Student Art from Marshall Islands

Grades 9–12
OneWorld Classrooms
Students Name:  Junior Laidren

Grade level:  12

School Address:  Kwajalein Atoll High School, Box 5129, Ebeye, Marshall Is, MH96970.

Description of Art Work #11:
This illustrates one of our old beliefs. We believe that there is a giant demon called woninak. This demon appears in dreams as a nightmare especially if one spent a night out in an inhabited islet. It is believed that if the demon falls on you and crashes you in your nightmare then you will die soon unless if they do Marshallese medicine on you. But you don’t want to go through all the sickness then in your dream you need to escape through the light or through the legs.
The island of Mili in the Marshall Islands was believed to be under the sea. The Chief pulled it up and the island surfaced until today.

by.

Grade 11

Ravin Heskia
Kwajalein Atoll High School
Students Name: Stanny Edwin
Grade level: 12
School Address: Kwajalein Atoll High School, Box 5129, Ebeye,
Marshall Is, MH96970.

Description of Art Work #12:
This portrays our lives in the olden days. We welcomed the outsiders into our islands with garlands and dancing from our beautiful women. Most respected our traditions and customs as you see in the picture and even better our standard of living.
**Student Name:** Shiprah Lanwe

**Grade Level:** 12

**School Address:** Kwajalein Atoll High School, Box 301, Marshall Is, MH96970.

**Description of Art Work # 25:**
Ma or Bread-fruit, our local food. We commonly cook it using charcoal.
Students Name: Maston Joram
Grade Level: 12
School Address: Kwajalein Atoll High School, Box 5129, Ebeye, Marshall Is, MH96970.

Description of Art Work #15:
Baru lep - coconut crab. Delicious but high in cholesterol! They are found in the trunks of coconut trees and they feed on the coconut flesh. One would be amazed to see how it uses its strong teeth to husk the coconut, break the nut and chew the coconut white flesh. They turn red when cooked. One must really cook them well until all the violet color disappears. If a little of the violet color remains then one might get diarrhea.
Grade Level: Teacher
School Address: Kwajalein Atoll High School, Box 5129, Ebeye, Marshall Is, MH96970.

Description of Art Work # 94: Bob or Pandanus fruit-our local fruit. We chew it like we chew sugar-cane. When we boil them, they taste like sweet potatoes, now days, in the factories they produce bob juice out of it.
Description of Art Work #16: Spear fishing is our young men’s game. The survival of our outer island people. For people in the outer islands, they can live without a penny for years, because the environment provide them with their basic needs.
**Student Name:** Yoshu Makeian  
**Grade Level:** 12  
**School Address:** Kwajalein Atoll High School, Box 5129, Ebeye, Marshall Is, MH96970.  

**Description of Art Work #5:**  
This is a picture of a garland which people greet our paramount chiefs with, when they come to visit the outer islands, or attend a function. It is made from the leaflets of a conifer plant and red tiny flowers. But now day's people also use them on those of high status. For example: presidents, ambassadors, chief guest etc.
**Student's Name:** David Freddy  
**Grade Level:** 12  
**School Address:** Kwajalein Atoll High School, Box 5129, Ebeye, Marshall Is, MH96970.

**Description of Art Work #2:**

In the olden days, the strongest warrior will get the most land. That is how our paramount chiefs were chosen, and that is how they have a lot of land. A chief would go fighting and conquering other islands. The more battles he will, means the more islands he inherit, but even though he has many islands and he lost a battle to another chief who has only one island, then all his islands will go to the chief who won the battle.

The art work shows how, chiefs would go to war, they would prepare wooden tripods, to seat on or stand on if the war takes longer than the tide times. The battle takes days, and they will not rest until death, or one gives up (which is rare). So when the tide comes up, they use these tripods.
**Students Name:** Jakio Lanwe  
**Grade Level:** 11  
**School Address:** Kwajalein Atoll High School, Box 5129, Ebeye, Marshall Is, MH 96970.

**Description of Art Work # 93:**

Our Chiefly Stick Dance called the Jobwa. A man slept for 3 days and 3 nights without food. He was dreaming of this dance. When he eventually woke up, he stood and start teaching the men the dance. Now days, this dance will only be performed with the permission of the our paramount chief.
Reveals our life and the work we do daily in the olden days.