



Community Outreach

Oakland Veterans Draw Birds with their Brushes



The Oakland Veteran Center Flock of Birds

CWA volunteers and Oakland veterans dropped the sketching, pencil step and went directly to drawing sparrows with their brushes. Michael Friedland led the group. To begin everyone was given a piece of newsprint to warm up our drawing arms. Following his lead, we used our whole arm and drew horizontal lines in series, then vertical lines trying to keep the spacing consistent and finished with circles. After filling up the paper, we thought we were ready to take on the birds.

Following a step-by-step plan, we placed each brush stroke on the paper: one stroke for the head, two for the start of each wing over the back, one for the breast, finishing with the beak. It wasn't easy placing each stroke in the right position.

The idea was to get in and get out. Some found that working quickly helped. There were eight veterans in the classroom and three via Zoom. The birds were depicted in two positions, and the second particularly challenged me. Things became very quiet, and the group focused in filling one piece of paper, and for some a second page, with birds.

In the end we had a flock of seventeen birds. It was a happy gathering for our Friday morning.

Sheila Cain

Co-Director, Community Outreach



Drawing Birds with a Brush Instructions

Artwork Delivered to Nigerian Students

The Nigerian students have received their portraits and they have been celebrating.

This sponsorship by CWA of the Memory Project for 48 Pinole Valley High School students is creating a bridge of goodwill.

Click on the image to the left to stream this video on Vimeo for a peek into another world and how CWA and Pinole Valley students have touched these young people.

This is an example of how you, by being a member of CWA, are adding to the lives of young people both in the United States and around the world.

Volunteer!



<https://vimeo.com/memoryproject/nigeria2023>



Memory Project
www.memoryproject.org