

ART FOR FAMILY'S SAKE



K'Tyiah Wilson (left), and KiYonna Sims and Jayden Gathlings (right) put the finishing touches on family art pieces.

Art is more than just a drawing or smears of paint. It is an expression of the meaning of life, of yearnings, of passions and of the things that count the most. That is the purpose of the Delta Visual and Performing Arts Project of the Boys, Girls, Adults Community Development Center's continuing visual arts program.

They set a goal of creating a mural at BGACDC about the thing that matters most to children. The central theme turned out to be love for family and the role of family in the children's lives. With the help of Remembering 2019 - a project to enhance cultural work in the black communities of Phillips County by remembering the historic Elaine race massacre in 1919 - the young artists first went through a pre-drawing process to get their creative juices flowing. Next, they taped off blocks to paint, with four children painting at a time.

The project demonstrated that the children could be creative, patient and innovative. And it helped them to see that art is more than just a drawing or a few smears of paint.

