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Kevin Hart's plant-based restaurants to unveil Earth Day art by local youth

LOS ANGELES, Calif. (April 19, 2023) — This Saturday, April 22, 1-2:30 p.m. at the flagship Hart House restaurant in Westchester, three young artists from Inner-City Arts' Work of Art program will have the spotlight at a celebration of their digital designs promoting positive environmental change. Thanks to a commitment from Hart House's executive team to support the communities around each restaurant, these LA youth are getting early experience with a corporate creative assignment.

Saturday's unveiling of three unique works of art, each featuring a different benefit to the environment from plant-based eating, is the culmination of a months-long collaboration. With input from the Hart House team and guidance from their Inner-City Arts mentor in media arts, the teens — Jazlyn Archila, Ivy Salazar, and Alize Guzman — created their unique interpretations of statistics that show cutting meat consumption even once a week has a positive impact.

"We believe in presenting people with plant-based alternatives that are not only better for your body but for the planet we all inhabit," Hart House Director of Brand and Marketing Marcus Byrd says. "We're thrilled to have such talented local young artists to help bring our environmental message to our communities and aid in our goal of 'serving up a new era." Indeed, the company is setting itself apart in the quick-service restaurant industry, making healthier food options more accessible with a reasonable price point and providing employees with living wages and valuable benefits. The data and supporting resources on their environmental education campaign are online at *myharthouse.com/earthday*.

Inner-City Arts has been engaging young Angelenos in art programs for almost 35 years. Its school-day programs for LAUSD and charter schools bring buses full of students and classroom teachers to explore art forms and grow social-emotional skills along the way. Afterschool and weekend classes help youth refine their talents in specific visual, performing, and media arts. The nonprofit's Work of Art program prepares high schoolers for college and careers in the creative field. Lead Designer and Teaching Artist Ashley Margo says, "This opportunity has been so meaningful for our three enterprisers because they not only got to work with the supportive creative team at Hart House, but they had the time and space to grow as creatives in real-world experience."

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ABOUT INNER-CITY ARTS: Founded in 1989, Inner-City Arts is a learning oasis in the heart of Downtown Los Angeles. Under the guidance of professional teaching artists, Inner-City Arts' students are immersed in a safe and supportive environment where they may engage in a variety of visual, media, and performing art forms in a virtual studio setting. Services include core classes during the instructional day for grade K-8 students, after-school and weekend workshops for teens, and creativity based professional development training for educators. Children who attend Inner-City Arts develop skills that are highly valued in the 21st century workforce such as collaboration, creativity, and critical thinking.

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