FLiP!
is published annually by students and mentors at New Urban Arts, a nationally recognized interdisciplinary art studio for high school students and emerging artists in Providence. Our mission is to build a vital community that empowers young people as artists and leaders to develop a creative practice they can sustain throughout their lives.

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CREDITS: front cover by Emely Baroso, inside front and inside back covers by Krysta Schenck
We all knew New Urban Arts is totally great – that’s why we like being here so much, right? Well, now the whole nation knows too, as New Urban Arts was awarded the super prestigious Coming Up Taller Award this year! The award was received by Jason Yoon and Rosalia Velis on behalf of New Urban Arts by First Lady Michelle Obama herself, at a very fancy White House Ceremony in Washington, DC.

You might be asking yourself, “What is Coming Up Taller all about, and why is this such a big deal?” First off, only 15 youth arts and humanities programs in the United States are deemed awesome enough to receive this award each year. Secondly, this is the very highest national honor that a program like New Urban Arts can be awarded. Thirdly – hello! It’s an award given by Michelle Obama, in the White House, in front of the entire nation. You can’t get much bigger than that!

“New Urban Arts is a shining example of how the arts nurture the social, emotional, and long term development of our nation’s youth. It gives me great pleasure to know the organization is being recognized nationally and brings me great pride to know that our city is the home of this exceptional model program,” stated Providence Mayor David N. Cicilline.

We couldn’t have said it better ourselves, Mr. Mayor… but maybe Jason has something to add? “We are honored to be recognized as one of the nation’s best arts and youth programs as a Coming Up Taller award winner,” said Jason. “This award is a testament to all of the amazing people that have contributed to our community over the past 13 years, particularly the incredible artists and young people who are our foundation.”

Yes! Congratulations to all of us for making New Urban Arts one of the best places in the nation to be making art, building friendships, and having fun!
CELEBRATING in the studio the day the Coming Up Taller award was announced!
My Day at NUA :: Chris Medina

My day at NUA starts with photography which is really swell with Kevin, Rob, and Eric as well.

Then I talk to my friends and see all their new artistic trends for the day at NUA.

Then Jesse starts to pass out the snacks, he is the guy who keeps everything on track.

Then it’s time to go back home because NUA has ended for the day.

Today at NUA was swell and so was everything else as well. Tomorrow can’t wait for my next swell day at NUA.
You woke up one morning with a smile on your face. 'Time for a road trip!' you think. You grab a bag full of _________________________ and your best friend and hit the road. As you drive down the road you notice a very ________________ animal. You just have to stop and take a picture of it. When you accidentally leave the flash on, and IT ATTACKS YOU! After ______________ hours of pain, you and your friend get back in the car and continue with the road trip. After another hour of driving you see a ____________________ in the middle of a field. You and your friend ____________________ over to it. Someone comes up behind you with a ________________ and hits you with it. You wake up in the hospital with a _____________________ trauma.
No fancy supplies needed, we just grabbed whatever crap (and we have a lot of crap) that was lying around in the studio and from our basement and just started building, tying, and stacking...
for Whimsical Paisley
by Ava Ginsburg

.5 cup star shine
1 pinch ful sparkles
1 handful racing stripes
1 dollop wishful thinking
2 cups memories that make you warm and fuzzy

*eat extra sharp cheddar cheese and crackers while watching Wallace and Gromit 2-8 hours before making this

*Listen to Sonic Youth or David Bowie while preparing W.P.

no frosting necessary
The World :: Chris Medina

The world passes me by
as I start to take notice
I heave a big “sigh”...
and start to lose focus

The world can be beautiful and free
The world can be full of anger and sadness...
Is this for me...
It’s lucky that I haven’t slipped into madness.

People try to band together
People take what they need
Maybe I can stand for something better.
Instead of standing for greed.

The world isn’t clear
under the haze I want to disappear...

untitled :: Jamie Cooper

i held a heart, defenseless
in my hand i watched it beat
then i broke it and...
silently, watched it bleed
through my fingers
and i kissed a boy while
the rain pounded on my hair
he held me tight to him as it fell around us
standing there
forever
in love
i stood outside in the dark
i let the wind knock me down
and lay on the ground
till morning emerged
at last my soul was found
coming to wake
the world
Awkward Date... by Kimchua Heng

I have been doing this dating website for _________ weeks, and finally got a match. Tonight was our blind date, I was very _________.

When I got there everyone had been assigned a number, so I was looking for number _______. When I found this person, _________ was very cute, _________ and _________. We had so much in common! We both were really into _________, and both ordered chopped up ________. Then _________ walked me to the car, and we ________. But then after the first _________ dates, I found out _________ was my long-lost _________. Doh!
Casted imprints of one’s nature of sadness no more disoriented self. Self of unappreciated quest of nature, value of jumping and pleasure. Distances of emerging two’s. Gallantly awaiting darkness and fall. Dreams appreciated and quivering Maxiniziymt, caterwauling slowly.

(and yes, I made up a word!)
untitled :: Legend Lowell

Taking sky above such wuthering heights
such pleasing characters
taking elongated steps
Something is said

Spoiling blood of sisters
taking leaps as Sister says
breathing new breaths says Brother
give child poison says Mother
Ludacris says rapping Father

take my life says Death
deeper than life says Child
Meaningless says my character
silence becomes us

Deeper into still sits life
Casting mine emotions towards pits
take mine life
abysmal sentence
no, no screams heaven
we see no life above we
Start with a light tight container like a holiday popcorn can from the CVS. This can also work with something small like an Altoid tin.

Eat the popcorn. It's good to share...

**HOW TO**
make a pinhole camera!

Drill a hole in the center of the can and sand the inside smooth. This is a big hole, not the famous pinhole.

Make a small hole with a needle in a piece of thin metal, like from a soda can or a pie plate. Mmm, pie...

*This is the famous pinhole.

Tape the pinhole behind the hole you drilled into the can. Use black electrical tape for this...

Pinhole camera photography by Jamie Cooper
paint the inside of the can with black paint. don't forget the lid!

in the darkroom load a sheet of photo paper inside...

put a piece of tape over the hole, this will be the shutter...

*this box would be red if the flip budget allowed for printing in color

take your camera outside and take a picture. if the sun is out expose for about 45 to 60 seconds, expose for longer if it is cloudy...

back to the darkroom... develop your picture!

*imagine a red box again...

done! (thank you Erik Gould!)
With a pencil in my hand
I become a God.
I can write an epic poem
And decide how the protagonist dies,
The battles he must fight,
And the trials he must endure,
To become the savior of his land.
He could be a Spartacus,
Or a gladiator
Or maybe even a Batman,
Who knows?

With pencil in my hand,
I can draw anything I choose
From a mountain range
To the ocean blue.

I could draw a children's book
Where a little girl
Has a dream
And must find herself
Before she wakes us.

With a pencil in my hand,
I can write away my troubles,
Organize my mind
And relax the day away.

With a pencil in my hand...
I can do anything I want.

2010 marked the inaugural year of New Urban Art’s annual Zine Fair! Students and mentors planned workshops on how to make zines and other paper crafts, played carnival games (including a “fish for zines” and the busting of a zinata!), hosted a marketplace for local book-makers to sell their goods, and presented a panel of local zinesters who talked about the history, the importance, and their love of independent publishing.
Irrelevance

Miguel Angel Escobedo

Love it self is irrelevance
It clouds our common sense
Past or present tense
To me it’s all bullshit like 50 cents
Can it be that it’s out of shape like something bent
Where ever it goes I stay in place
Fuck that useless emotion it has too many places
And controls too many faces
I must keep my mouth shut as if I had braces
But which I did, so I didn’t have so many aces
I run through this word I took so many paces
As if white men cracked jokes on black men so that makes them racist
Love must have a powerful meaning if anyone can understand it
This thing can no be caught with the worlds biggest mitt
Or even put together not even as tight as grand moms knit
Love cannot be explained, taught, or learned
It’s something that just happens like a bottom less pit
Hero :: Miguel Angel Escobedo

Being a hero its self is a contradiction
You must break the rules to become something
Also to be someone you are not is an addiction
To change who you are is the only salvation
Lets say you have a fatal attraction
So the basic step is it overcome the fear, start a new hurdle
and stick out as if you wear “bling”
The worse feeling in the world is to be left alone
That it self is depressing and needing a loan
So being a hero leaves you alone in the world for the simple reason
the ones you trust and mostly your downfall
You have a tough choice keep your hands on the ball
Or ending up the giving and bounce off the wall
And no I’m not talking about the Chris Brown song,
I’m talking about going diabolical
Unbalanced mixture of being logical and psychological
The combination is exorbitant amount is so blunt
And so ugly like an unnecessary grunt
Maria and Rosa are among the many alumni who came here tonight to volunteer. But that’s not all! Maria and Rosa are credited with starting the annual NUA Lock-In! I figured it would be pretty relevant to sit down and talk with them in their off-time.

**A:** Why is there a lock-in in the first place?  
**R:** Honestly, we were thinking about being in the studio all day. They close the studio at seven, and we were thinking, why couldn’t we be there any longer? They said it was because no one would stay here, but we knew people would want to stay.  
**M:** Yeah, after seven we have nothing to do at all. We were thinking that we should stay here overnight!  
**R:** We told Tyler the next day and he apparently said that people had been wanting to do a lock-in but we never really thought anyone would do it. So we took it in our hands to do it. We were kinda iffy about people actually signing up.  
**R:** Staying overnight is more exciting! We got the concept because Maria used to do stuff like that for her church, so we brought the idea here.

**A:** What kind of stuff did you do in your first lock-in?  
**M:** My favorite was the mosaic!  
**R:** Yeah we had someone come in and break dishes and stuff and it was really fun.  
**R:** That was around the time that Tyler’s wife was pregnant, so we had Pin the Baby on Tyler! We also had a scavenger hunt at the beginning.  
**A:** Were you able to sleep at all the first time?  
**M and R:** NO!  
**A:** I also talked to Sarah Meyer, program director, who has been an integral part of the NUA community since she joined in the early 2000s. The first lock-in took place during her first year here, so at this point in her career she has seen her fair share of overnight events. She had several thoughts and stories to share when she sat down with me.  
**S:** I remember [Maria and Rosa] were like, ‘Can we do a lock-in?’ and I was like, ‘I dunno, what does it mean to do a lock-in?’ I didn’t know if they would sleep here or do activities all night. They kind of put together the structure of the different rules, the schedule, that there would be no sleeping, just art-making all night long. I talked to Tyler and Tamara about how some kids wanted to do a lock-in, where they would do art all night, and they told me I was crazy. But they didn’t say that it was impossible, that we couldn’t do it, so I turned to the students to help put it together. Then the next year, kids came back saying that they wanted to do the lock-in again, and every year the students looked forward to it so there’s a different group of students each year that help make it happen.  
**A:** How has the lock-in changed since it started?  
**S:** At first, we didn’t really know how much food to get, how long workshops should last: they used to be three hours and they would start to lose steam and the kids would get more tired, so we learned we had to keep things going at a quicker pace. The first lock-in we had only three mentors: me, Jesse, and Kedrin, and I knew from there that we needed a lot more mentors.  
**A:** After some discussion, Sarah and I determined that lock-ins seem to go by so fast and the students stay up so easily because they all feed off of each other’s energy. It’s almost like it’s a group challenge to stay up we’re all working together to stay enthusiastic and positive and alert. Sarah also made a lot of mention of the notion of “play” with regards to why lock-ins are so successful. Some of the activities are so simple and loose, such as bubble art or mask-making, that we just revert to our inherent playful nature. It is a nice break from the more conceptual art many of us are used to and it is in part due to this relaxed atmosphere that lock-ins are such a blast! This great tradition is still going strong and all these folks are proud to have it as part of their legacy. Rosa even traveled all the way from New York to take part in her own special NUA event. This event creates a sense of community and it is this humble reporter’s hope that the NUA Lock-In goes on for all time.