

Go wild over the Thornberrys

Join the *Wild Thornberrys* on their latest adventure. Xpress film critic Billy Norris says you'll have a great time. **Page 4D**



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Work on this page also appears on the
St. Petersburg Times Web site,
www.sptimes.com.

BIRDS of a FEATHER

Middle school isn't just for the birds. But Cathy Battle's art students from Progress Village Middle School Magnet for the Arts in Tampa took time to study the winged creatures. They used watercolors and colored pencils in the style of John James Audubon to bring the birds to life. A bold eagle flies from the page; a duck rests in a lake; and you can almost feel the tiny wings of the hummingbird flapping a mile a minute. Take a flight of fancy with these middle school students. And if you would like to see your own work in future editions, see the instructions for submissions below.

— NANCY GREEN, Xpressions editor



BARBARA PRICE, 13, eighth grade



LUKE WAHLERS, 14, eighth grade



BRIANA ANTEZANA, 13, eighth grade



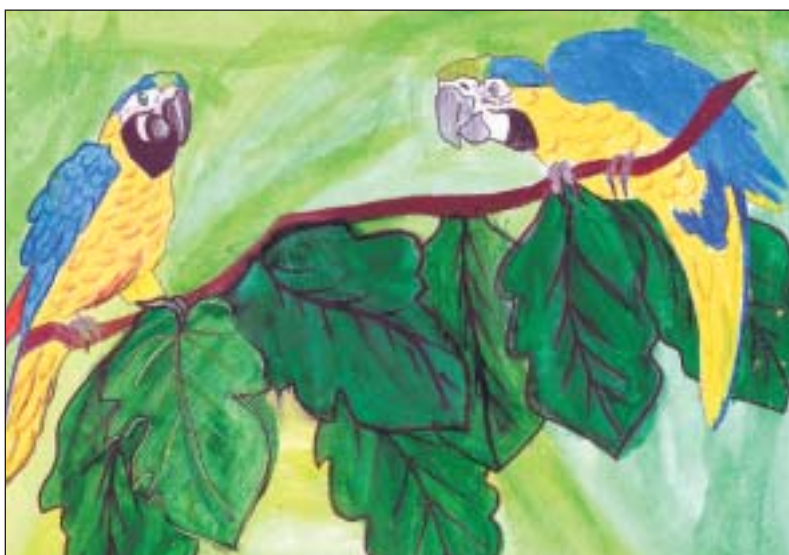
ZACHARY LAWRENCE, 12, seventh grade



By ROBERTO PECINA, 12, seventh grade



CASSIE GREEN, 14, eighth grade



KHANG NGUYEN, 12, seventh grade



By VICTORIA NORMAND, 14, eighth grade

A Dream or Not

Forming in my eye dripping from my cheek to my chin to the ground. My tears filled with lost dreams, broken hope and hate, break upon the hard wet road. It's raining, but no one can see me cry looking into the sky yet my eyes are closed shut I see you Mom. You're still here I feel you now beating on my chest telling me not to cry I used to see your face so clearly now it's faded.

Much love I have for you my body falling, falling, falling. I can't find myself where I go I need a shoulder now, that song, *Lean On Me*. Well, no one is singing it. How do I live I can't go on. I'm coming to you.

I'm running to the tall bridge stepping on the rail I'm going to jump.

Splashing in the water a shock I'm in a lake, I jumped off a dock friends shouting it was a dream or maybe . . . I see mom it may be heaven but there's no golden roads just found souls.

I'm glad I'm here but I wake up look at the clock 4 at night better get to bed for another fright.

— By BRANDY BENDER, 12, seventh grade,
Dowdell Middle School Magnet, Tampa

Want to see your work here?

Xpressions, our monthly showcase for the art, writing and photography of students through the 12th grade, is looking for your work! Xpressions appears the last Monday of each month inside *Floridian*. Please read the following instructions before submitting your work, which must be based on the designated theme:

JANUARY: WATER — There are as many ways to interpret this month's theme as there are raindrops. Dive right in and surprise us with your innovative, fluid expressions. Open to all grades. **Deadline: Postmark Jan. 13.**

FEBRUARY: OPEN THEME — You choose! Art, writing, photography on any theme. **Deadline: Postmark Feb. 10.**

Work may be edited for length and content. Please send your work, theme suggestions and comments to: Xpressions, c/o Nancy Green, St. Petersburg Times, 1000 N Ashley Drive, Tampa, FL 33602.

All work must follow the designated theme and be your own creation.

Artwork must be on white, unlined paper, with the medium stated on the back (oil, pastel, crayon, etc.). Be sure to include your name, age, school, grade, address, ZIP code and phone number, with area code.

IMPORTANT: PLEASE NOTE THAT YOUR WORK WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED WITHOUT THE INFORMATION ABOVE. Stories must be no longer than 150 words. We can return only artwork, and only if you indicate that you want it back.

NEW REQUIREMENT: PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS