**Title:** Children of Change

**Student Grant Leader:** Nadia A. de Stefano (on behalf of FALA’s NHS)

**Project Summary:** FALA NHS (this project is not limited to FALA NHS, it will be promoted to the whole school for anyone who wants to help) will organize a series of workshops throughout the remainder of the school year where FALA students will teach children from Flagstaff Family Food Center about all of the arts FALA has to offer. These workshops will consist of dance, music, drawing, and painting. We will host 2-3 workshops for each category of the arts. The workshops will take place from November to the end of April 2015.

There will also be workshops open to all youth held at FALA once a month from November through April.

 They will be free and open to the whole community so that more people may become aware of art.

At both sets of workshops there will be 40 free sketchbooks, 40 sets of 12 sketching pencils (including erasers, blending tools and a pencil sharpener per pack), and 40 packs of 36 piece sets of colored pencils for free for the youth of Flagstaff to be given an opportunity to create. All that needs to be done to gain any of these materials is to attend the workshops.

In addition to the workshops, FALA NHS will create four portable plywood/ hardboard “galleries”. We will be creating these “galleries” the second and third week of January. They will be brought to several community events including the first Friday art walk and empty bowls in order to raise awareness about the importance of art and how the creativity of the human brain is essential for problem solving. We want to raise awareness to the fact that the arts and academics go hand in hand and art is crucial for our children to learn because of its use in academics and in the real world.

The workshops will be publicly advertised on social media and posters around town and at the Flagstaff Family Food Center. We will create a website which will also be advertised on social media and posters for the purpose of connecting the Flagstaff youth through art. There will be contact information on the website. This website will be created by October 19th.

The galleries will be open to submissions from youth all over town. There will be a theme every two months. All they have to do to submit is mail their artwork (no larger than 1’ x 1’) to FALA. This is a chance for young local artists to publicize their work in the community. The galleries are not selective to people who draw and paint but will be open for photography submissions (in which case there must be a printed photo or digital photo mailed to FALA or e-mailed to the Children of Change e-mail) as well. The photographs may be of dancers, musicians, and actors who wish to also display their work. Local youth musicians will be encouraged to play while these galleries are being displayed as a part of the “Children of Change” project and can do so by contacting the FALA NHS on our “Children of Change” website.

**Why is this Grant Important?:**
 This project not only emphasizes the *connection and collaboration* between FALA students and local children, but it also is a way for every single member of the Flagstaff community to come together and support art education in our schools through the portable “galleries”. The portable “galleries” are meant to evoke *critical inquiry* among the community so that everyone who sees the galleries will eventually become aware of how difficult it is for youth to have access to the arts. Because many schools lack funding for basic school materials, it is very difficult for art programs to receive proper funding; thus making it relatively inaccessible to our local youth. We want community members to ask each why it is that Flagstaff is such an art based community, yet our children have difficulty accessing art programs. As children dive deeper into their education, art programs are no longer mandatory like they are in elementary school. Many middle and high schools offer it only as an elective. This way the word will spread that the local youth of Flagstaff is trying to make a statement about the necessity of art in the community for people of all ages. We want the whole community to realize how much we as youth truly care about art. We will be advertising our galleries and ourselves as ‘children of change’ on social media and through posters we place around town. This grant will therefore demonstrate FALA’s *leadership* skills within the community; furthermore it will serve as a *service learning* project for NHS and the whole FALA community. This grant will not cease to have an impact after the school year ends, but these portable “galleries” will remain property of NHS so that each generation of FALA students can continue the same project if they wish, or they can use the galleries to bring awareness about a new issue they feel needs to be addressed. This demonstrated the *investment* NHS will be putting into the community to create change and the *creativity* students have to create change.

**Teacher Sponsor:** Mrs. Musta, Ms. Henes

**Time frame:** November 2015-April 2016

**Where it is taking place:** The reading room in the Flagstaff Family Food Center

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**For PLATE 2016:** A short 5 minute film of our project. It would include the work we will do during the project; the impact it had on the children, (the children, if they are willing, will speak in the film. Otherwise a FALA student will share quotes from the students) the students and the community. We would film students working with the children and also show what they created and gained from the workshops through short interviews. We will interview people (if they are willing. Otherwise a FALA student will share a quote from the community members) who look at the art posters. An NHS member will briefly introduce the film and talk about what the project meant to the FALA and Flagstaff community.

**Budget:**

* Tempered Hard Board 2x4 $7.97 each. 5 for $39.85 - $39.85
* 3lbs of wheat paste $21.98 each. - $21.98
* Packs of Paint Brushes (smaller) $4.99 for 10 detail x5 - $24.95
* Larger paint brushes 5 packs - $26.97
* Basics paints - $59.98
* 3 plastic jars for washing brushes - $5.49
* Acrylic paint (for galleries) 6 16oz bottles - $104.93
* Brushes and roller sets for galleries(1 8 piece set of roller stuff, 3 paint brushes 2-3in) - $14.08
* Screws $6.47 for a 1 pound pack. -$6.47
* Sketching pencils (2pack) - $15.98
* Sketching pencils to donate to youth (12 pencils, 3 blending tools, 2 eraser per pack) for 40 – $199.6
* Canvas drop cloth 6’x9’ - $13.98
* 50 sketch pads to donate to youth- $199.6
* 5 set of 3 palettes - $24.95
* 2 sketch pad for art work from the community - $9.98
* 40 packs of 36 piece colored pencils to donate to youth - $199.6
* Wheels $2.99 each. 8 for $23.92 - $23.92
* 2 pack of paper towels - $2.97
* 5 Regular erasers - $7.95

Total: $1,000

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