

Dear Parents,

Today the Art Appreciation Committee visited your child's classroom and gave a presentation on artist and illustrator Norman Rockwell. Norman Rockwell is the most well known and beloved American artist of all time. At times criticized for his idealistic depictions of everyday American scenes, he painted America "as I would like it to be," focusing on the values and traditions that shaped the American dream. Rockwell became widely known for his cover illustrations for the Saturday Evening Post, but his work has also appeared in countless advertisements, children's books, and other magazines. His renditions of many presidential candidates and the war time paintings of "the Four Freedoms" became symbols of American pride and are themselves a part of our country's history.

Norman Rockwell controlled every aspect of the artistic process, from hand-picking his models, to meticulously researching the clothing and background, and making preliminary sketches in order to get every detail as he wanted. Your children exercised their own artistic skills in creating an original cover drawing for the Saturday Evening Post, Murray Edition! Hopefully you'll be seeing the fruits of their labor when they bring home their artwork in the coming weeks!

Thank you,

The Art Appreciation Committee