

Student Lens on Distance Learning

For the past two years, Erin Barnard has been teaching media arts at The NET: Gentilly through a partnership with KID smART and Metropolitan Human Services District. In this unprecedented time of transition from the classroom to virtual spaces, Erin's digital media class opted to document their experiences through an online photojournalism project. Erin's class was able to transition quickly online by giving her students computers loaded with necessary software from KID smART and using The NET's online learning platforms.

"This is a format for us to document, process and share our experiences of these strange times in a meaningful way while we are apart, and to keep our creativity flowing using the excellent photo skills we've developed over the semester so far. We can decide together if we want to share these only with one another or with a wider audience." -Ms. Erin

As The NET's principal, Kristina Bradford Baiamonte told us, "Erin has formed inspiring mentor relationships with our students." Two of these students volunteered to share their work - a lens into their lives - with you.



I took this photo in my neighborhood. I was on the balcony at my Papa's house in Georgetown. I decided to take a photo of the sky because of the color and how it looked. This day was my mom's birthday. I couldn't do much because of the Corona. It was beautiful that day, a beautiful expression of her Birthday.
-Ronald, April 6th

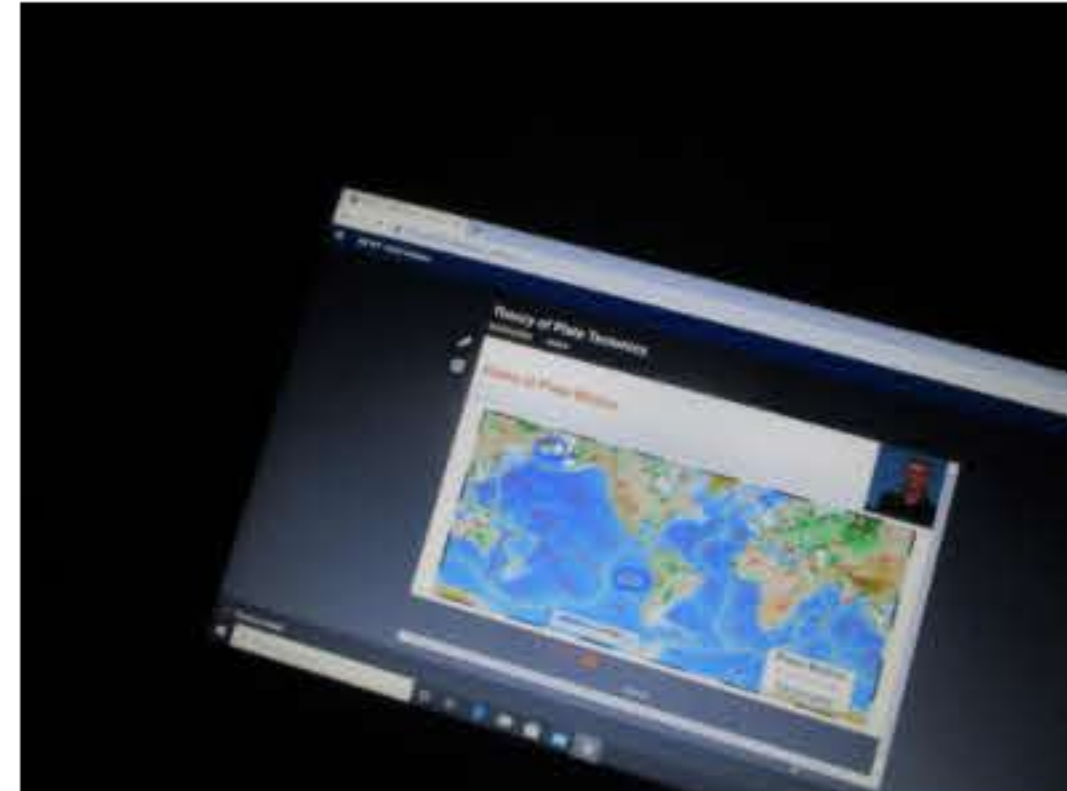
By my Grandma's house Cross The Canal is where I'm from. Right now I've been with my Papa in the East, but I am planning to move to my own place back Cross The Canal. My Grandma, Auntie, Cousin, most of my people live there. Everyone knows each other. I know where everything and everyone is. I get respect. It's home. -Ronald, April 7th



"I can't do much because they say to stay inside because of the Corona. So I go outside just to find something to take a picture of. I look for something in nature, something beautiful. The things that are different are that some things are closed, and the bus is free. But I miss school. I am a senior this year and I want to finish." -Ronald



I did Edgenuity all day. Edgenuity is an online class that I'm taking to get my high school credit for earth science. The way I feel about Edgenuity is that it is tiring, boring and the videos are long.
-Herchele, April 8th



My mom got me and my brother shirts made for the class of 2020. The lady spelled my name wrong.
-Herchele, April 15th

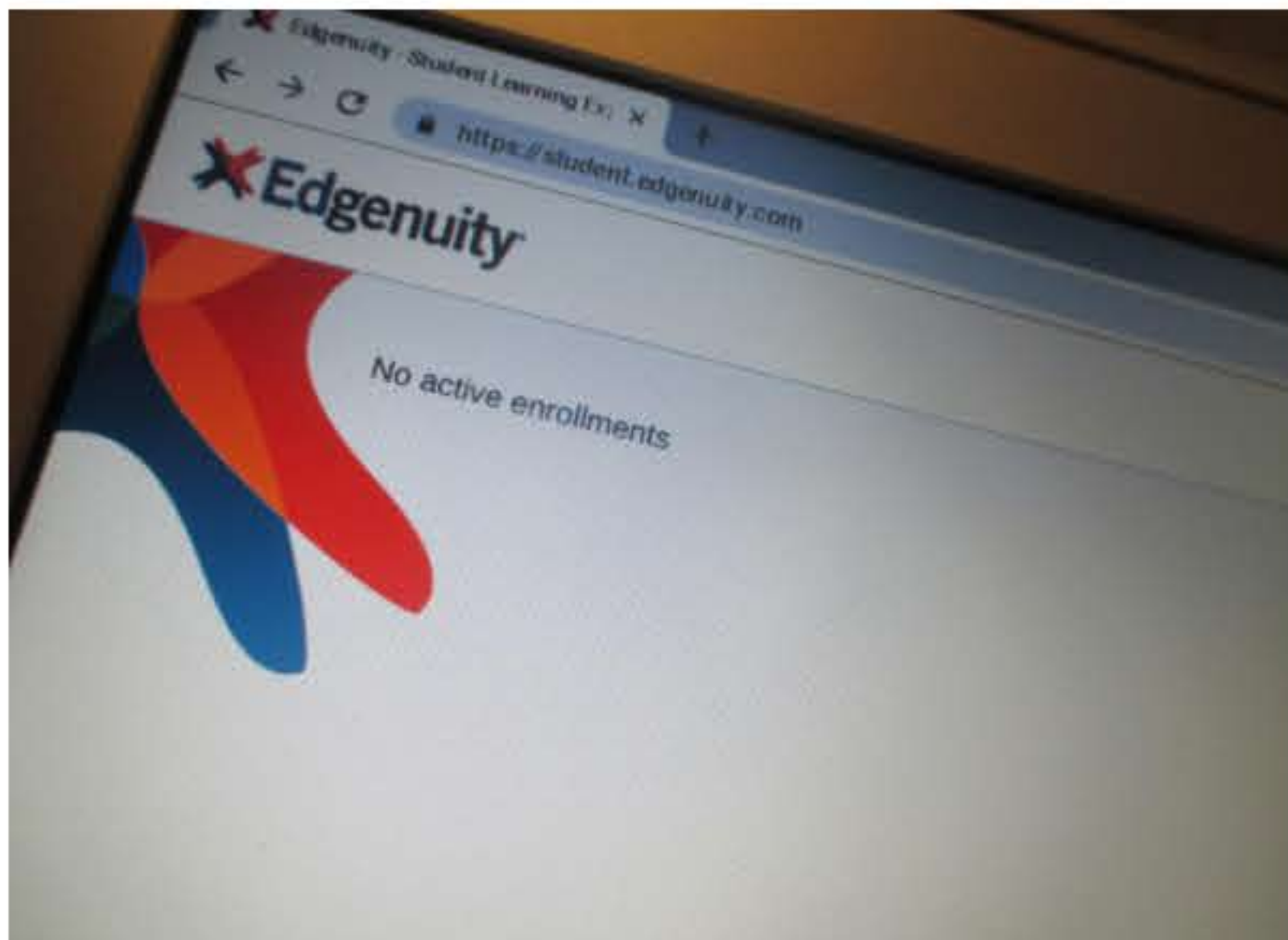


I visited my friend Kendrell today, and took this picture of her porch where we like to chill. She is the only friend I see right now. We're close because we are alike. We keep it real.
-Ronald, April 23rd

"This project is kinda making the quarantine better because I'm taking pictures and I'm enjoying it but then some days I forget to take pictures. I chose to take pictures of me relaxing from work then taking pictures of me doing work and accomplishing my goal to graduate." -Herchele



My mom got us a door sign to congratulate us. We're not too happy about us not getting to walk across the stage but mom is making us feel better by doing these types of things for us.
-Herchele, April 23rd



I finished both of my lab classes!! It wasn't easy but I did it.
-Herchele, April 24th