

# BERTHA SADLER MEANS YWLA Students Recognized as POSTER ARTS Winners!



Zarianna Nealy, Linda Rank, Art Teacher, DeShawndra Thomas, D'Sean Roby, Principal BSMYWLA, Jocelyn Romero and Angela Henderson, President of Austin Chapter of the Links, Incorporated

(AUSTIN, TX) - Four students of the Bertha Sadler Means Young Women's Leadership Academy were awarded prizes by the Austin Chapter of the Links, Incorporated for their winning poster art designs. The theme for the 2022 Poster Arts Contest, is "The Art of Social Justice to Transform Communities." The 1<sup>st</sup> Place students received gift cards. A framed Poster by Cornelius Carter ("The Struggle & the Glory") and a "Black Lives Matter"

T-shirt designed by Joseph were given to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Place winners.

The National Poster Arts Competition

was created in 1995 by The Links, Incorporated. Students reflected and artistically expressed the work of social justice leaders, issues, locally and nationally impacting the community. They were challenged to illustrate concepts of Equity, Access and Human Rights. Students' artwork was judged on creativity, content and artistic expressions. The Austin Chapter of the Links, Incorporated engaged several artists and creative experts in the local artistic community to serve on the judges panel including Brian Joseph (Bydee Man), Ciceley Fullylove, Carver Museum, Dave McClinton, graphic designer and Tina Boyd, photographer.

## Study: Traffic fatality rate for Black cyclists 4.5 times higher than for white cyclists even though Black people bike less

(theGrio Staff) - Several studies, including one that was published this month, have found that African Americans and Hispanics who travel by "vulnerable" means such as biking and walking die at higher rates than previously known.

The most recent study, "Disparities in Activity and Traffic Fatalities by Race/Ethnicity," found that "fatality rates per 100 million miles traveled are systematically higher for Black and Hispanic Americans for all modes and notably higher for vulnerable modes."

Black Americans died at more than four times the rate of white Americans while cycling and more than two times more while walking. The study, published in the American Journal of Preventive Medicine, noted that previous estimates underestimated the racial disparities.

The study found that Asian Americans had the lowest fatality rates across all modes of travel.

The racial and ethnic disparities, which are exacerbated at night, are alarming, particularly considering that Black and Hispanic Americans bike and walk fewer miles. "It might indicate that, for example, Black Americans or Hispanic Americans are less able to cycle, they don't have access to transportation in that way," Ernani Choma, a co-author of the disparities study, told ABC News. "Maybe it's less bike lanes. Maybe they don't even bike because they feel unsafe."

Some implications are that Black and Hispanic people may be missing out on the health benefits of physical activity as well as the reduction of air pollution that bike lanes and pedestrian spaces add

to urban areas.

Choma's co-author on the disparities study, Matthew Raifman — a Boston University School of Public Health doctoral candidate — noted that inequities in medical services such as emergency response times, quality of care and pre-existing conditions could also account for disparities.

"Traffic fatalities don't necessarily occur at the point of the collision," he said. "Some people die in a hospital or an emergency room or en route to an emergency room."

ABC News interviewed one Philadelphia resident who lost four members of her family who were struck and killed while crossing a 12-lane road. "It was just so devastating," Latanya Byrd said. "We lost two generations in one swoop. I mean, just an instant snap of the finger." Byrd, co-founder of the Families for Safe Streets Greater Philadelphia advocacy group, observed that a dated transportation infrastructure contributed to the death of her loved ones.

Raifman told ABC News that there is an opportunity to not only address fatalities, but to address structural inequities. This is something that local policymakers can do in part with funds from the newly signed Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, which provides \$550 billion in spending on roads, bridges, transit and other things.

"Instead of just investing in reducing traffic fatalities," Raifman said, "why not do it in a way that's also addressing the systemic, structural racism challenges in our society?"

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"This life, therefore, is not righteousness, but growth in righteousness; not health, but healing; not being, but becoming; not rest, but exercise. We are not yet what we shall be, but we are growing toward it. The process is not yet finished, but it is going on. This is not the end, but it is the road. All does not yet gleam in glory, but all is being purified." --- Martin Luther

**Romans 5:1** Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ

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