



Media Contact:

Leslie Davis
Marketing & Communications Coordinator
ldavis7@ycschools.us
(734) 221-1212
<https://www.ycschools.us/>

For Immediate Release

Ypsilanti Community Schools Celebrates Diversity

Ypsilanti - March 10, 2023 - Ypsilanti Community Schools' young artists will show off their artistic ability at the first annual YCS Arts Extravaganza sponsored by Embracing Our Differences. The event will be held at Morris Lawrence Building on the campus of Washtenaw Community College on May 16, 2023, from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm. The purpose of this event is to celebrate the diversity and inclusion of all students. The YCS Unified Arts teachers and students welcome families to view artwork displays and view student musical and dance performances. "Our YCS Unified Arts partnership with *Embracing Our Differences* is an opportunity for our students and teachers to exercise their voice, choice, and agency unapologetically to advocate and serve as co-conspirators for social justice and celebrate our great diversity together." Dr. Carlos Lopez, Assistant Superintendent, Ypsilanti Community Schools.

Ypsilanti Community Schools Visual Arts Coordinator Kathy Fisk, in collaboration with the YCS Unified Arts team, has taken the lead in coordinating this program which is a collaboration between Embracing Our Differences and Ypsilanti Community Schools. "We congratulate YCS for their exciting work in celebrating diversity. Embracing Our Differences Michigan is proud to partner with YCS and offer our support and encouragement. " Nancy Margolis, Executive Director, Embracing Our Differences Michigan.

All expenses for this project are being funded by Embracing Our Difference of Michigan.

Ypsilanti Community Schools is a PreK-12 district that offers students and families access to a rigorous, culturally responsive curriculum through individualized support that helps students advance their learning. We offer project-based learning, Small Learning Communities (SLCs), small class sizes, high dosage tutoring, a K-5 and 6-12 International Baccalaureate curriculum, a STEMM Middle College, Dual Enrollment, a comprehensive Fine Arts program, and a highly qualified teaching staff that cares about the relationships we have with our students and families.

We are committed to providing every student with an education that supports voice, choice, and student agency. We use restorative practices to create a culture of belonging where we do with and not to students, and we are intentional to ensure that every student is seen, heard, understood, valued, respected, and cared for.

For more information, call (734) 221-1221.

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