

Dear HPA families,

As we come to the close of February, we reflect on the ways Herron Prep scholars recognized and celebrated contributions from Black Americans this month. As a school, all of our scholars and several of our family members are taking part in The Black History Is American History programming at The Children's Museum! During this visit, scholars learned about and discussed the impact of many Black Americans, both locally and nationally, who have contributed to science, the arts, technology, and more. Several featured individuals and groups included The Eighteen Art Collective, Israel Solomon, Elijah McCoy, Aretha Franklin, Ruby Bridges, and The Little Rock Nine.

Throughout the building, scholars focused studies on great works by Black Americans. To walk our halls, you would hear Ms. Albrecht's class's monthly recitation of [Sonnet](#) by James Weldon Johnson or hear Ms. K reading to her scholars about Madam C.J. Walker and discussing her local connection to Indianapolis. You might see Delores Thornton, an Indianapolis-based author and radio personality, presenting to Ms. Guynn's class or see kindergarten and 2nd grade scholars studying and creating their own artwork inspired by Jean-Michel Basquiat or Kehinde Wiley.

We also recognize we can always be looking for ways to elevate the contributions of Black Americans beyond one month each year and celebrate communities of color that we serve. We hope you see this in the variety of authors, artists, and great works your children learn about over the course of the year. We're currently exploring the opportunity to have Dr. Carlotta Berry, visiting scientist at The Children's Museum, lead a STEM-focused event for our scholars in the coming season. We're excited to host Lissania Perez Diaz so that she can share her path to studying chemistry and law at IUPUI. Lissania is a Herron-Riverside graduate and is 1 of the 33 collegiate women in Indiana selected for the Indianapolis 500 Festival Princess Program for demonstrating leadership, community involvement, and academic achievement.

As a school enriched by intentionally serving scholars from across many communities, our work to incorporate and celebrate voices and works from multiple cultures and backgrounds is ever-present and ongoing. We're glad to be in it with you and our scholars.

Please see important information for the week ahead.

**Volunteer Opportunity**

We have a potential volunteer opportunity to assist some of our scholars with getting to and accessing speech and language services with our virtual provider. Please reach out to Victoria Miller, Director of Special Education, if you are interested or have any questions at [vmiller@herronclassical.org](mailto:vmiller@herronclassical.org) or 317-671-9599. Thank you!

### **Lost & Found**

With the variation in temperatures, we are seeing an influx of items in our lost & found. If your scholar has lost a sweater, coat, hat, etc. recently, please pop by to check out items organized on racks in the waiting room.

### **Weekly COVID Update**

To keep you informed of the number of COVID cases reported at school, each HCS school is providing a weekly report to our family community. Please see [here](#) the number of positive COVID cases reported this week at HPA.