



WINNIPEG SCHOOL DIVISION
INVESTING IN THE FUTURE

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NEWS RELEASE

School mural captures student creativity and imagination

Mural unveiled 70 years after school's WWII namesake became a hero

Grade 9 students about to graduate from Andrew Mynarski VC School are proud to leave their mark on the school – a huge exterior mural created just in time to celebrate their namesake's heroic WWII act.

The 24-foot-wide, 10-foot-high mural was designed to showcase the energy and positive attitude of students and create a great work of public art for the entire community to enjoy all year round.

The students will reveal the mural to their fellow students and the community this Friday. The mural includes an image of Mynarski, who was posthumously awarded the Victoria Cross for his brave act that saved a fellow Royal Canadian Air Force officer exactly 70 years ago on June 13, 1944.

Mural Unveiling: Friday, June 13 from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m.

Where: Andrew Mynarski VC School, 1111 Machray Ave., Winnipeg

“Working on the mural was a great experience, and something I'll remember from the years I was here. We did a really great job and I can't wait to pass by the school and see it when it is all up,” said Anne Ocampo, one of four Grade 9 students who developed the original design.

Thirty students each picked up a paintbrush to create the massive exterior mural, working with Winnipeg mural artist Annie Bergen during her five-day residency at Andrew Mynarski VC School. The school secured an Artist in the Schools Grant from the Manitoba Arts Council to fund a portion of the project, which took six months to complete from planning to painting.

“The mural project has created an incredible visual impact and a focal point for the school for years to come. The process of designing and creating it has been a community building event that has brought real excitement and a sense of pride to our school,” said Art teacher Meghan Davidson, who led the group of talented students in collaborating to create the mural.

“It's a reflection of our school culture, and our school namesake. It's not just about the history but about the art. The students get to leave a piece of themselves here,” added Davidson.

To learn more about the school's namesake, Andrew Mynarski, see:

<https://www.winnipeg.ca/schools/AndrewMynarski/Administration/history/Pages/default.aspx>

To learn more about Artists in Schools see: <http://artscouncil.mb.ca/arts-education/>

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