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Graffiti on Hollis Deli's

Graffiti has become popular over the years, whether it's to show off your name, and let it be known, or putting up memorials for people as a sign of respect. In these two studios: Hollis to Hollywood and The Memorial of Jam Master Jay they are in the same area but on two different streets. One art of graffiti is on Hollis ave and Francis Lewis on the side of Hollis deli. The other art of graffiti is on Hollis ave and 205th place on the side of another deli. I would always think that some graffiti is unnecessary, and don't know why people would vandalize other people's properties. But as I got older I noticed that not all graffiti are bad. There's a lot of people who had put up graffiti and made a neighborhood look better by brightening it up. So when I took a picture of these two studios I was even more awed by the art of work. In the Hollis to Hollywood picture I had to take it from an angle because it such an long painting, and that's the reason why some of it is cut off.

When they first put up Hollis to Hollywood on the side of Hollis deli, all I thought was how brightening up the neighborhood looked because the scenery looked different from before. The color concepts in the graffiti compliments each other very well which makes it stand out if anyone is driving by the side of the deli. Everyone goes to that store for their delicious sandwiches but now it's known because it stands out. Since it's out of two deli's on Hollis that has Graffiti on the store it also attracts customers to it. I also like how it says Hollis to

Hollywood because we have people from Hollis that made it to hollywood. The few famous people who came from around here are Salt and Pepper which was a famous popular female rap group back in the 80's, LL cool J who was also a rapper who also became famous in the 80's -90's, Ja rule another rapper who was famous in the late 90's to early 2000's, and last but not least Run DMC.

Run DMC was a famous Male rap group back in the 80's and were known for wearing adidas track suits. But one of their members Jam Master Jay who was their dj was killed in 2002 in Queens, New York. They made a memorial of him on the side of a deli on Hollis ave and 205th place and named that street "*Jam Master Jay Way*." In the memorial of him you could see dj equipments and a pair of black superstar adidas sneakers. The background color of the studium is white on a brick wall and the colors of this memorial are bold and it makes you know that this person was loved and missed by many. I like how they show respect to him and it's not just any old boring memorial because of the colors.

There are people out there who don't agree with graffiti and thinks that it should be banned. Heather Mac Donald a Manhattan Institute seems to think that way in the *The New York Times* article she states "The question "When does graffiti become art?" is meaningless. Graffiti is always vandalism. By definition it is committed without permission on another person's property, in an adolescent display of entitlement. Whether particular viewers find any given piece of graffiti artistically compelling is irrelevant. Graffiti's most salient characteristic is that it is a crime." I certainly disagree with her because I think graffiti is a form of urban art from local artist who doesn't have a name yet. In another article from *The New York Times* Lady Pink an

artist and muralist says “By encouraging kids to create art in this medium – and not just tag their names across walls – we could empower generations. Who knows? They might even be able to make a living doing what they love.” I agree with what she says because everyone starts off somewhere and it can tend to be tough to let your art become known to the world. Unless you have a supportive group behind you, you can’t really be motivated to do better at what you do and be successful at it.

Ultimately both studium’s Hollis to Hollywood and Memorial of Jam Master Jay are very beautiful and has a meaning behind both of them. Graffiti can be something beautiful when it's not vandalizing property but when it has meaning to it ,it’s something that stands out in a good way even though there are people who vote against it and doesn't really care for it. Also it makes your name known depending on if it stands out to people and that's what both of theses studium’s did to me.

Works cited: [Lady Pink](#) Graffiti Is Young, Cool, Creative – Let It Happen,The New York Times,JULY 11, 2014, 6:15 PM

[Heather Mac Donald](#) Graffiti Is Always Vandalism,The New York Times, DECEMBER 4, 2014, 9:16 AM