HISD PRESS RELEASE

Sterling Aviation ECHS student immortalized in national portrait series

Jan. 24, 2019 – Sterling Aviation Early College High School senior Icetria Green is one of seven students selected nationwide as the inspiration for a series of mosaic portraits, which were unveiled this week in Washington, D.C.

Green's story of overcoming enormous challenges, as well as those of the six other students, served as inspiration for the artwork created by pop artist Jason Mecier in collaboration with Communities In Schools.

The exhibition, titled "What We Are Made Of," represents a multidimensional view of the challenges students experience every day.

Each piece is assembled with objects from the student's life to represent who they are as individuals and highlight the communities of support that have played a role in their success.

The oldest of four children raised by a single mother, Green was forced to live apart from her family for months after Hurricane Harvey. However, she has overcome those obstacles to maintain high academic standing, become senior class president, and enroll in Texas Southern University's Trio Upward Bound program.

Green credits her Communities In Schools student support specialist, Alma Gutierrez, for being a source of encouragement and assistance. "She presents me with opportunities," Green said. "She keeps me engaged, and she's there just to listen to me."

HISD embeds support specialists on campuses year-round to aid students in times of need and lend any assistance necessary to ensure students' success.

Green will be the first in her family to attend college and plans to major in Psychology at Stephen F. Austin University. Upon graduating college, she plans to join the U.S. Navy to become a clinical psychologist.

The exhibit is on display at Washington, D.C.'s Touchstone Gallery through Jan. 31. Following the exhibit, the artwork will travel the nation for a year with a stop in Houston.

For pictures of Icetria and her portrait, click <u>here</u>. For a time-lapse video of the artwork, click <u>here</u>.

Media interested in connecting with Icetria Green should contact the HISD Press Office at 713-556-6393 or PressOffice@houstonisd.org.

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