



NEWS

**For Immediate Release
Dec. 3, 2018**

**Contact: Nicole Gerken
(913) 548-8875
nicolegerken@haloworldwide.org**

Local at-risk youth honored as featured artist in a professional exhibit

Kansas City, Mo. – HALO celebrates Madison Thurman’s first professional artist appearance at Perennial Places & Premier Financial Partners SWELL exhibit. This honor turned Thurman’s lifelong dream of becoming a professional artist into a reality. Join us on Friday, Dec. 7th at 3 - 6 p.m. at Campbell Loft Building to view her “Expressional Growth” collection and listen to her inspiration behind her pieces.

Thurman’s story embodies the incredible impact community partners can have on a child with ambitions and dreams. HALO noticed Thurman’s undeniable artistic talents at a HALO art center workshop while Thurman was first living in a local shelter. Carly Manijak, HALO Learning Center Director, said when Perennial Places reached out to HALO about featuring a child’s work in their show, they thought of Thurman.

“Being an artist is definitely her dream. If she could choose, and money wasn’t a factor, she would definitely be a professional artist. She has that entrepreneurial mindset,” Manijak said.

This opportunity is the next level move for Thurman as an artist. Thurman was able to learn how to price her artwork, title her pieces, market her work and succeed as an artist. Madison has already sold one piece at the preview event and has local artists reaching out to mentor her. Thurman said the experience has been life changing.

“HALO has played a big role in my journey to where I am now because when you grow up with little support, it’s hard to stay motivated, but HALO gives me so much support with my goals,” Thurman said.

We invite you to attend a special VIP event on Friday, Dec. 7th from 3 - 6 p.m. at Campbell Loft Building – 1535 Walnut Street, Suite 107 – to view Thurman’s artwork, enjoy a Live Painting Experience by Matt White and Vintage Vinyl Spun by Musician Chris Teasley.

HALO believes every child should have the foundation of a family. Since 2005, HALO has provided love in the form of housing, healing and education to heal homeless and at-risk children. Featured in the MoroccanOil *INSPIRED* film series, “American Spirit” of CBS Evening News, “Heroes Among Us” and “25 Women Changing the World” of PEOPLE magazine, “The Today Show,” and Variety Magazine, HALO serves over 1,400 children each year and supports 21 homes and programs around the globe. HALO has Learning Centers and Housing programs in Kansas City, and Jefferson City, Missouri, and art programming in New York and Portland. HALO also supports orphanages and programs in Uganda, Kenya, Mexico and India. Help one more child spend one less day alone at www.haloworldwide.org.