

Field Street School student's artwork featured on Ecological Research & Development Group's Facebook page

Print



By **South Jersey Times**

on December 11, 2014 at 6:39 PM, updated December 11, 2014 at 6:40 PM



Horseshoe crab artwork by Kaylee Dixon

Even though she's not old enough to have her own Facebook page yet, Field Street School second-grader Kaylee Dixon was featured on the Facebook page of a research organization with her winning artwork.

Last year as a Field Street School first grader, Kaylee Dixon created several pieces of art during a Gifted and Talented Program unit on the endangered horseshoe crabs of New Jersey. She and many of her classmates entered the horseshoe crab art and writing contest sponsored by the Ecological Research & Development Group Inc. of Dover, Delaware.



Horseshoe crab artwork by Rosetta Silva

The students learned where the horseshoe crabs live and migrate, why they are important to people and medical research, how they aid the migrating red knot birds, and what is being done to protect this endangered animal that has been around for hundreds of millions of years. Then they created drawings, collages and paintings depicting the life and plight of horseshoe crabs. The students used watercolors, pastels, markers, colored pencils, and mixed media collages for their art.

The contest received 450 entries from four countries – Hong Kong, India, Mexico, and the United States. Forty entries were selected as winners in grades Pre-K to 9, including seven pieces of art by Field Street students. Each winner's work will be featured on the organization's Facebook page for a week.

Other Field Street winners are Kaylee Breeden, and Gabrielle Danks, both first graders

last year. The two Kaylees are now second graders at Field Street School; Gabrielle Danks has moved away. Rosetta Silva, a Field Street third grader last year and now a fourth grader at P.W. Carleton School in Penns Grove, created two of the winning art entries. One of her pieces was featured on the ERDG Facebook page in October. Carleton fourth-graders Mirac Sahin and Juan Garcia are also winners this year.

The winning entries were kept by the research organizations. In previous years, the selected art entries have been sent on tour internationally. They were also made available for purchase as posters on the ERDB website.

The Penns Grove-Carneys Point Regional School District also had several winners the last time the school's students entered the contest in 2011. Those and all other winning "poems, tales and images" of horseshoe crabs in the contest for that began in 2001 can be viewed on the ERDG website.