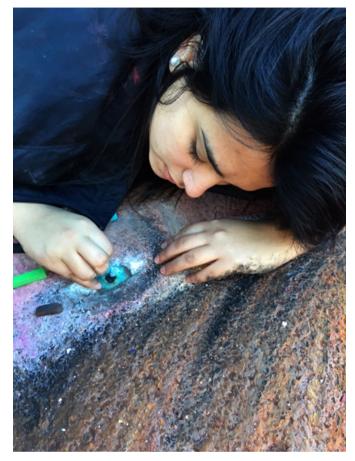
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(Above) Goose Creek Memorial High School student artist Jasmine Garcia displays her work "Silent Sounds," recreated in chalk on the street in Houston as part of the Via Apprendista component of the Via Colori Street Painting Festival. A student in Jamar Simien's Art II class, Garcia represented Goose Creek CISD in the festival, which benefits The Center For Hearing and Speech.

(Left) Jasmine Garcia, 11th grade art student at Goose Creek Memorial High School, recreates her art "Silent Sounds" on the street by City Hall in Houston during the Via Colori Street Painting Festival. Garcia, under the direction of art teacher Jamar Simien, was one of 30 student artists selected for the Via Apprendista component of the festival.

GCM Student Selected for Via Colori Street Painting Festival

For the third consecutive year, Goose Creek CISD was represented at the Via Colori Street Painting Festival, presented by LINN Energy in Hermann Square at City Hall in Houston. Jasmine Garcia, an 11th grade student from Goose Creek Memorial High School, under the direction of art teacher Jamar Simien, was chosen to participate in the Via Apprendista component of Via Colori with her art "Silent Sounds." The free festival benefits The Center for Hearing and Speech, a nonprofit United Way agency dedicated to improving the lives of children with hearing loss through clinical, education and support service.

Via Apprendista includes 30 student artists from area schools selected to recreate their art in chalk on 6' x 6' squares on the streets surrounding City Hall. The festival gives student artists the opportunity to showcase their work alongside artists from across the United States and Mexico. Student winners also have the opportunity to work under an artist mentor, to have their work photographed and highlighted in the media and to attend events along with other budding and professional artists. Besides the students, more than 200 artists participated in the event, which is the only street painting festival in the region, celebrating the artistic spirit of the city.

Garcia's work "Silent Sounds" is a mural that conveys the disorientation and discomfort that a child experiences while gradually losing his or her hearing. The yellow light near the top of the piece symbolizes hope, which can come in many forms, including the extensive work of The Center for Hearing and Speech in assisting Houston area children with hearing loss.

"I'm very proud of Jasmine, and I'm thankful for her dedication to the strong art culture that we're building at GCM," said Simien.





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