

## **Fairview Park Education Foundation Grant Report**

### *“Alumni Artist in Residency: Individuality and Respect Through Art”*

During the week of March 10-14, 2014, students at Fairview High School and Lewis F. Mayer Middle School had the unique opportunity to participate in an artist-in-residency workshop that was funded by the Fairview Park Education Foundation. During this event, Samantha Reveley, a Fairview High School graduate and sequential artist, facilitated a mixed group of students, grades 7-12, to explore and learn the skills of creating a comic strip.

Prior to this event, the Mosaic group and students in Ms. Jones and Mr. Britton’s English classes, created stories and scripts as possible selections to produce as a comic strip. The student writing explored various themes of diversity, personal events, and creative writing. The selections were then narrowed down to three scripts that would be fully produced into a comic book.

The workshop was set up so that each day, a different group of students had a specific task and responsibility in making the final product. The first day of the workshop involved the “Pencilers” using the scripts to draw in the main characters and pictures of the story. On the second day, the “Inkers” used various techniques to apply texture, value, and elements of design to the already created pages. The “Letters” used the third day to draw in the text and dialogue. On the fourth day, all of the pages were electronically scanned and the “Colorists” used Adobe Photoshop to enhance the pages with color. On the final day of the workshop, the cover was designed and created, as well as final editing and printing.

As Samantha Reveley conducted the workshop, she also had the opportunity to share her techniques and experiences with students in Mr. Graff’s Art Exploration classes. All of these students were familiarized to the processes and procedures of creating a comic. They were then able to put these into practice as they created their own personal comic as an individual classroom assignment.

The final product of the comic book was on display at the FHS/LFM annual art show. Many students commented on how enjoyable the experience was for them and we received many positive remarks about the event. A copy of the comic book has been included in this report as well as pictures from the workshop.