

A Message from Francesca

Character is in the Details

This week for the older group, we did a lesson on Mary Shelly's Frankenstein based on the new UUA curriculum, Woven Faiths (click [here](#) for more info). We had a discussion about what it feels like to not know something and acted out excerpts from the book. We also drew our own version of Frankenstein's monster based on how Shelly depicted it in her story.

This lesson got me thinking that all of our characters, not just fictional ones, are distinguished by the details. Not merely the physical nuisances, but the small actions that we take. There are details that I have noticed that speak to the character of the UUC-GL community; a willingness to help. These are some of the quiet actions that don't bring attention to themselves: making sure that one of the baby changing stations was installed before the pumpkin carving, changing the date of a meeting so a valuable member of the community could participate, taking the time to make and bring homemade baked goods to share, committing to buy the option that was both in line with our values yet more expensive. These are the details, the acts we do when we aren't perceiving ourselves as "being watched." The small things that all together make up a "character," something distinct—like an old home, whose value in part lies in the way you feel inside its walls more than anything you can put on paper. So, I leave you with two questions, perhaps for dinner-time conversation. Whose character have you witnessed this week? And, how do you define a person's character? I look forward to hearing your thoughts.

Wishing you a nourished spirit,

Francesca :)