

# Aldo Leopold Charter School

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## Weekly-ish Update

11.15.2021

### When Aldo comes to your local national monument

Spending a couple days and a night with the wind, sun, grass, mountains, rocks, moon, and stars as companions is a balm for any body. We don't need to wonder why, we all just know that we feel better after being outside. The sophomores and juniors did not get to go backpacking as planned this year because of a series of unfortunate events. Instead, they ventured south and west to spend two days and a night at the Chiricahua National Monument.

8th graders Lila and Zeke paku-paku to spur a conversation about the art at the McCray Gallery.



Clockwise from left: Anyone who has come anywhere near Aldo knows that every Aldo events begins and ends with a circle. Noah and Perisha work together to stand up together. Orien helps students turn yucca into pliable material. Kevin, Katherine, Jim, and Aiden.





New Mexico does not have a **mountain biking league**, so the Aldo team races in Arizona in the Southern League. Two weeks ago Aldo riders went to the Alllllll Arizonaaaaaaa Mountain Biking Fiiiinalssssss (can you hear the echo of the announcer in the background?). In the Division 2 Freshman Boys category three Aldo riders qualified and rode with a field of 60-70 other cyclists: **Tommy got on the podium with a 5th place finish, Addi**

**placed 9th**, and after crashing **Ethan still placed well at 12th**. In the Division 2 Boys JV2 category **Junior Aiden placed 21st** in his race with an equally packed field. Congratulations to you guys!!

## It truly does take a village

Aldo is a small charter school with limited funding. At bigger schools, paid staff takes care of some of the necessary support and planning that helps a school to meet some of its goals. Here at Aldo we rely on **volunteer committees** to do this work. What we need more of is volunteers-**YOU**-to help our school to be what we all want and need it to be. Right now many people feel isolated and maybe even scared. Connecting with others for a common purpose can help to remind us that we are part of something bigger than ourselves and that we are in fact not at all alone. To this end, *please* join staff, students and parents for the School Advisory Committee. This introductory meeting will be on **November 16, at 5:30 pm at the school**. You will:

- Find out what SAC does.
- Learn about the work of other school committees
- What is the ALCS strategic plan?
- Help us improve parent communication and engagement.

### Find your role!

Join a Zoom Meeting or in-person at the school (masks required).

<https://uso4web.zoom.us/j/79538106015?pwd=Mll2RnJqSk9oRElnM1VncmsyeDI5dz09>

Meeting ID: 795 3810 6015

Passcode: 2zXbi3

## Speaking of the village....

We have all been doing this mask thing for awhile now and yet it is still difficult for kids to keep track of theirs or to remember to bring one to school. The school provides masks for those who forget or lose their masks, but people, we are going through a **gazillion of these a day** (I'm only kind of exaggerating). We are seeing the same kids taking a mask every time they come back into the building. These things are littering the campus. **Not cool, man. PLEASE be sure that when you send your precious young child out the door in the morning that they have their mask.**

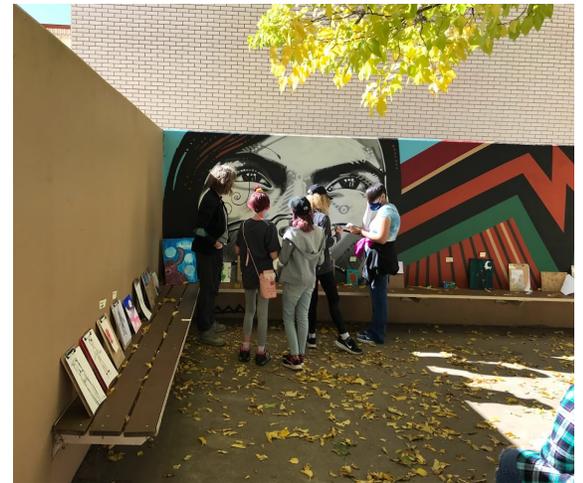
# ART day!



Mz. Phillips is back on the wheel in the clay studio at WNMU and she wanted to share her love of all things artistic with the middle school. So with the enthusiastic help of her **clay professor Courtney Michaud** and the **music department's Bryant Chaffino** all 75 middle school students dabbled in four artistic mediums for the day. Clockwise from left: Mz. Phillips demonstrates what it is to have fun at the wheel. Erik's little monsters make more little monsters with clay. Jennifer and a group of artists look at their classmates' original artwork in the **pop-up art show** with the wise eyes of in the background. Sixth graders Dontai and Charan talk about one of Diane Marsh's fine paintings in the **McCray Gallery**, and music appreciation (remember Jack Black from



**School of Rock**?) in the Parotti Building with Bryant Chaffino.



## More Art Day

Below: **Garrett** teaches the kids about the **basics of photography** and shares some of the cameras he has acquired for a future photography club. Right: **Heilel** looks through his phone/camera with a more discerning eye.



The Kiwanis Club sponsors **Student of the Month** in schools throughout the county. Every month we wish we could name at least 15 students of the month, but alas we must keep it to one. Kiwanis asks us to name a student who is most improved. At the end of Art Day we announced our choices... **8th grader Zeke** (left) has impressed students and

At the end of Art Day we announced our choices... **8th grader Zeke** (left) has impressed students and

staff with how he has shown up this year. He supports younger students, expresses complex thoughts in his writing, he shows respect to his teachers and peers. He is a role model. We are so happy to see his growth! November student of the month is one of our new **7th graders: Lulu** (seen in the photo on the right, sitting, with her ubiquitous LAFD beanie, hearing of this strange honor being given to her by Mz. Phillips). Lulu is new to our school this year and we couldn't be happier that she chose to join our community! She is creative, kind, bright, always ready with a smile, and one of the most stylish kids we've ever seen.