

# Meet the Artist! Jozimar Matimano

fine art painter originally from the East Democratic Republic of Congo, Jozimar Matimano now lives in Manchester. Join us in welcoming Jozimar to Proctor with light refreshments, conversation, and the experience of this incredible collection of original oil paintings. The event takes place on Friday, May 6, from 5 to 7 PM at Proctor Academy's Lovejoy Library. Contact Molly Leith, curator, with any questions at LeithMo@ProctorAcademy.org.



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East Andover NH Volunteer Fire Station

Sign up at: https://runsignup.com/Race/NH/Andover/eavpkids

Day of registration available

9am Kids Fun Run (ages 5 & under) 1 Mile Sprint (ages 6-10) 9:30am 5K Run/Walk

☆ Prizes for top finishers ☆Kids games & activities while you run ☆Celebrate a hero close to you!

# **Student Assistant Program Helps** Middle-Schoolers Find Success

## Builds self-esteem and empathy

Jen Bent, AE/MS teacher

The sixth and seventh graders at AE/MS have benefited from a Student Assistant Program (SAP) lead by Megan Hanrahan. SAP is a schoolbased, evidence-informed framework for prevention, early intervention, referral, and support for students with needs that may prevent them from fully benefiting from their educational experience.

telligence, positive self-aware- gram lesson.

Bria Tremblay and Jaxson Daigneault are The program has covered thinking about a question posed by Ms. topics including emotional in- Hanrahan during a Student Assistant Pro-**Photo: Jen Bent** 

ness, healthy responses to situations, and finding commonalities between one another.

Our students have gained a stronger sense of themselves and have been weaving empathy into interactions with one another. Ms. Hanrahan's lessons were interactive and fostered healthy discussions each Monday.

Sometimes circumstances in our lives can make learning difficult, and SAP has provided some tools to help AE/MS middle school students implement new coping skills and increase self-esteem and, as a result, find continued success in



### Challenges and support; accountability and trust

Scott Allenby, Proctor Academy

We feel more fragile than we did two years ago. We worry our children are more fragile, too; their childhood upended by a global pandemic, school interrupted, screens trying in vain to replace the human interaction



Andover's River Turnbull '22 shares his perspectives during Proctor's Accepted Student Days.

And yet, as we step into the bright light of a post-pandemic world, squinting our eyes against the flood of "how it was before," we must realize it is through challenge that our children are strengthened.

As we listen to our teenagers and

their journey through Proctor, we encounter a seemingly contradictory dichotomy of principles that has long guided Proctor's educational model: academic rigor alongside integrated support, a powerful sense of community on campus alongside an ever-changing community due to more than 75% of students studying abroad on off-campus programs, informal relationships between faculty and students alongside accountability and clear expectations. We are deeply confident it is in this space of apparent contradiction that students grow into the adults this world desperately needs.

During Proctor's recent Accepted Student Days, Andover's River Turnbull '22 shared, "If anything seems uncomfortable - on-campus or off-campus run toward it, because that is where you will change and grow the most."

Stanford University psychology professor Carol Dweck is quoted in a recent New York Times piece, "The answer isn't taking away challenge, it's giving more tools to deal with challenge." At Proctor we believe we cannot, and should not, prevent our students from encountering challenges. Instead we must continue to use frameworks, feedback mechanisms, and the teaching of self-advocacy skills to help young people step into the learning opportunity before them.

See Sweet Spot on page 31



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