June 2018
Youth’s Design Selected for *My Important Documents* Cover

A new DYS policy on *Reentry Documents* takes effect this month, establishing a “My Important Documents” portfolio for every youth at DYS. This provides a consistent way to teach youth to collect, preserve, and safeguard their important documents in order to support them in their growth and achievement as well as employment, internships, and admission into higher education and training programs.

In April, youth were encouraged to submit original designs into a competition to design the cover for “My Important Documents” portfolios. Submissions were evaluated on adherence to guidelines, relevance, and professionalism. Youth M’s drawing, submitted through Jane King’s art class at Cuyahoga Hills Juvenile Correctional Facility, was selected as the winning design.

“It’s no wonder that a student of Ms. King’s won the competition,” said Daniel Hanstein, School Principal. “Her class helps develop youths’ confidence while teaching youth to think more positively about themselves and learning. Arts education provides an outlet for healthy expression.”

Youth will use “My Important Documents” for the following:
- Identification documents (stored separately and securely; added upon release)
- Cover letter
- Resume, highlighting competencies and achievements
• Letter(s) of reference
• Educational documents
• Work evaluations
• Community service documents
• Certificates of program completion
• List of references, including names, titles, and contact information
• Work samples

With “My Important Documents” portfolios, youth can see how they have grown over time. This collection of youth achievements adds rich context to the time spent at the facility.