Mount Sinai Kravis Children's Hospital

The Faris Foundation Art Therapy Fellowship Newsletter

The Child Life and Creative Arts Therapy Department

WINTER 2023-2024

Quarterly Update

In the fall of 2023, Kyla Ohayon, Faris Foundation Fellow, joined the Child Life and Creative Arts Therapy team at Mount Sinai Kravis Children's Hospital. In the spring of 2023, Kyla graduated from the art program at Pratt Institute; she is in the process of pursuing licensure in New York State. Kyla provides inpatient bedside art therapy services during the weekends, as well as group sessions in the hematology and oncology clinic two days per week. The services support both patients and family members as they cope with the hospital environment. Kyla is passionate about tailoring sessions to each individual's needs and finding new and exciting outlets for creative expression.

In the first five months, the Faris Foundation Fellowship has provided nearly ***100 individual sessions and 40 groups.***

Community Quilt

Kyla started a "Community Quilt" in the hematology-oncology clinic. It includes the artwork from patients, families and staff members. The quilt is a living art project that continues to grow with every patient who enters the clinic space. The quilt reflects the diversity and beauty of the clinic community.

We are thankful to our donors! The Creative Arts Therapy Fellowship is generously supported by *The Faris Foundation*

Kyla posing with a handmade ornament inside the clinic's pop-up holiday shop, which was filled with donated gifts for patients and families.

Deck The Halls!

2023 Holiday Season at Kravis Children's Hospital!

Kyla, as Santa's reindeer, and Professor, one of the Department's animal assisted therapy dogs, on Christmas day getting ready to deliver presents to pediatric patients in the hospital.

Staff members across various disciplines engaging in holiday crafts and festivities.

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Let There Be GOLD!

Looking back at September, we celebrated Childhood Cancer Awareness Month in Kravis Children's Hospital.

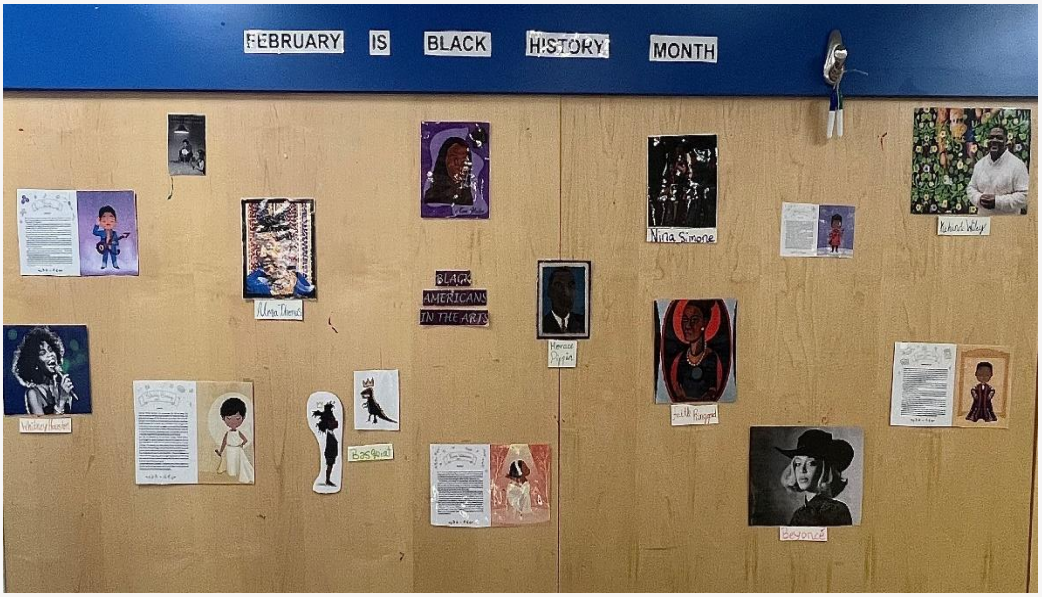
The Faris Foundation generously donated art kits and decorations to help us bring awareness and joy to patients, caregivers and staff!

Kyla and Abbey Meeks, the hematology-oncology child life specialist, are adorned in Faris Gold outside of the inpatient unit.

Kyla has been following this patient and her family throughout treatment. This patient struggles to adjust to the hospital environment during long-term admissions and benefits from art therapy as a form of coping. She is particularly interested in self-expression through sensory stimulation and self-portrait interventions.

Black History Month

In February, the clinic celebrated Black History Month by highlighting Black Americans in the arts. Patients and families were invited to engage with the images on the wall, as well as learn more about these artists' stories through accompanying blurbs.



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