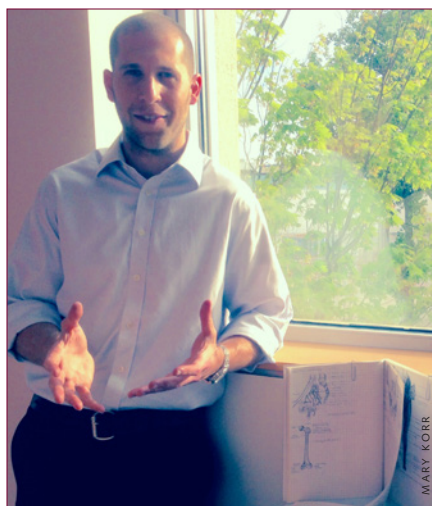


Medical students portray the art and science of medicine in AMS' first annual art exhibit

MARY KORR
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PROVIDENCE — **SAM KLEIN, MD '16**, was visiting another medical school, similar in architectural style to the Alpert Medical School, and was inspired by the student art work on its walls and brought the idea back to AMS.

Together with **NICK NASSIKAS, MD '15**, and **ALI RAE, MD '17**, The AMS Arts Council was created. "We sent out a couple of surveys," said Klein. "The overwhelming response was the student body wanted to see a little more art in the building. We spend so much time here. They wanted it to serve as an inspiration, maybe a time for reflection and maybe just a break from what they are doing. We were fortunate to have the school administration's full support of our initiative."



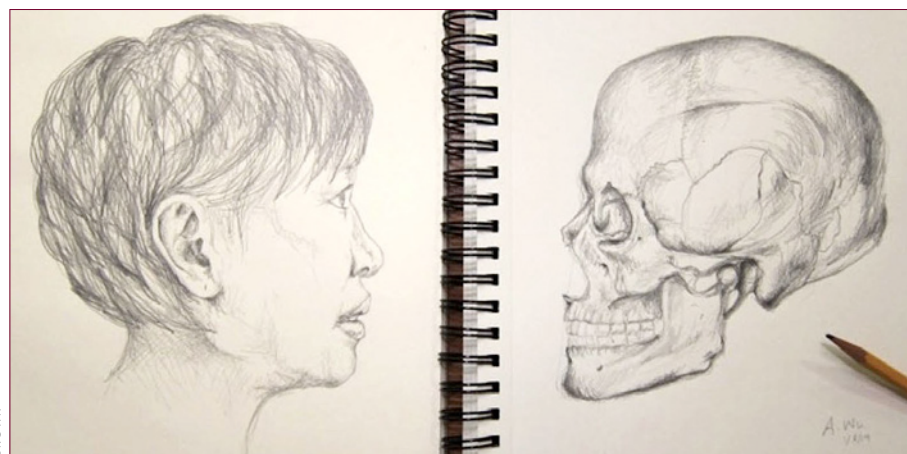
Sam Klein, MD '16, one of the exhibition's organizers, with his collection of anatomical illustrations.



Samsara, sculpture in alabaster, by Nick Nassikas.



Alpert Medical School students Nick Nassikas and Elisa Wing welcomed visitors to the first annual art exhibition on May 15.



Sketch, untitled, by Annie Wu, MD '17.

Now, two years later, with the efforts of a dozen other students, the first annual AMS juried visual arts exhibition opened May 15. There are 40 works on display, ranging from photography, illustrations, sculptures, blown glass and paintings.

The exhibit draws on three themes: "Gravity and Weightlessness," "Potential Spaces," and "Breakdown." Each evokes medical ideas, Klein said. Potential space is described in the exhibit as

"an often-used term in anatomy that indicates the resulting separation of adjoining structures. Physiologically these spaces allow the body's compartments to expand under pressure. Pieces in this theme draw analogy from the anatomical understanding to the spaces we perceive around us, focusing on how we might conceptualize both the reality and potentiality of space."

Klein's anatomical illustrations in several notebooks on display could

just as well have been a RISD student's sketchbook. They are meticulously rendered and express the architecture and art of the human body.

For at least the next six months, the exhibit will hang on the second and third floor atria of the building, while the first floor remains open for rotating exhibits. At night, the light floods in through the large windows, and the works take on an added dimension.

As student cellist Elbert Heng, who played at the event, warmed up in the Stanley M. Aronson, MD, lounge, with a photo of the first medical school dean smiling at the school's first graduation 40 years ago, one could not help but think Dr. Aronson would heartily approve of the exhibit and these students. ❖