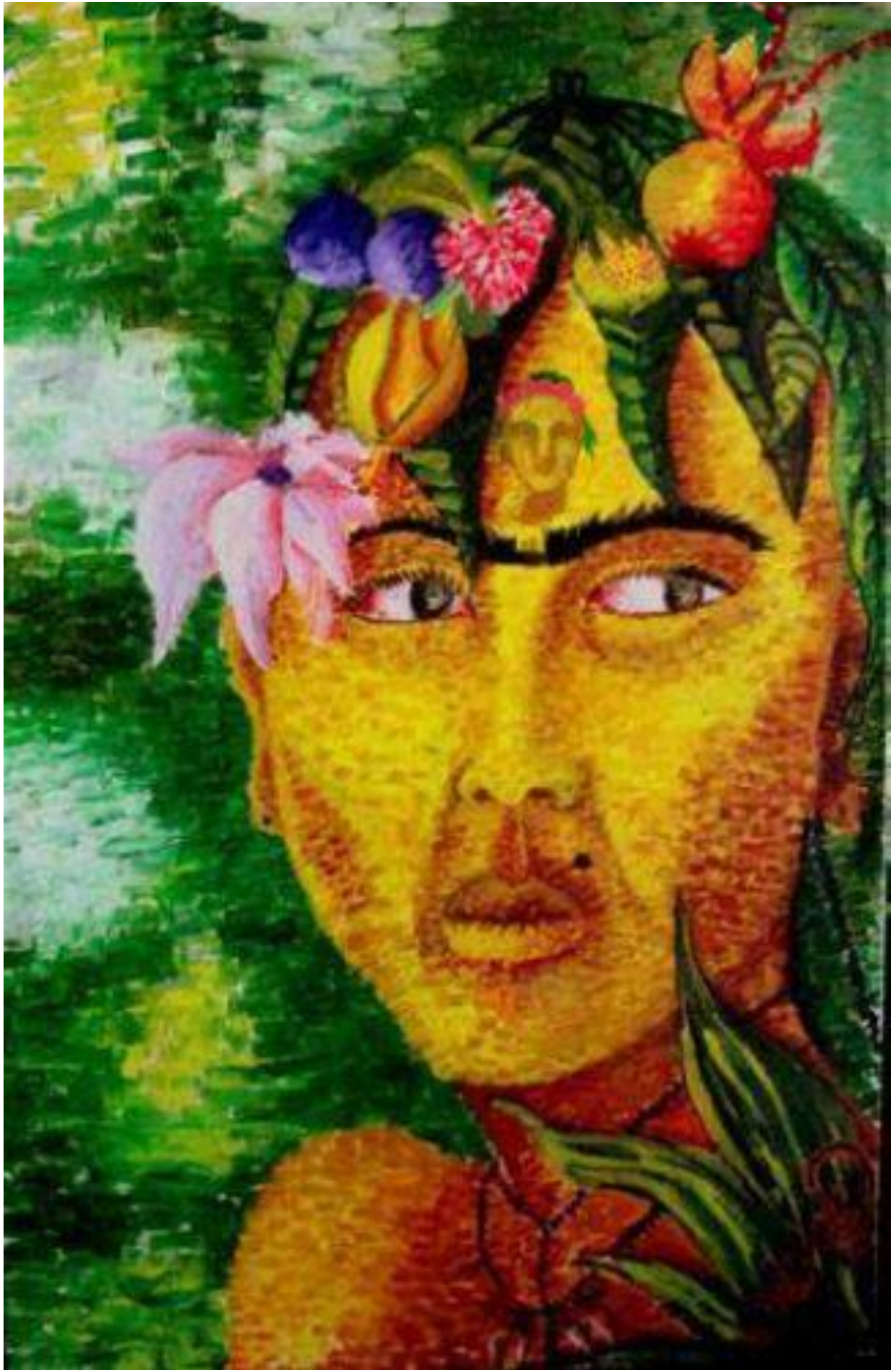










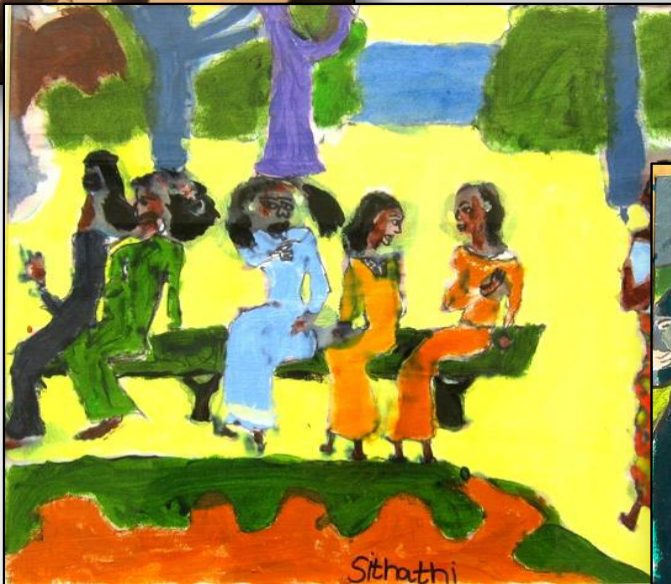
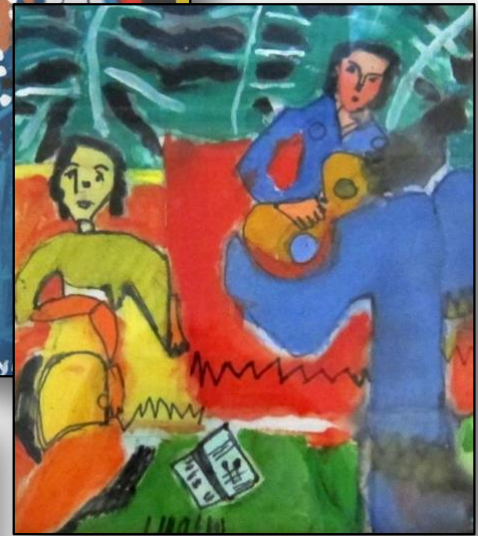
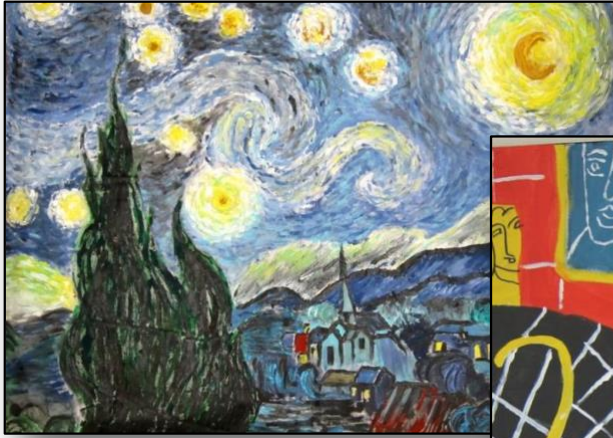




# Our Impression of the Impressionists



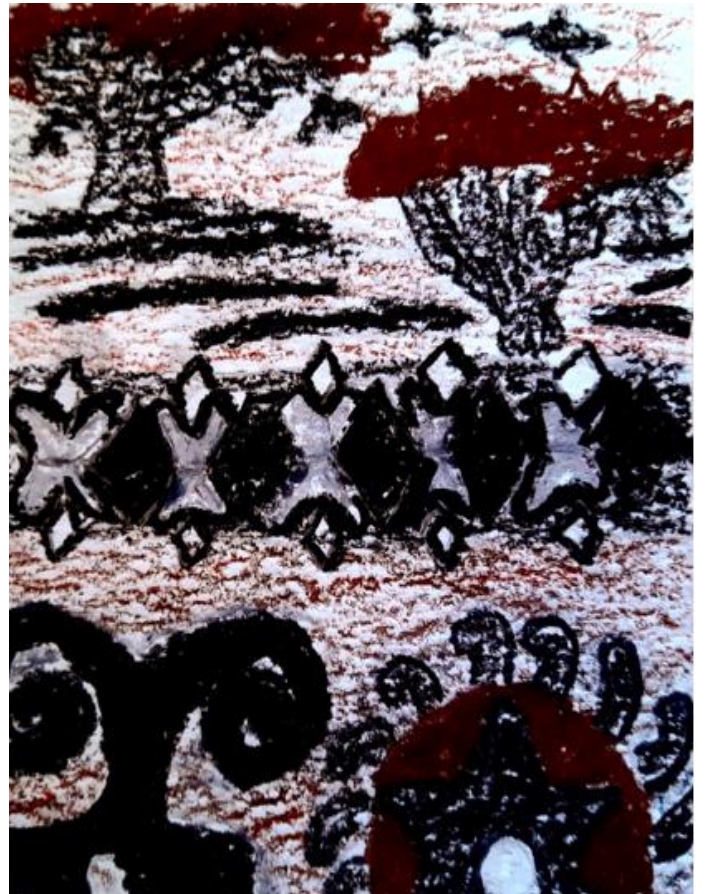
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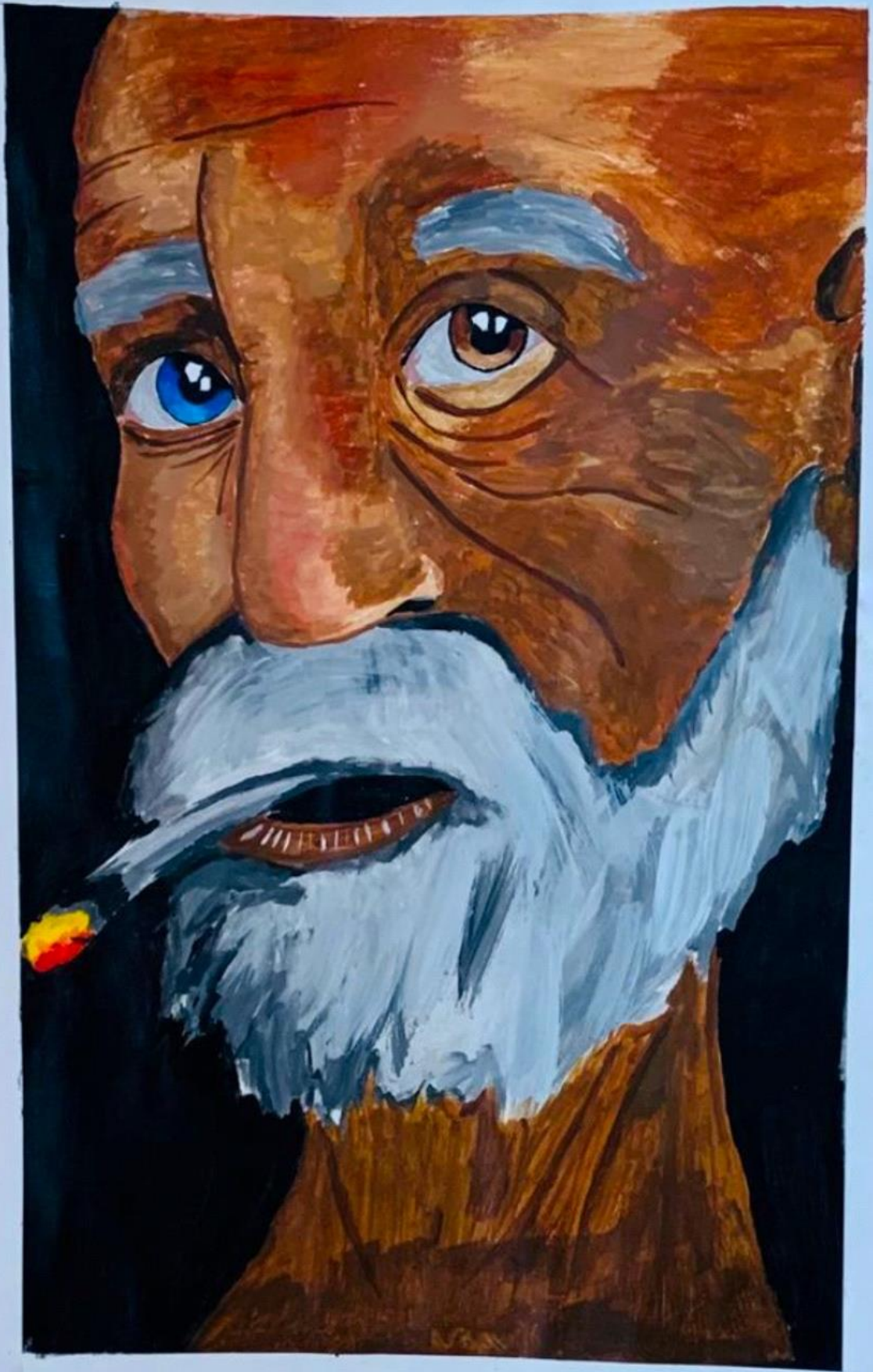






















## Children with their Self Portraits











We would like to express our heartfelt appreciation to our dedicated donors, whose ongoing support played an essential role in making this trip a true success.

Should you be interested in joining us as a donor, we would gladly welcome you. Please use the information below to contact us.

*Mary Miyata*

Founder & Executive Director



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