



Cool Collaboration



"This is a step to open doors and to show more people my art. What if there is someone 'big' in the audience? They will see my work!"

—Herron H.S. Sculpture student Avery Broadnax

Students from Herron High School's Sculpture classes created the "presents" in Ceremony of Carols and designed and painted signs that the Sugar Plum Fairy (Dk dancer Mariel Greenlee) uses in Act Two. Herron High School teacher **Susan Grade** answered a brief Q & A about the students' experiences on this collaborative project. *To see more of her responses, go to DanceKal.org.*

Q: How does this project fit within your class syllabus?

A: When Mr. Hochoy contacted me about creating the "presents," I immediately thought of our "Illuminated Bamboo" sculpture project. So I adapted that project to fit DK's requests. I believe only ten sculptures will be chosen to be used on stage, so this project provides students with the experience of competition in art. I hope that students will learn that art has an audience, and considering that the merging of meaning (or message) and materials is imperative to being an artist. For instance, students need to consider how their sculpture will appear on stage. Will small details be distinguishable? Will the work sit properly once placed on stage by a dancer? These are questions my students are now asking, and I love it!

Q: What art direction did David give you?

A: David emailed me after we connected through Laurie Cutsinger, the dance teacher at Herron High School. He told me about "Ceremony of Carols" and mailed a DVD of a performance. My Sculpture students watched portions of this DVD as an introduction to our project, which helped them understand the role of the sculptures as well as the scale. We determined that the forms that grabbed us the most showed good use of the principle of occupied/unoccupied space.

Herron High School Sculpture Students: Duncan Baumgarten, Maurice Broaddus, Avery Broadnax, Gillian Dunn, Lila Durrett, Lillian Gibson, Shelby Gray, Ian Jacobs, Timothy LeMasters, Shelby Leslie, Regan Mead, Ezra Moran, Jude Morey, Kyra Morgan, Alex Overdorf, Grover Page, Jaden Ransom, Olivia Reavis, Donovan Smith, Ethan Strunk, Vivian Wetli, Serena Wilson, Katherine Zuercher