

media advisory

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CBE Students Challenge Perception of Dementia Through Art

For Immediate Release

CALGARY — Students from Jack James High School have spent this school year volunteering their time to work with residents of Clifton Manor to create art projects through the Opening Minds through Art (OMA) program.

OMA is an intergenerational art program that allows dementia patients to have an element of control over their lives by allowing them choice. The program seeks to challenge the perception of dementia and educate through the reality of what clients can do, rather than focus on what they cannot. OMA is a joint venture between Jack James High School and the Brenda Stafford Foundation's Clifton Manor.

Throughout the school year, students have volunteered weekly to work with assigned clients on art projects. Students follow the general guidelines of the project, giving assistance where needed, but allowing their client to make all the choices.

Students absolutely shine in this program with their compassion, patience and their understanding of feeling marginalized. Students are also earning Career & Technology Services (CTS) Volunteerism high school credits.

Media are invited to film and photograph students and clients as they put the finishing touches on their multi-layered art projects. Students, the coordinating teacher and a representative from Clifton Manor will be available for interviews.

Event Details

Date: Tuesday, May 1

Time: 10:45 – 11:30 a.m.

Place: Clifton Manor – 4726 – 8 Avenue S.E.

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Note | Principals have a responsibility to limit media coverage only to students approved for interviews. Reporters attending an event are requested to receive permission from a CBE contact before interviewing or photographing students. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter, and for joining us in celebrating public education.

