

Aldo Leopold Charter School

Weekly Update

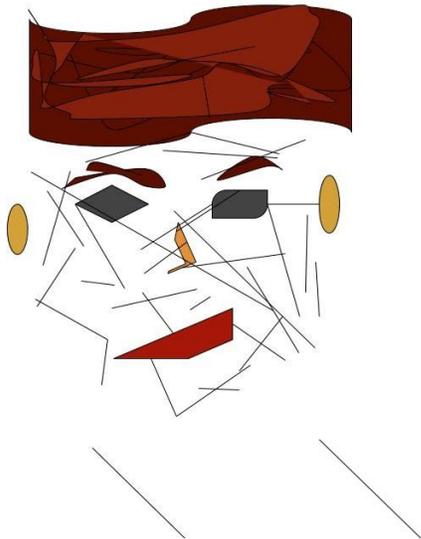
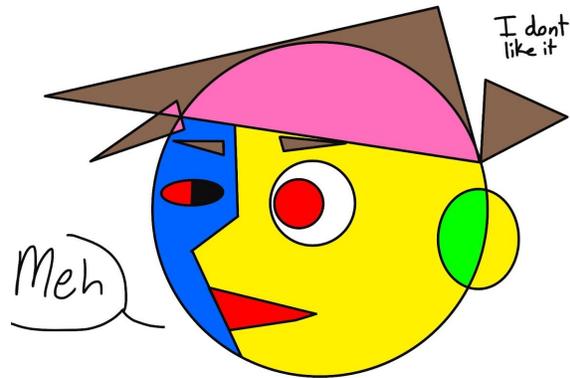
1.12.21



(575)538-2547

410 West 10th Street

Silver City, NM 88061



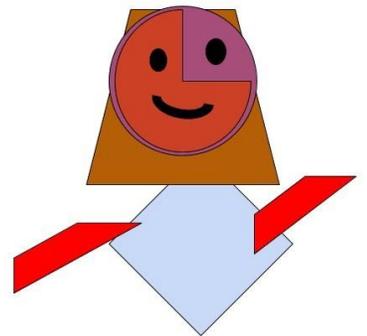
Can we have your support?

Being a charter school is a special thing. We exist because none of the schools in our area offered the kind of education that our founders proposed to the state public education department. We have these founders to thank for our existence, and it is up to us to keep ourselves going. To that end, please consider adding your name to this [petition to the legislature to protect charter schools](#).

“To improve is to change; to be perfect is to change often.” -Winston Churchill

(We are getting soooo close to perfection then!)

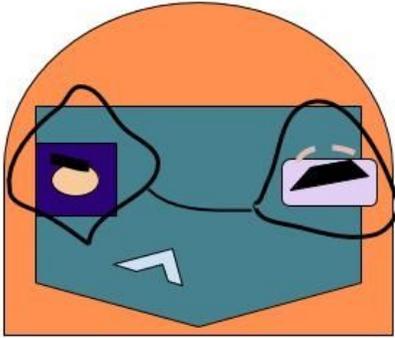
Based on our consumers (students) feedback we crunched some numbers (amount of time on screen) and came up with a new product (schedule) we think will please the majority of our business partners (students, parents, and staff). These new innovative [timetables](#) (middle and high school class schedules) for transcending the current knowledge base are available on the website.



We've moved (lunch service)

In case you haven't already heard, lunch will now be served at the **Guadalupe Montessori School 1731 North Alabama Street**. You can pick up a **FREE** nutritious and delicious lunch for your kid from **11:35-12:10 Monday through Friday**.

Tell me, what is it you plan to do with your one wild and precious life?-Mary Oliver, poet



While they wait for the number of positive cases of Covid-19 to go down in Grant County, the 9th graders of the Community Orientation class are all back online together. To aid them in learning patience to wait out this unpredictable and ever-changing pandemic, they spend a bit of time doing online bonding games, then on their own they do some yoga, ride their bike or other exercise, sit quietly then write about what they observe and finally they journal about how calm cool and collected they've become. If all this waiting around for the world to change has got you

considering if you are in the right job, take the [interest survey](#) offered by the U.S. Department of Labor that the 9th graders took.

We share our world with a-MAZ-ing creatures



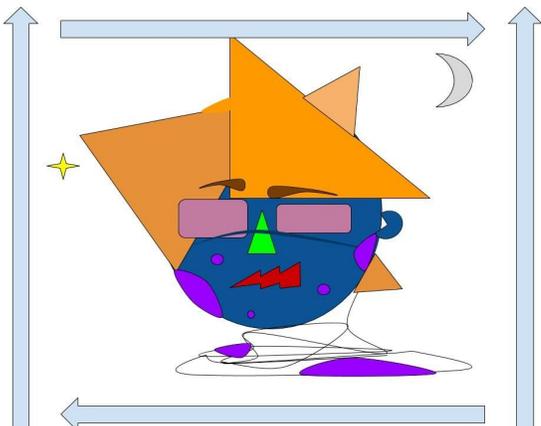
Ms. Chaney's 7th grade science class spent the week before finals researching an animal of their choosing. Then they created a presentation about this animal so they could share all they learned with their class. Did you know that there is a salamander called a hellbender, and it lives in the rivers of the



eastern United States and will eat whatever gets in its way?? The Asian golden cat is much like your housecat? And there is a terrifying snake called a *horned* viper (as if a hornless snake isn't scary enough!)? To see more of our planet mates check out these presentations on [Ms. Chaney's class website](#).



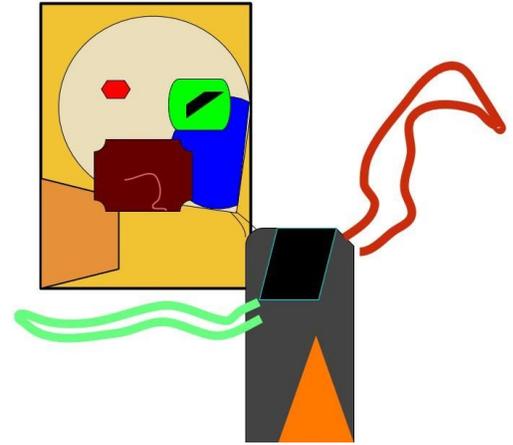
It's no fun without the spitballs



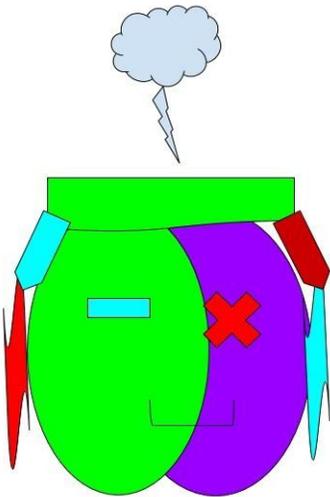
High school teachers are available from **2:00-2:50 on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday for extra help** for any student in need. Check your Google Classroom for a link to your hotline to academic success!

And you felt sorry for the class of 2020

When they should be roaming the halls as the top dogs, signing themselves out of class, sitting on the lawn reminiscing with their classmates about that time in Mr. Cantrell's class ("We were SO young!"), they are instead seeing their friends' faces in little boxes on a bigger box. But to bring some of what Aldo does to prepare their graduates to face the future, the seniors will have a virtual Senior Retreat on January 14-15. Let's all cross our fingers and hope and pray that when the time comes around for the senior trip, we have been given the all clear to be together again.



"There is a biological reason for that."

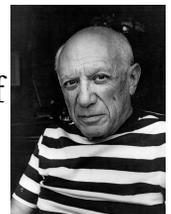


Being a teenager is a special time in life. For most of us it is especially uncomfortable, frustrating, scary, annoying, sad, dreadful, even. Jennifer thought her 8th grade humanities classes should be let in on the secret of why they feel so bothered by people they love and until recently even liked. Or why they clam up when someone asks them a question. Or perhaps why they just do not, not, not want to turn their cameras on during class. So she showed them two TED Talks by neuroanatomist Jill Bolte Taylor. In December of 1996, Dr. Bolte Taylor had a massive stroke. While the hemorrhage flooded the left side of her brain, she experienced the world as her right brain saw it--the beauty, love, and connectedness that was always all around her. In 2008 she gave a TED Talk, which has been viewed by more than 27 million people, to share her

[Stroke of Insight](#)--that if we choose to, we can spend more of our time living from the right side of our brain. After getting that context, they then watched Dr. Bolte Taylor's explanation of the [teenage brain](#) (their poor amygdala is just on high alert all the time with the weird changes in their bodies no wonder they lash out irrationally!) I hope this helps.

Cubed

We have the art students of Ms. Phillips's middle school ART 1 + 2 and their study of Pablo Picasso and cubism to thank for all the "faces" in this issue of the Update.



May the force be with you

The **science fiction/fantasy book group** for students from Aldo and Cliff and led online by local author Sharman Apt Russell and former teacher and current Gila town librarian Madge Slavek will be meeting on **January 25 at 4:30** to discuss the book [*Uprooted*](#) by Naomi Novik. If you are thinking, “Man, I LOVE sci fi/fantasy! I want to get in on this!” email Ms. Aversa

emily.aversa@aldostudents.org because she has extra copies of this book and the book for March, [*Children of Blood and Bone*](#) by Tomi Adeyemi.





Nature/Art Contest!

All Middle and High School Students*
*In Grant County

UPPER GILA WATERSHED ALLIANCE

\$1,000 IN PRIZES!

- ALL SUBMISSIONS MUST BE ORIGINAL AND CREATED BETWEEN DEC. 1 2020 AND MAY 5 2021
- PARTICIPANTS MAY ENTER ONE PIECE IN EACH CATEGORY
- VIDEOS LIMITED TO 5 MINUTES

Visit the UGWA website at:
ugwa.org
for all details and submission guidelines

Questions?
Carol Ann: admin@ugwa.org
Full rules and details: ugwa.org

*All entries could be displayed at art galleries, coffee shops, or other public locations.

Creative Expression in Art

Using a medium of your choice, how does nature make you feel?

Examples:

- A drawing of the Gila River
- Photographs of your backyard
- A video about a picnic or camping trip
- A sculpture of an animal
- A poem/short story/essay about your experiences in the natural world.

Make it personal.

Creative Expression in Life Science

Using a medium of your choice, describe a process of science that you find engaging and important.

Examples:

- A drawing of the life cycle of a mayfly
- A time lapse of a flower blooming
- A drawing with the labeled parts of a plant
- A description of an experiment you did

Visit <https://scistarter.org/finder> for more science ideas.

Mr. Cantrell and his 6th graders started the new semester with a conversation about what the pandemic has taught them. The next day they condensed that long, thoughtful, insightful chat thread into this poem.

First Chat of 2021
Poetry and song by the 6th grade of Aldo Leopold Charter School
(Make your own music)

Change it all together
Do better in the future
Let's change the conversation
We have to open our eyes!

What can we do?
Justice and peace and all things fair.
We are the zoomers, generation Z
Things will change!

You need to do your part,
What did you do in the process
Of making it happen?

I/We did this
I/We changed something....
I/We made the end so much better for the next part of many lives.

Become more!
We're bringing all we got
We're putting up a fight

To show that even though we're young
We make that like a power that we use
Yeah
Yeah
Yesss!!!!

Be with your community,
Work together,
The person you are,
Makes the world!