

When a Book is More Than a Book

When is a book more than a book? The answer: when it is an Altered Book in the hands of a creative student.

The Key Largo Library will feature an unusual display of Altered Books created by local young adults. Recycled used books seem the perfect exhibit for the venue.

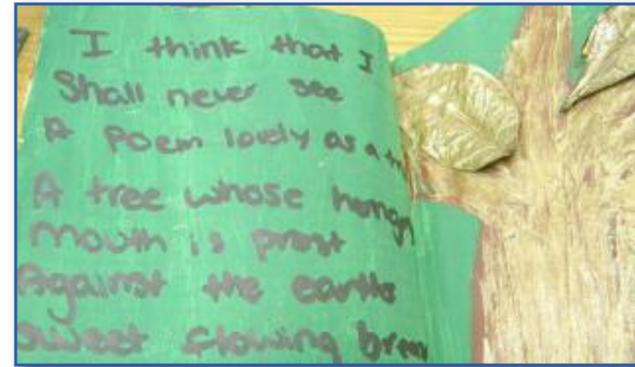
Co-teachers for the art project were Brenda Bush and Carmen Sotolongo-Kelley, a popular artist in the Upper Keys. Students in the art class at Coral Shores High School have deconstructed and reconstructed books to create art and new stories. The

students range from 9th to 12th grade were given the task to recycle a book using a visual theme and creative language skills. They took old books and a lot of imagination to create a wide array of storybooks, journals and biographies from the books that would have been sent to the landfill.

Each cover of the books have been painted or covered in a variety of techniques to express a theme. Inside, pages were altered by painting, gluing or covering individual pages with paper. Students then chose a theme and finished with their individual creative flair.



Above: Sarah Blackwell used her book project as a gift to her friend, Savannah Koval, and it included sheet music and a scrapbook format.



Left: Julian Costa filled his book, *My Words are All I Have*, with inspirational and thought provoking quotes.



Right: Bobby dePaula created a storybook about his friend, Guy, that would entertain young people. His graphic element of cut paper artwork will draw in young readers.

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