











Josephine Herrick Project

Step-Up Community PhotoVoice Program

Spring 2019

Front cover image by **Kristen Greaves**Above images by **Ruthie Abel**









Through its free photography programs, the Josephine Herrick Project (JHP) works to transform the lives of individuals facing social, physical, and economic barriers in life. We partner with schools, human service agencies, health care facilities, libraries, and community organizations to deliver customized and hands-on digital photography courses taught by professional photographers.

For JHP participants, the camera is a transformative tool, helping individuals build self-confidence and visual literacy, think creatively and critically, engage actively with their communities, tell their own stories, and advocate for themselves, effecting change in their own lives and the world around them.

JHP was established in 1941 by pioneering photographer Josephine Herrick (pictured left) to teach photography to wounded service personnel returning from World War II. Since then, our programs have expanded to serve a variety of marginalized and vulnerable communities for whom photography provides a way to share their stories with a wider audience.



Funded by the Robin Hood Foundation and the New York City Department of Education, Step-Up is a mental wellness and positive youth development program operating within two New York City public schools in East Harlem, and the Bronx. The program provides supportive services for teens experiencing challenges living within low-resourced communities to promote academic achievement and a positive transition to adulthood. Step-Up has served 544 students over the past 9 years from 2008 to 2017. Step-Up aims to address ecological stressors that disproportionately affect Black and Latino youth and their families who are impacted by poverty and violence.

About PhotoVoice

In partnership with the McSilver Institute for Poverty Policy and Research, the Josephine Herrick Project leads 3-day photo intensives for high school students in the Step-Up program. Students learn the basics of operating a digital camera and composing an image and then apply their new skills by exploring the city around them. As part of the program, PhotoVoice participants come together with students from other high schools to hone their skills, build community, expand their horizons, and share their voices and ideas through the visual language of photography. The images in this exhibition present New York City through the eyes of these young people.



In this workshop, students built on their learning from the fall workshop and thought about how they show up as individuals in their images, words, actions, and style. Students learned about portraiture and had a chance to practice street portraiture as they explored Harlem neighborhoods with their cameras.



This image shows
"the other side of
Treyvon, more
serious and natural."

"Mister Mysterious Man!" by **Kristen Greaves**



Untitled by **Cesia Arzu**

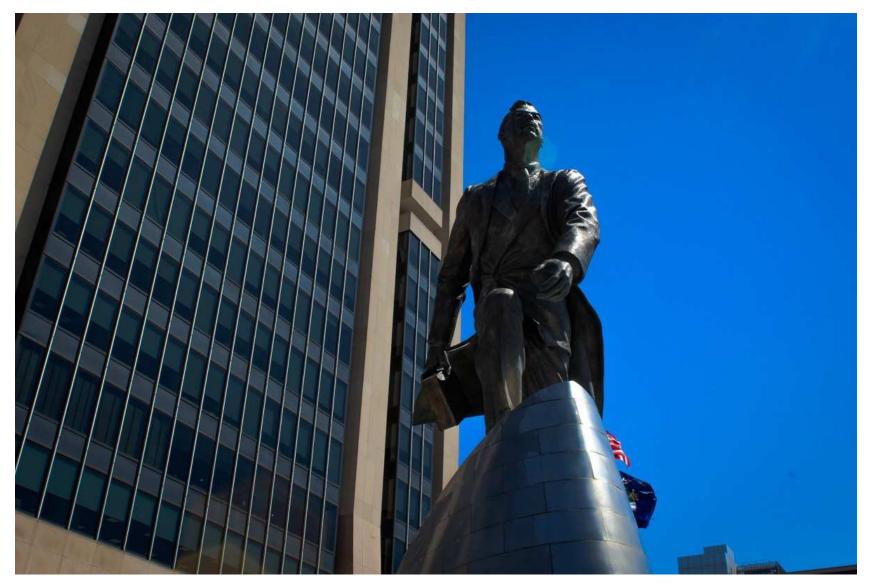


Untitled by **Gloria Akinola**



"What is Behind You?" by Kristen Greaves

"Observe what is around you for a change, instead of always looking down. You might find something you like."



Untitled
by Horace Shelton (above)

Untitled by Gloria Akinola (right)





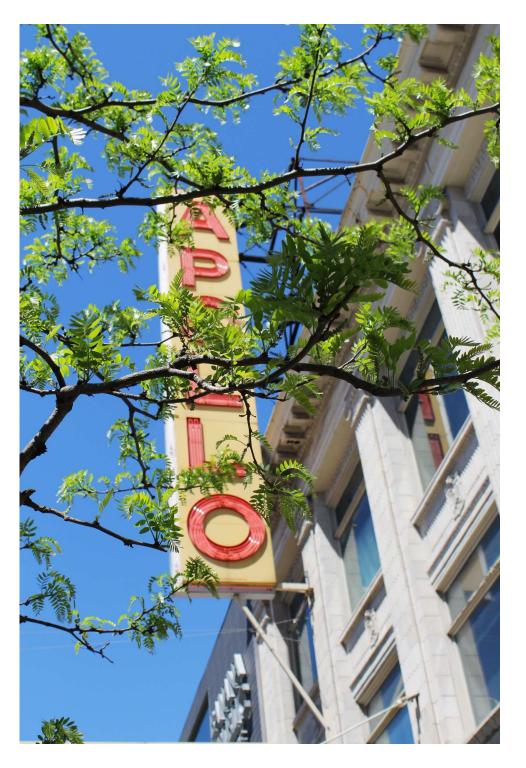
Untitled by **Cesia Arzu**



Untitled by **Cesia Arzu**



Untitled by **Horace Shelton**



"The Hidden Entertainment Landmark" by **Treyvon Wardrick**



Untitled
by Horace Shelton



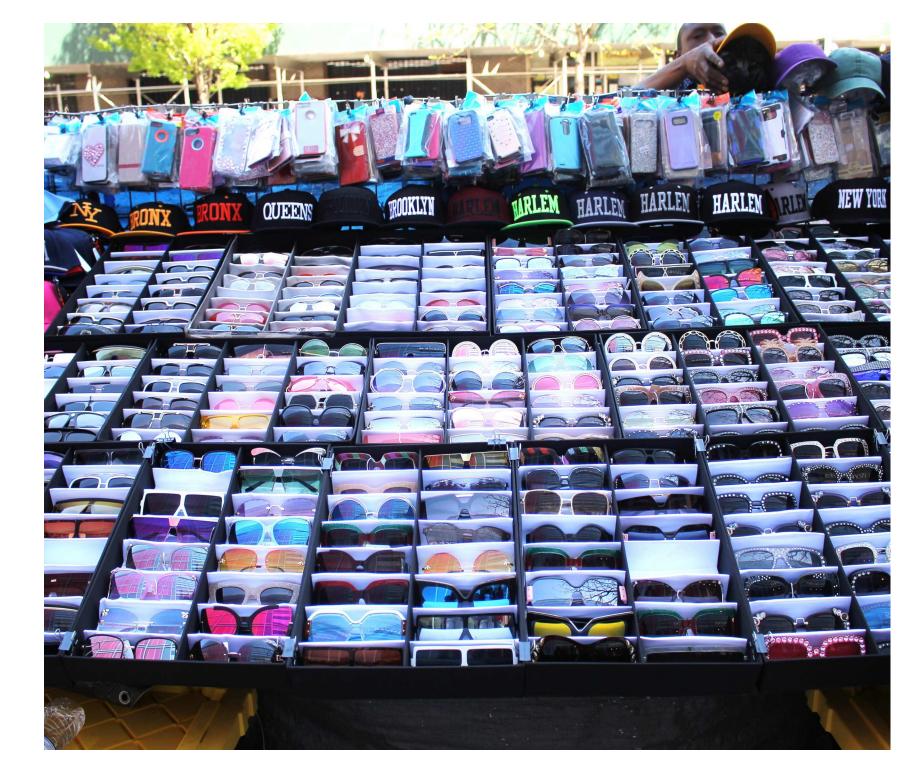
"The Mysterious Break of Blue" by **Treyvon Wardrick**

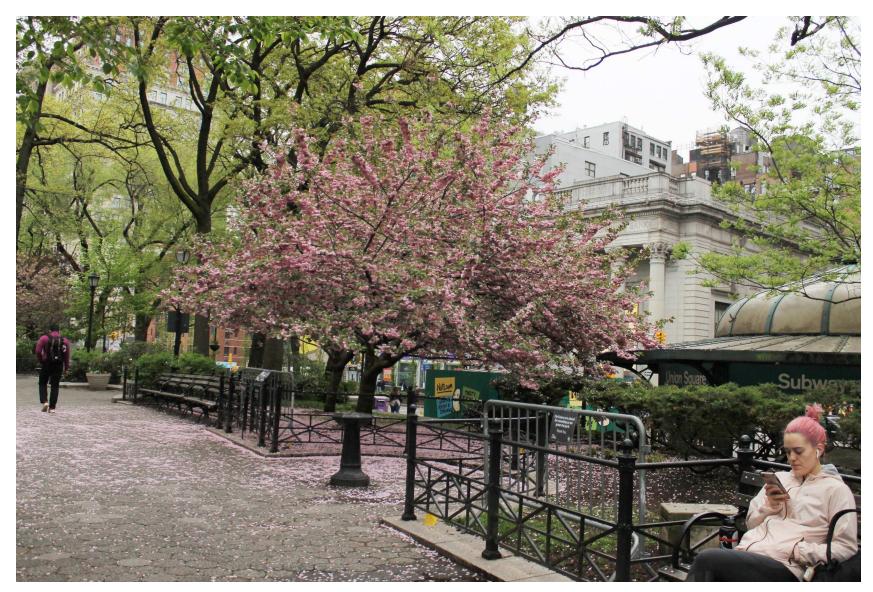
"A typical day for New Yorkers at 14th Street."



"Beyond the People" by Kristen Greaves

Untitled by Gloria Akinola (right)





"Blossoming Pink Has Begun" by **Treyvon Wardrick**





Staff

Jessica Wanamaker Executive Director

Diane Bezucha

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Teaching Artists

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Step-Up Staff

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Step-Up Participants

Gloria Akinola Cesia Arzu Kristen Greaves Horace Shelton Treyvon Wardrick



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