



NUMU
ART
now



ANNUAL SANTA CLARA COUNTY
JURIED HIGH SCHOOL EXHIBITION



DARE 2019

DARE 2019

NUMU
NEW MUSEUM LOS GATOS

ArtNow

Annual Santa Clara County
Juried High School Art Exhibition
March 29 - May 6, 2018

At the start of the 2018/19 school year, New Museum Los Gatos (NUMU) invited Santa Clara County high school students to DARE themselves to create an original work that speaks to this definition:

to have the necessary courage or boldness for something; be bold enough

to have the boldness to try; venture; hazard

to meet defiantly; face courageously

to challenge or provoke (a person) into a demonstration of courage; defy

Over 900 high school art students rose to that challenge and submitted artworks for juried selection in the 8th Annual ArtNow Exhibition, **DARE**.

The works presented in these pages by the **77 exhibiting student artists** stand as a record of personal challenge, courage and, in some cases, defiance. By responding to the exhibition theme, the artists dared themselves to think, to feel, to stand up or stand out, and ultimately to find the courage or boldness to make it a visual reality. Each artist's statement reveals that his or her personal challenges matter and are not to be overlooked.

Reader, dare yourself to find your own perspective challenged by any one of the artful interpretations presented in these pages. Perhaps you will be called to action by what you see or at the very least, carry away an altered point of view.

Thanks and applause to the team of collaborators who made the 2019 ArtNow exhibition possible; the NUMU exhibition, design, marketing and operations staff and volunteers; our partners, sponsors, donors, teachers, and of course the students whose enthusiasm for art dares us all to keep fanning the flames of creativity.



Maureen Cappon-Javey
NUMU Executive Director
March 2019

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	iv
Table of Contents	v
Digital Art	3
Drawing	13
Mixed Media	27
Painting	39
Photography	57
Printmaking	73
Sculpture	83
Video/Animation	95
Acknowledgments	101



DIGITAL ART



EMARIE ILANO

Dare to Live
Digital illustration

Grade 12
Fremont High School
Catherine Zweig

We dare ourselves to be courageous, to never give up, to keep going despite all the pain and the obstacles we have to face moving forward. Being alive is the ultimate dare that we should continue to accept because it can give us so much more than we could imagine.



JWWAD JAVED

Rumination
Digital collage

Grade 11
Willow Glen School
Sandra Holland

This piece is representative of the individuals who, in the bustle we call progress, dare to turn around in the backlight of the vibrant sunset and recognize how far humanity has come.

The soft way in which the colors interact with each other are indicative of the serenity which comes with a moment of reflection.

What is suggested by the composition is near paradoxical - to stop and meditate in a dynamic, ever-changing world.

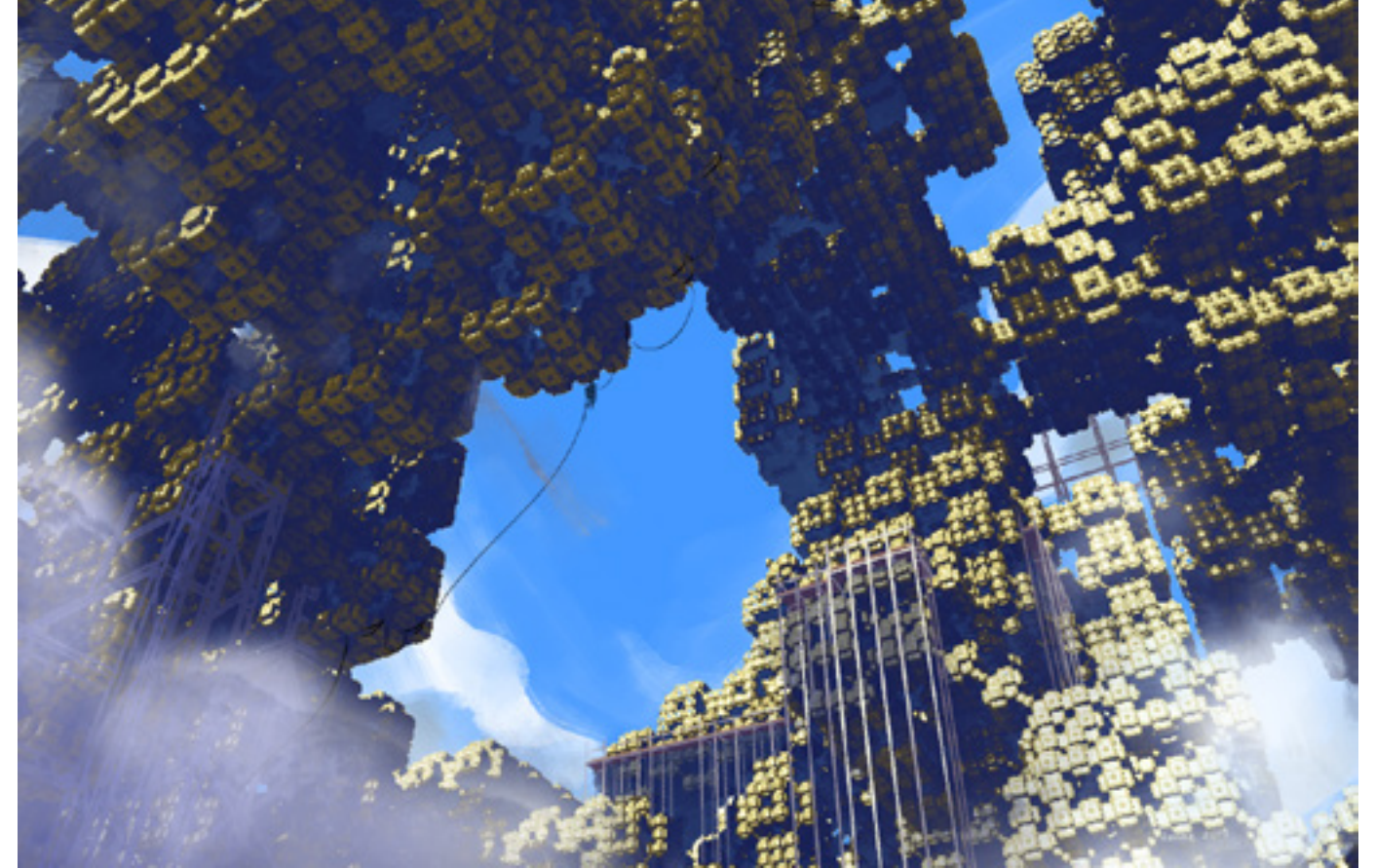
1st Place in Digital Art

SARA LAVALLEY

Glowing
Mixed media
photography

Grade 12
Leland High School
Stacy Rapoport

To stand out is to have the courage to overcome obstacles. Kelp on its own is free-floating, slimy, and somewhat unremarkable. I used the warm colors to reinvent the organism into something bold and different. This puts a spotlight on the kelp, making it the center of attention as it tethers itself to the leaf, and emits a magical glow. It's this glow that makes it stand out, rather than fade into the background.



ANNIKA LEVINE

The Climb

Mixed digital illustration and procedural 3D rendering

Grade 12
Palo Alto High School
Kate McKenzie

In this piece, I worked to convey a sense of scale and height. I depicted a mountain climber, tiny and insignificant in the scope of an unknown structure, high up in the sky. As shown by the added scaffolding, the structure is being built upon, or may be being built, but its nature is inhospitable and not meant for human exploration. The climber, however, scales it anyway.

2nd Place in Digital Art

**ALINA
MARZANO**
Get punked
Digital illustration

Grade 11
Leland High School
Stacy Rapoport

Through digital art I enjoy creating scenes that portray the subject in surreal or unorthodox situations. In this work, a traditional Chinese lion conveys that one's culture is not always apparent in how it manifests itself, meaning that it can "sneak up" on you sometimes. Though the child may have moved onto more modern forms of entertainment, namely comic books, the lion acts as a reminder of their heritage whether they like it or not.



ELLA SKINNER
Pool of Tears
Digital painting

Grade 11
Leland High School
Stacy Rapoport

As a teenager, the lonely girl struggles to express herself and feels secluded from others. Through my use of subdued colors and melting pigments, I am conveying her melancholic and isolated state. As she wraps her arms around her knees, she becomes shrouded by loneliness, only wishing to be understood. Although sad, her eyes reflect defiance, ready to challenge social norms and develop into a young adult.





RACHEL YAO
Escape
 Digital illustration

Grade 12
 Leland High School
 Stacy Rapoport

Many may consider society to be full of negativity and hatred. For the past several years, people are overly sensitive to others' opinions. As a result, people hide their voices in order to stay safe from the backlash from those with strong beliefs. In this artwork, I use muted hues to portray the feeling of fear, and whales to symbolize the courage of people who have dared to share their different perspectives.



CYNTHIA ZHOU
The Patriot Tarot Card
 Digital illustration

Grade 11
 Leland High School
 Stacy Rapoport

"I am here today not because I want to be. I am here because it's my civic duty to tell you what happened to me."

Following the Kavanaugh hearings, I heard close friends share experiences of assault and was deeply affected by Dr. Ford's choice to testify, even when it cost her everything. I made a new tarot card category for a new age, because if placing country above self isn't patriotism, then what is?

Judges' Recognition in Digital Art



DRAWING

VALENTINA BEGUN

Glass Heart
White Charcoal,
Colored Pencil

Grade 11
Los Altos High School
Christine An

Daring to get hurt is one of the most courageous and universal experiences. Daring to fix myself after making a mistake or after taking a risk sometimes is painful and feels like slapping a band-aid over an open wound. However, even if I have a glass heart and I feel like it may break at any point, I must have courage to get reshaped by any pains that come my way.

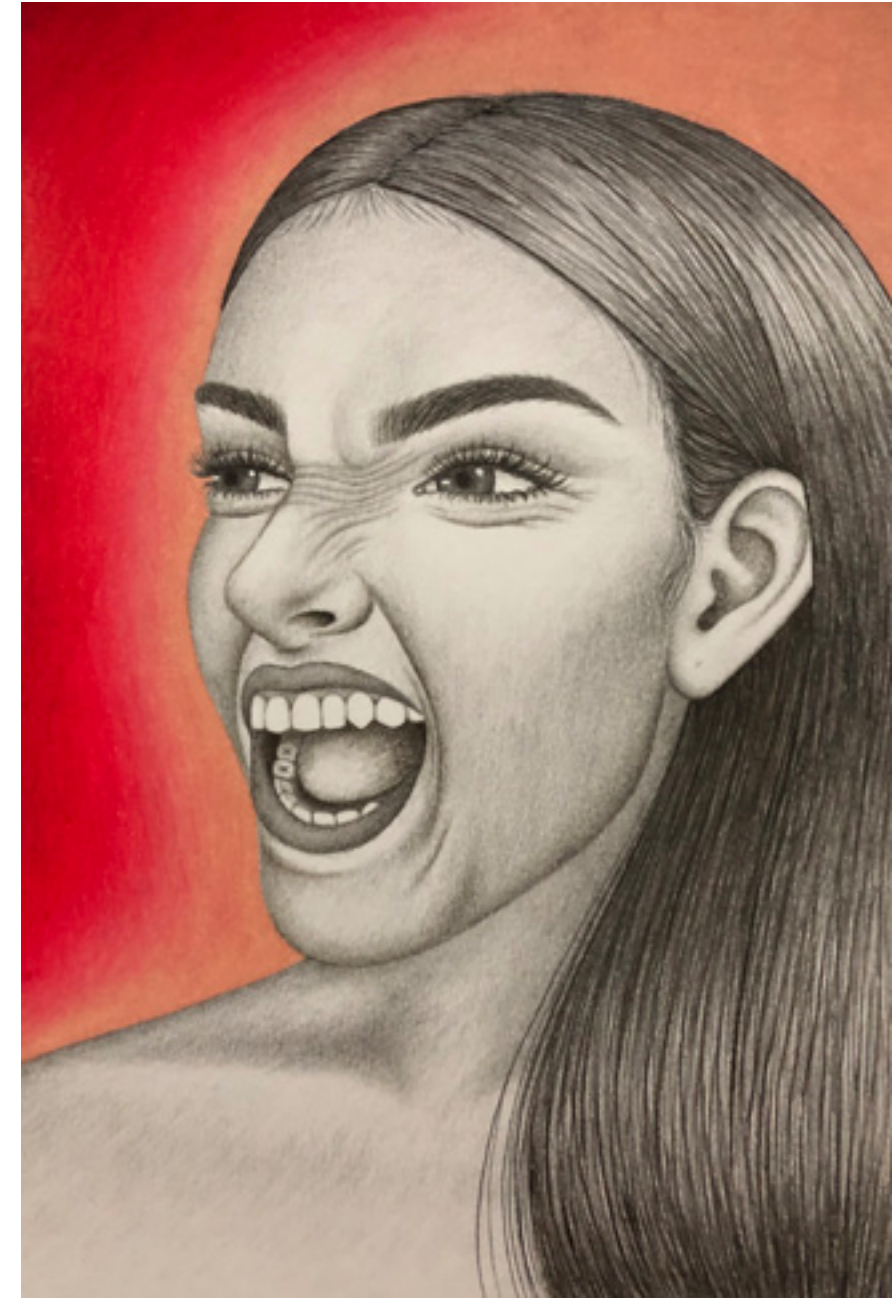


ALONDRA DIAZ

Death of Patience
Graphite Charcoal and Colored
Pencils

Grade 12
Wilcox High School
Heather Morton

I utilized the elements of value and color to portray my representation of "DARE". The transition of colors, peach to red, convey the progression of anger. Value was used to depict an angry expression on the woman's face. The woman in the piece finally developed the courage to dare herself to confront the person, thing, or situation that may have frustrated her because she lost her patience. The woman expresses her frustration by yelling at the source of her anger.



HIYA GHOSH

Dare to be YOU
Charcoal

Grade 10
Cupertino High School
Alice Cunningham

My artwork represents this emerging generation, a progressive age where we dare to dream of a world of diversity. This girl is shedding her exterior and dares to show the world her inner beauty, showing her gothic bold self.



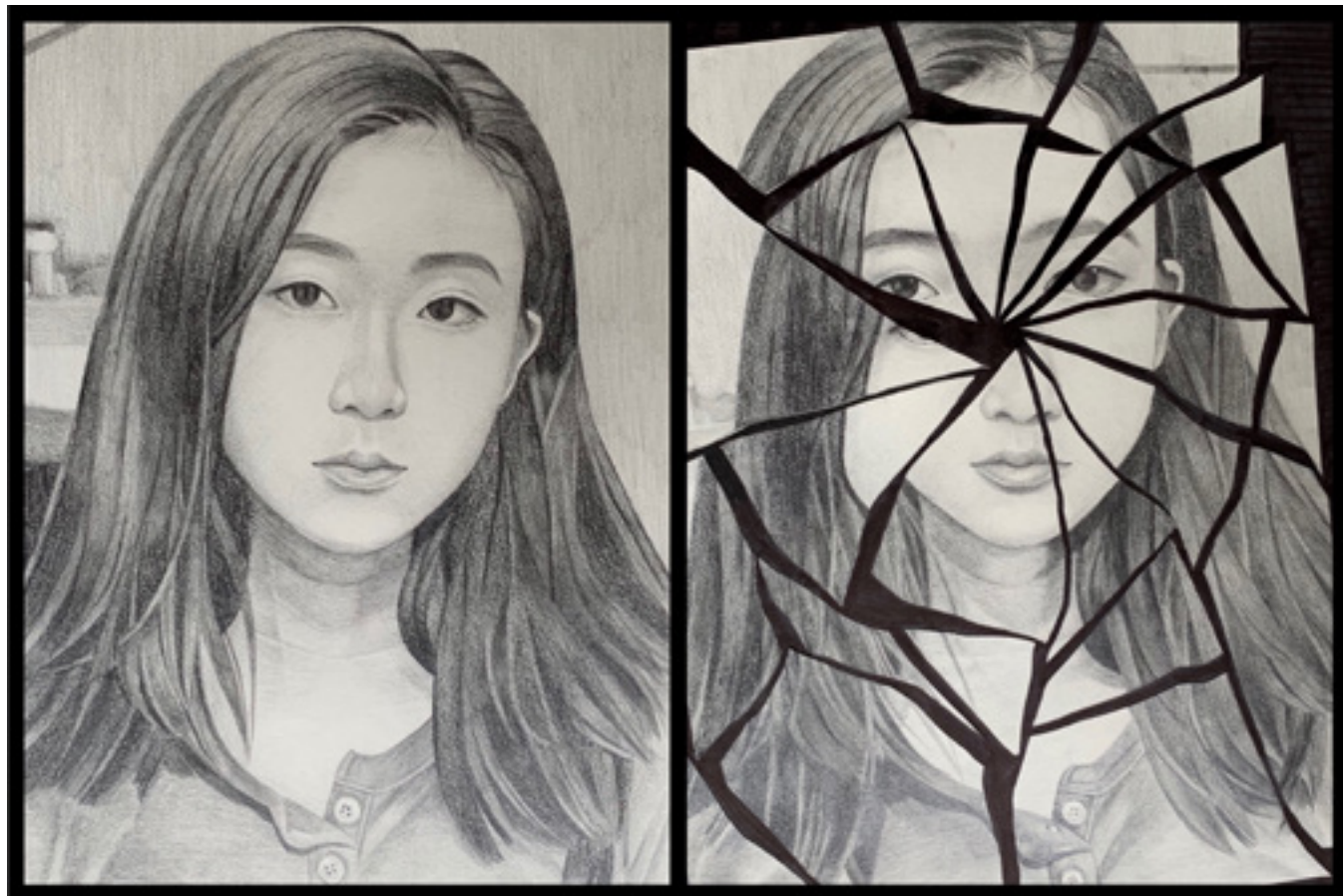
SUA KIM

To Love
Ink

Grade 11
Los Altos High School
Christine An

For people who believe that they are worthless and “trash,” self-love is alien and unimaginable. You need immense courage and determination that only seem to work in a fairytale story. I drew a self-portrait with tiny and detailed drawings of trash to explain this battle with myself. The juxtaposition of trash which means neglect and abandonment and detailed work which represent care to show my effort to overcome my self-hatred through acceptance.





MANDY LAI
Shattered Mirror
Graphite and ink

Grade 10
Mountain View High School
James Levett

My reflection in the mirror is more than a mere image; it reveals the truth about myself. Deciding to shatter the mirror, along with my reflection means I am willing to change. I am ready to begin the difficult, yet rewarding process of rearranging my broken pieces into something new.



LUCY LUE
Freedom
Ink

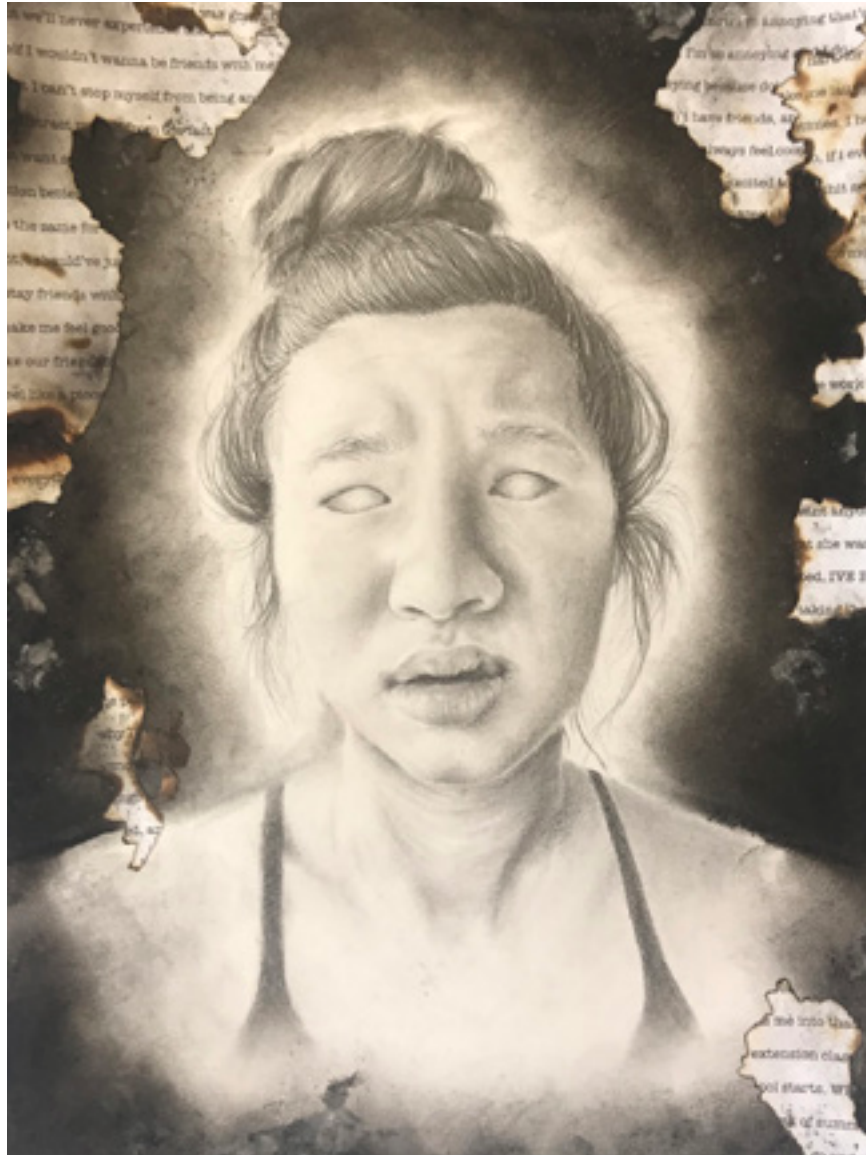
Grade 12
Cupertino High School
Alice Cunningham

I depicted a few manikins being controlled by strings. The one in the focal point is the one that is daring to change, cutting off the strings. I used black and white because I believed that it would convey the somber atmosphere.

EMILY SCHULZE
Drained
Graphite and pastel

Grade 11
Leland High School
Stacy Rapoport

In this piece I represent how negativity, unfortunate situations, and various obstacles have affected me and drained me of my presence. The writing on the sides are recordings of things that have brought me down. With contrast and the overwhelmingly dark background, I create the agonized mood that I've endured. Despite the many hurdles of high school, I try my best to be daring, leaping over each hurdle head on.



1st Place in Drawing



CAS SHERRILL
Ezra Miller
Graphite

Grade 9
Mountain View High School
Meghan Engle

I chose my graphite portrait of Ezra Miller for the theme "dare." Using a grid helped with rendering a precise portrayal, and required courage to commit to since it was my first time attempting this technique. I needed to dedicate any free time finalizing the piece by forming texture, detailing, and building up value. It was the first time I ever felt challenged drawing something I'd consider to be in my comfort zone.

AUDREY TANG
Projecting Silence
Graphite

Grade 10
Saratoga High School
Diana Vanry

The projection of abstract patterns conceals parts of her face, as well as her mouth. This represents how we only present a part of ourselves to the public, and reminds us to have the courage to step out, speak up, and express ourselves fully.



EMILY WON
Fashionably Out of Order
Ink

Grade 9
Mountain View High School
Meghan Engle

I discovered a picture of me in a photo album wearing a beady necklaces around my neck, clips attached onto my hair, marble hair bands tied to my fingers, and handbags hanging on my arms. That photo inspired me to draw 2000s accessories floating in front of my recent selfie. I scored the orange paper to accentuate the goofy parts of my selfie and with colored pencils, I also illustrated how my quirkiness hasn't changed.

Judges' Recognition in Drawing

JADA WONG

Which One to Wear Today
Color pencils

Grade 11
Leland High School
Stacy Rapoport

Dare to be yourself. We alter the way we look, talk, see, and listen based on our surroundings. Locked away in cages and jars, we hide our variety of parts. Eventually the amount of combinations become too much, leaving you wondering who you are. I depicted the chaos of navigating the world of identity through the repetition in the hair and incorporated severed body parts and grasping hands to portray the detriment exploration can have.





MIXED MEDIA



CLAUDIA KOK

Dare to Write Your Recipe

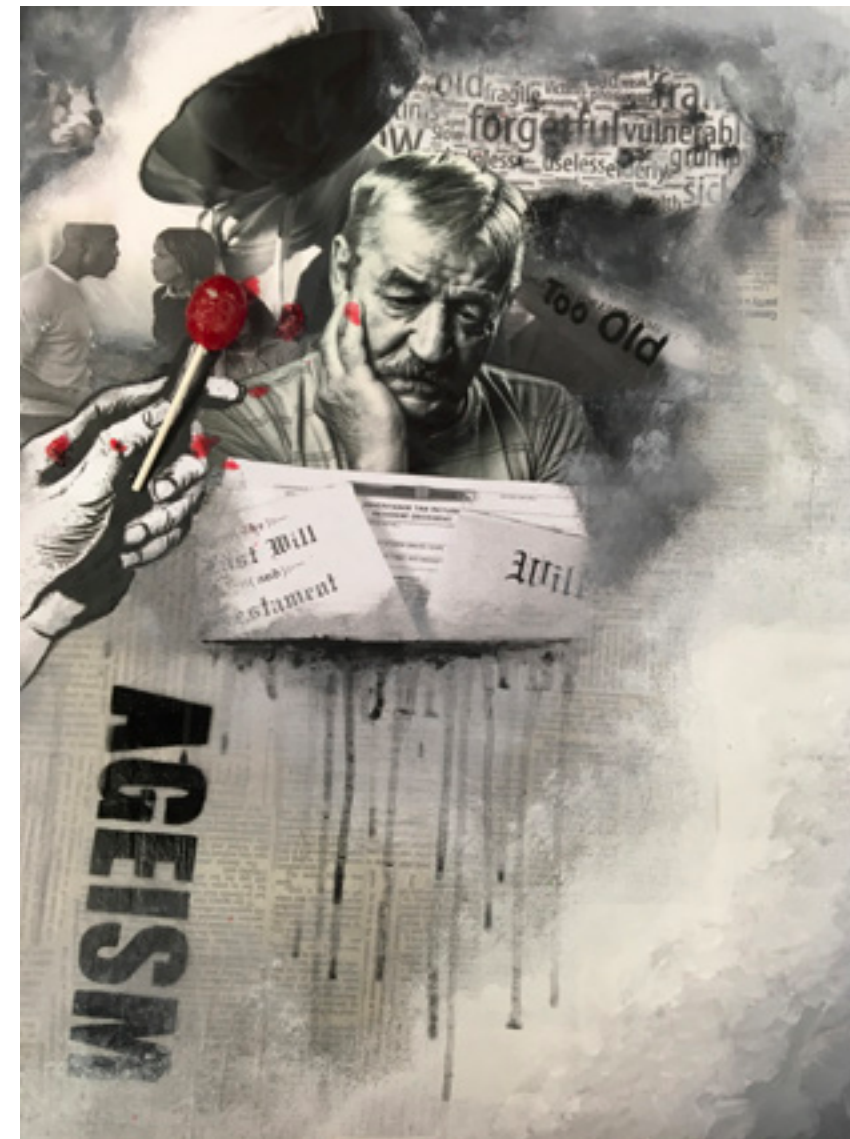
Micron pens, poster paint, construction paper, ink

Grade 11

Cupertino High School

Alice Cunningham

Is it poultry or poetry? It's neither for this chicken. In this piece, the chicken is holding himself accountable to rewrite his own recipe, and escape his fate. In a way, taking control of your future is daring. So the chicken expresses himself by crossing out and adding phrases in the cookbook to his liking, with a forward stance to avoid controversy; ultimately excluding any poetic devices that would take away the emphasis for his goal to not become food. So with a swish of a feather, the future can be changed.



MARIA KOZHEVNIKOVA

Ageism

Collage, acrylic paint, spray paint

Grade 11

Los Gatos High School

Augustina Matsui

In this painting I dare to talk about ageism. Many people will tell you it's stupid. Yes, our bodies fail us over time, but minds don't age. People over 40 have difficulties being employed, as the society is shoving valedictory papers into their faces, as younger people with tough experience are being told to go suck their candies. The young creates the futures, and mindset like that leaves you behind the curve, while all acceptance is the recipe to immortal youth.



MICHAELA SAMPAS

The Golden Boy

Oil paint on canvas, cut paper, oil paint on paper

Grade 11
Campbell Union High School
Kimberly Bartel

The Golden Boy got his name from his plethora of redeeming qualities, one being his courage. He dares to be himself in a country where the color of his skin can reduce him to nothing but a criminal. The Golden Boy is no criminal, he is simply a kid, and this is the lens he should be seen through, tucked in a field of flowers, the flowers embodying purity and the fruits of his mind.

1st Place in Mixed Media



JENNY SHI

The Things We Cannot Touch

Oil, plastic dish

Grade 11
Palo Alto High School
Kate McKenzie

A girl reaches for an ambiguous shadow of a hand behind a petri dish filled with E. coli, as she herself moves out of the shadows. The bacteria are dangerous, but her desire to learn more about the tiny, elusive organisms gives her courage to touch the dish.

Judges' Recognition in Mixed Media



JENNIFER SUN

Where Do I Belong

Watercolor, Watercolor pencil, Marker, Pen

Grade 11

Lynbrook High School

Matthew Reynolds

A cyborg, in search of a lively world and a self they can be content with, takes a leap of faith, abandoning the comfort of their insipid community and existential fear in hopes that they might be able to grasp whatever their true identity is.



LINA TELLEFSEN

Escape From The Ticking Man

Acrylic paint, copper wire, play-dough, old clocks, metal gears, metal picture frame

Grade 11

Los Altos High School

Christine An

It's effortless to have cyclical thoughts and hide within worn-out ideas. To be frozen by the mundane is simple ignorance, but to escape this routine requires finding the truth within contradictions and falsehoods. Finding the things we aren't told is a conscious process: we must strive to uncover different perspectives hidden under the face of our surroundings. Only in seeking out the truth can one leave behind the eternal ticking.

2nd Place in Mixed Media

AKSHAY THAKUR

America Behind Bars
Textiles, thread, acrylic paint,
marker

Grade 11
Prospect High School
Brianna Dawson

The flag is a symbol of America in all of its glory and greatest triumphs. Yet its beauty extends beyond red, white, and blue—it represents liberty, including the right to free speech and protest, even if expressing that means daring to desecrate the very flag itself. This piece was intended to serve as a reminder that the flag should never come before the people and values it represents, for doing so puts America behind bars.



LYDIA WATSON

Beauty Queen
Water color paints,
magazine and
paper clippings,
gloss medium

Grade 11
Pioneer High School
Laurie Kirk

Social media entices us to expect perfection from ourselves and others. Refusal to conform comes with judgement, criticism, and rejection. We are constantly provoked by society to stoop to the level of our impurities and negative labels. We must challenge ourselves to reclaim our imperfections and beauty in this disapproving climate and dare the world to see their standards as wounding and immoral.

Best in Show



ASHLEY YOON

A Lethal Challenge

Paper, acrylics, cotton-spider web material, plastic spiders, pencil drawing, hot glue adhesive

Grade 11
Saratoga High School
Diana Vanry

People are encouraged to take on challenges, but these attempts often have consequences. Like a spider web, pressure from peers and social dissatisfaction can attract students to do things that may seem appealing at first, but these choices lead to an inescapable future. The ones already caught in the web cannot escape, no matter how much they struggle. One wrong choice, due to excessive influence and curiosity, can entangle the lives of many forever.



PAINTING

IARA BARYLKO

Blue Boy
Water-based oil on canvas paper

Grade 12
Leland High School
Stacy Rapaport

"This above all: to thine own self be true..."
- Shakespeare

The rose and softness in both the man's pose and expression suggest a femininity and vulnerability which would not be expected of a man. There is blue in every shadow of the painting, a color that represents confidence. This painting displays the courage to defy societal norms while still being comfortable in your own skin.



MALIA COOK
Beautiful Bird Cage
Among Boxes
Acrylic on paper, pen
for cage bars

Grade 10
Pioneer High School
Laurie K Kirk

The birdcage contains a vibrant, colorful personality in the otherwise lackluster room full of boxes. This painting represents many people who never let their true self show through their facade. Their unique character and personality are trapped in a cage and hidden away, drowning in the mass of washed-out boxes symbolizing their fake persona. Dare to put yourself out there and live life to the fullest. Don't let the haters put you into a cage.



ANNA FINLAY

Life is What You Make It
Acrylic and Oil on Canvas

Grade 10
Mountain View High School
Meghan Engle

I always strive to capture my experiences through art, and sometimes it can be scary to share. Creating a piece with authenticity exposes vulnerability within the artist. But sharing is so important because it can bring people together. That's what inspired my painting; daring to create.



**ANNA
GERCHANOVSKY**
White Out
Acrylic on Canvas

Grade 12
Los Altos High School
Christine An

Nothing can be made
by playing it safe. To
create, we need to
destroy what we are
comfortable with. We
have to dare to start
over to improve.



SEJAL KINI

Running Towards Danger
Acrylic on Canvas

Grade 11
Leland High School
Stacy Rapoport

As an artist, I love to integrate bold and bright colors, which is shown through the glowing flames and firemen's vibrant uniforms. My inspiration comes from the firefighters who put their lives on the line during the devastating 2018 California wildfire. They displayed courage and dedication during the countless hours spent saving civilians and the environment. While fire is naturally an indication to run away, these men instead dared to fight the flames.



MADDIE KNOL

A Different Perspective
Oil on Canvas

Grade 11
Los Gatos High School
Augustina Matsui

For my painting I decided to do something I have never painted, nor done before. I am afraid of heights, so maybe doing this would make me realize that there is always a way to conquer fear, one must face it head on.



ANGELINA LEE

Reach
Acrylic on Canvas

Grade 12
Cupertino High School
Alice Cunningham

In this piece, I wanted to illustrate my difficult decision to choose a career in art over the opinions of my family. I used multitudes of color swirling around to represent the chaos I have to get through in order to "reach" towards my future. The dark shadows represent the emptiness I felt without having art in my life, and I wanted the colors to seem like they're filling me up with purpose.



SEOHYUN (JAN)

LEE
Pouvez-vous
Oil on Canvas

Grade 12
Los Gatos High School
Augustina Matsui

Pouvez-vous is an oil painting/self portrait on 20x16 canvas, painted from my collage of different photos. The hands and objects represent the different aspects of reality that the person is hiding from. Based on the topic "dare" and the title, "can you" in French, the painting dares the person, or anyone, to stop blinding oneself and face the reality, and her taking off the blindfold represents that she dares to do it.

SARAH LIU

Take A Chance
Watercolor on paper

Grade 10
Independence High School
Krystal Hart

As an artist, I enjoy incorporating objects that people have nostalgic feelings towards, into my pieces to convey specific experiences in a different way. My piece shows a student collecting cards that display different experiences that many people desire to pursue but have uncertainty doing. Playing cards are like taking chances, both with unexpected results. Only some would dare to pick a card that would not provide insight into their unpredictable future.



ASHLEY LOPEZ-VALDEZ
DONTDRINKTHEKOOAID
Oil on Canvas

Grade 12
Leland High School
Stacy Rapoport

Loud opinions circulate through media which allow fiction to be misinterpreted for fact; and though knowledge is now a click away, some of us tend to listen to vile lies and hate. In my piece I dare to think of a world where we think and question rather than blindly accepting everything we hear. I dare to think of a world where we don't drink the Kool-Aid.



SAUL PAYAN

The children cry for world peace
Acrylic on Canvas

Grade 11
Pioneer High School
Laurie Kirk

Poverty and war are two subjects that deeply revolve around each other, which are both critical problems in today's world, particularly the Middle East. I chose to make artwork to represent this by painting two political leaders shaking hands standing in awe at what they've accomplished. In the same picture two malnourished children and their dog stand in the rubble, they are amidst poverty living in a war stricken territory, while in the background toy soldiers charge on and wreak havoc. I wanted to represent war and how its effects leave innocent people impoverished while elected officials stand back and smile.

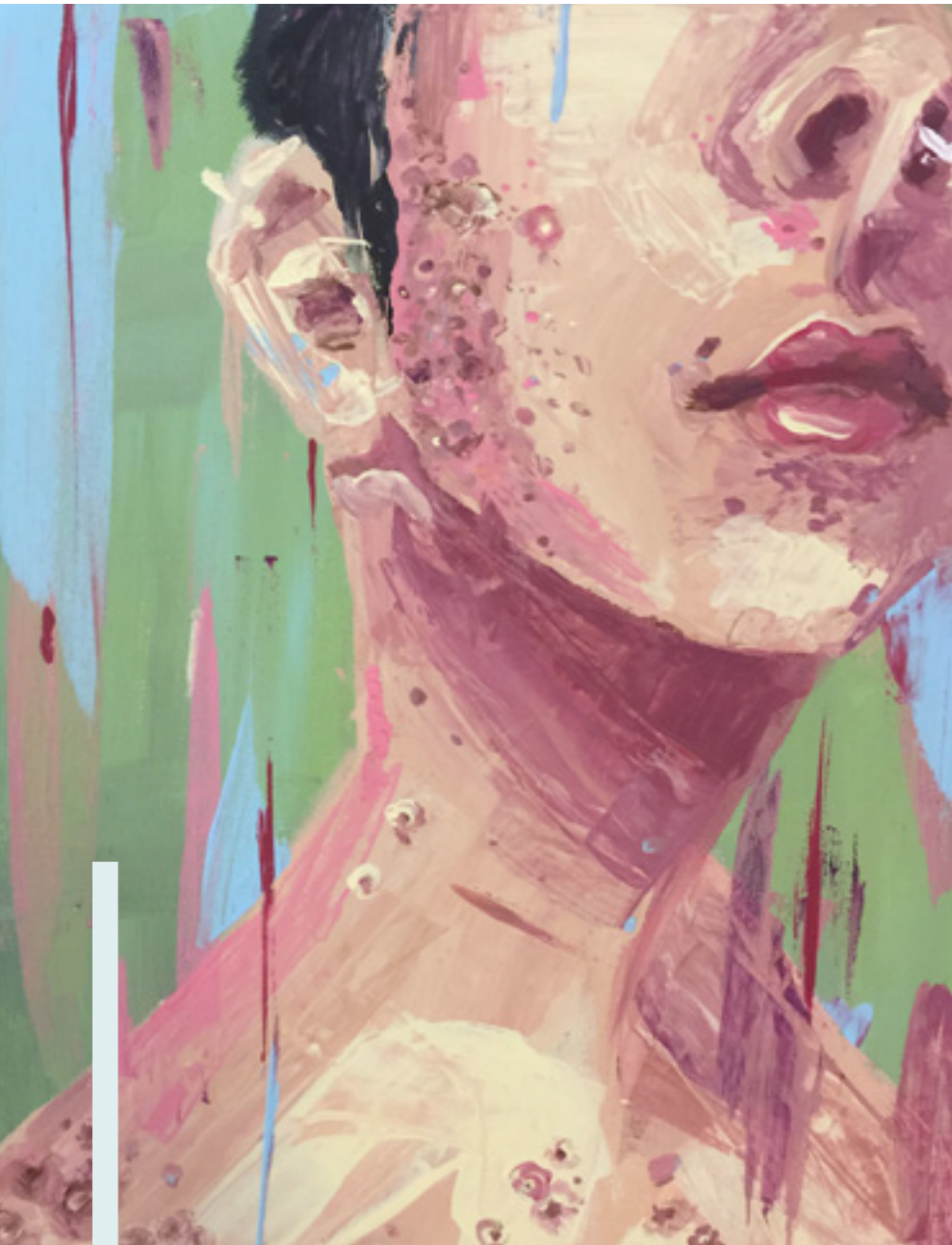


ANNA SCHAFFER
Accepting Criticism
Oil on Canvas

Grade 12
Los Gatos High School
Augustina Matsui

My painting is about daring to accept criticism and to grow from it.

Judges' Recognition in Painting



MANASA SUNDARAM

Exposed
Acrylic on Canvas

Grade 11
Notre Dame High School
Chris Johnson

Society has instilled the idea that acne and scars are something to be concealed as beauty is often characterized with flawless skin. However, imperfections are nothing to be ashamed of. The perception of beauty is rapidly changing, daring people to embrace their natural differences and challenge the conventional standards of beauty. By using acrylic paint to layer and emphasize the texture of the subject's skin, the acne becomes prominent, three-dimensional, and interactive with the viewer.



MARIA TEPLOVA

Skydiving
Acrylic on Canvas

Grade 10
The Harker School
Pilar Agüero-Esparza

Today's teenagers and students, especially in Silicon Valley, are pressured by their peers, family, and society to pursue an ideal path to success and commit to it from a young age. These ideals strictly enforce the overzealous reverence of STEM careers and harmful social norms onto another generation. Inspired by the pool paintings of David Hockney, I chose to illustrate my constant struggle between my creative passion and what I have been taught to believe is more worthwhile, where the clouds represent the ambiguity yet liveliness of what is to come and the cement tile of the pool represents the deep and structural beliefs of society.

2nd Place in Painting

1st Place in Painting



ANYA TYAGARAJAN

She Pulls Too Hard
Oil on Canvas

Grade 12
Leland High School
Stacy Rapoport

Often times I find it difficult to discover my own identity due to my mother's compulsive nature. The mother-daughter bond is commonly represented through the brushing of the daughter's hair-- however in this piece, the grasp is tight, representing constrictiveness and the girl's inability to break free. Moreover, the free-flow motion of her hair away from the hand conveys my hope to create my own formation of self, daring to defy my mother's constant wishes.



JAYNE ZHOU

Reach
Watercolor on paper

Grade 11
Saratoga High School
Kyung Ahn

Dreams always seem out of reach, but if you want to achieve anything, you must not be afraid to fall. In order for you to obtain your dream, you must be willing to dare to reach.



PHOTOGRAPHY

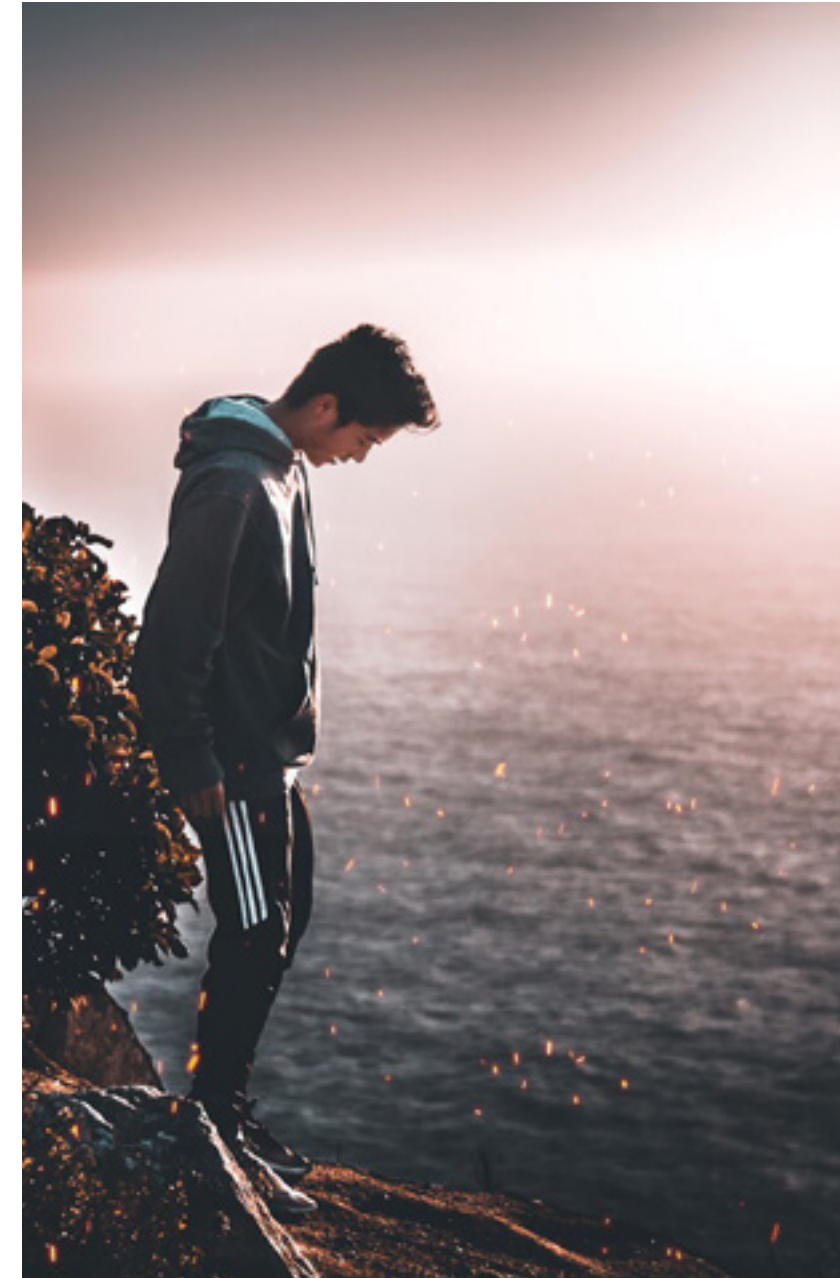


SOPHIA AYALA
Cuba
Digital Photography

Grade 12
Christopher High School
Ryan Schlater

In the picture, *Cuba*, I had taken a trip to Cuba with my church group and I knew it was gonna be an experience I would never forget. Going to different towns and seeing how corrupt it is, it made me take a different perspective on the way we live in the US. The experience made me not take anything for granted that I have in my life and make the most of every moment.

1st Place in Photography



ETHAN CHANG
CliffSide
Digital Photography

Grade 9
Saratoga High School
Alexander Hemmerich

Ever since I was little, my fear of heights always limited me from enjoying high locations.

Having the courage to step out towards the cliff, it emotionally struck me that courage is something that I always had in me, but I had always looked away from courage and avoided risks at all cost. Realizing that my fear of heights was just a mental barrier, it has opened a whole new perspective of the world to me.

ABIGAIL HAGAN
Dare to be Free
Digital Photography

Grade 10
Los Altos High School
Jessica Hayes

To dare is to say things unsaid. Here holds the representation of freedom, confined in bars in its own country. This represents the stray from our original ideals, something many don't dare to say.



DARREN HOFF
The Office
Digital Photography

Grade 12
Westmont High School
Rachael Bradley

When I heard the word dare I thought of being different from others. What's different about me from most my peers, is that at my age I already know what I want to do for work and it's not because it's easy, glorious, or makes a lot of money. I want to do it because it's what I enjoy. I feel this makes me different from my peers and therefore a daring aspect of me.

Judges' Recognition in Photography



BEREKET KEBEDE
Culture
Digital Photography

Grade 12
Westmont High School
Rachael Bradley

Everyday, I am surrounded by those who look nothing like me, which is disappointing. However, that does not stop me from embracing myself and my culture. I dare to be unapologetically me by wearing my braids because I feel connected to my roots. In a society with beauty standards that don't reflect my own, I chose to find my own identity.



KELLI KURAMOTO
The Girl in the Red Coat
Digital Photography

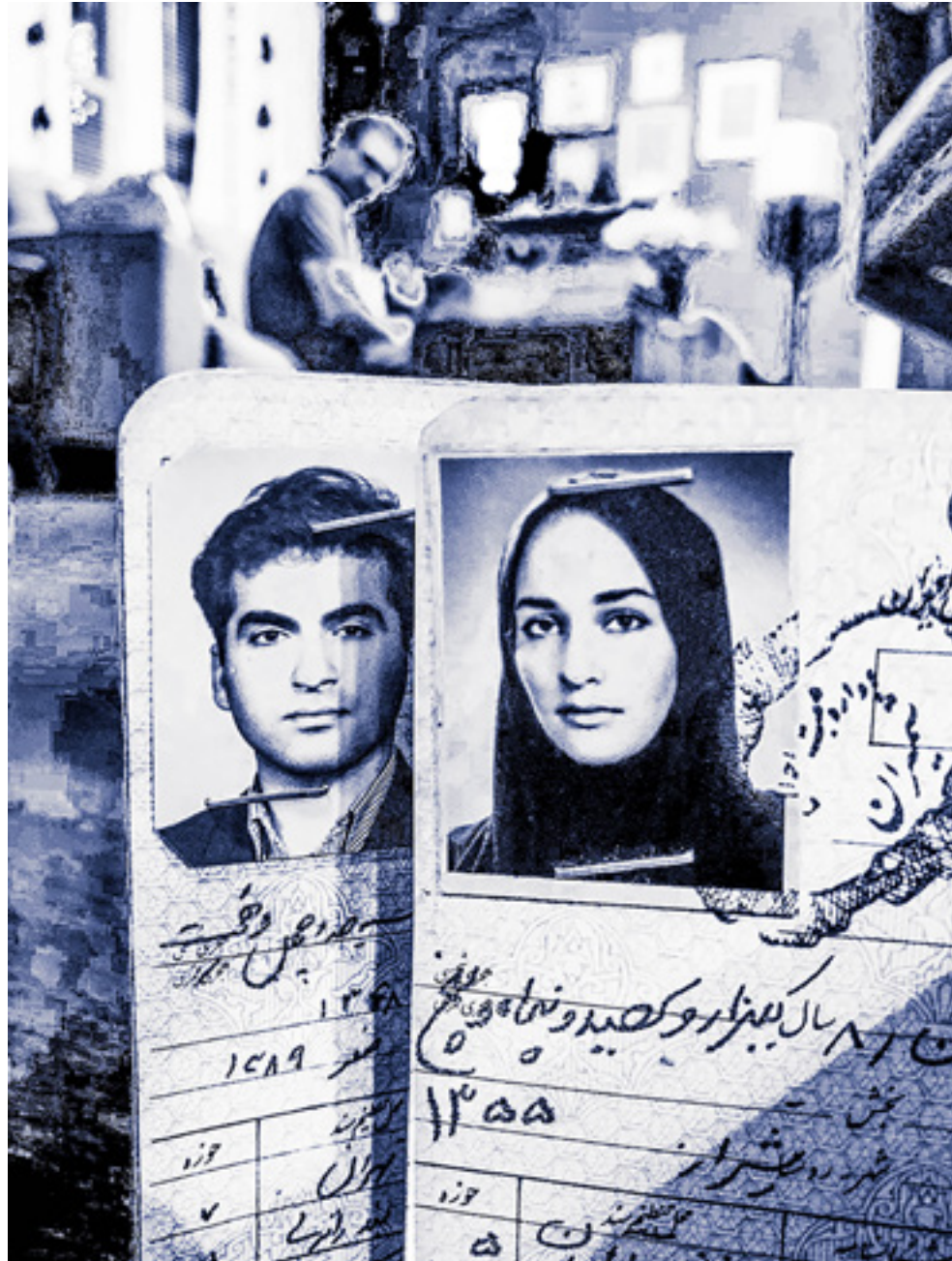
Grade 11
Los Altos High School
Christine An

I am photographing a black and white digital image of a girl with emphasis on her red coat in a foggy forest to show the feeling of sleepwalking through life, and the courage it takes for one self to wake up and take control. I feel that everything I do is so robotic, emotionless and meaningless because I don't do any of it for myself. But I've learned that it takes an enormous amount of courage to be yourself and do what you love, no matter what other people say, and I want to spread that message through my photos.

SAM MIRZADEH
Refugees
Digital Photography

Grade 12
Westmont High School
Rachael Bradley

To dare is to be different, to be bold, to stand out. When coming to this country, my parents took a risk that would not only change their lives forever, but also change my life. They came here not knowing any English and me, a 2 year old baby. They ended up building a foundation for me and my brother that helped us so much. The struggle they went through inspires me everyday.



TANSHI MOHAN
Citizen
Digital Photography

Grade 12
Freestyle Academy
Leslie Parkinson

After interviewing a Swedish woman, I learned about her struggle to share her identity with others, as she is constantly assumed to be an American. My photograph is framed by shrubbery and a tree. This is to give the feeling of being unnoticed or unimportant, much like how my interviewee feels when she tries to celebrate, talk about, or express her own culture. Out of the hundreds I took, I decided to choose this photograph because of the woman's expression. She looks as if she is searching, much like my interviewee is trying to search for herself while being caught in between two distinct identities. I used Photoshop's split toning and gradient mapping on the photo to create a grayscale image with a hint of a neutral color.



MAHAYLA ORTEGA

Abandonment
Digital Photography

Grade 12
Christopher High School
Ryan Schlater

The picture titled *Abandonment* gives off a creepy, mysterious and a daring feeling. This picture capturing the backboard and hoop of a basketball hoop that was from my own backyard. I instantly had the attraction of trying to capture an image of the basketball hoop but did not get a great picture until I actually looked around the yard. And that's when I saw a stool, grabbed it and stood on top of it to get higher up, and this is the image I captured.



AVERY TAN

Presque vu
Digital Photography

Grade 11
Freestyle Academy of Communication Arts & Technology
Leslie Parkinson

I am exploring the feeling of dissociation through the experience of seeing a familiar sight; the numerous reflections of the toy within the mirror and the ice represent a disconnection between one and one's perception of oneself. Out of the hundreds of photos that I took using 50mm lens on a Canon DSLR camera, I chose this one to edit in Adobe Photoshop. I think the various textures in the photo are interesting.



CONNOR WOLF
Changes
Digital Photography

Grade 12
Westmont High School
Rachel Bradley

After traumatic events, people tend to cut their hair as they tend to see it as the one thing they can have control over. Hair tends to carry memories and the past attached to it and chopping off hair represents the shedding of the past. After the frustration and damage, daring to cut your hair and start a new beginning requires courage and the will to follow your own intuition.

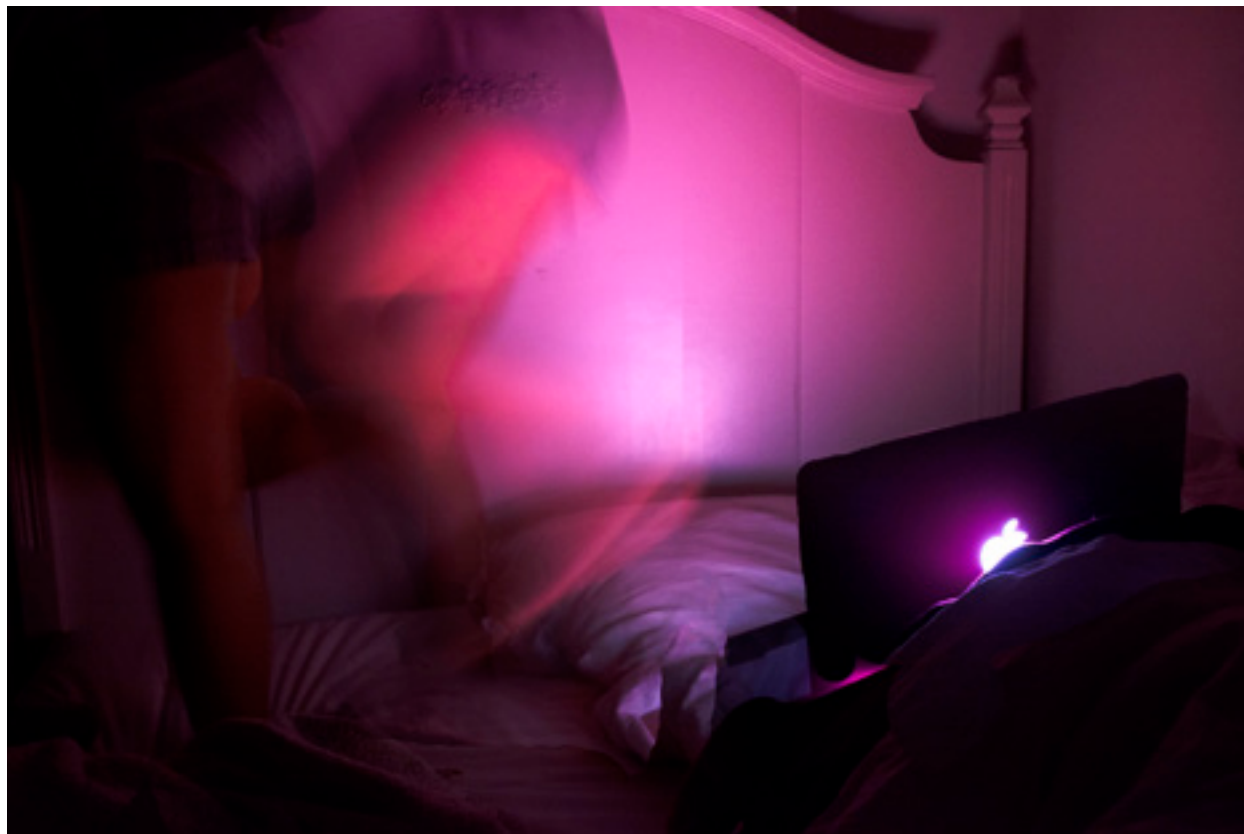
2nd Place in Photography



BRANDON YUEN
Dream
Digital Photography

Grade 12
Saratoga High School
Alex Hemmerich

To go through the work needed to reach one's goal takes immense courage. In this photo, I used the reflection of a puddle to capture my friend in two different poses. For the top pose, he is standing with the blocks by his side. Contrarily, the reflection shows him assembling the blocks, thus working towards a goal. This photo is significant because of how it juxtaposes a person with their potential.



SOPHIA ZHANG
Generation Z
Digital Photography

Grade 11
Los Altos High School
Christine An

Modern-day parents who are too scared to let their children out of their sight have dampened the curious drive of children who are instead raised on TV and technology. When you're old enough, though, it's up to you to be brave and explore the unknown world.



PRINTMAKING



MINGYUAN DONG

Freedom
Blockprint

Grade 12
The King's Academy
Cindi Sweet

Like birds, one's thoughts have the power to transcend physical shackles and travel unimaginable distances. When one's mind dares to take challenges, creativity is released.



HAYDEN FREEMAN

Waves
Lino Print

Grade 11
Valley Christian High
School
Karen Dequine

This print that I did is about dare, because the ocean is a very mysterious and unknown place. Most of the ocean is still unknown as to what is exactly in it, yet it takes up more area than land on the earth! To journey into the ocean is to journey into the unknown, facing what may scare you but doing it anyway. The ocean is very beautiful and mysterious, and this is what the ocean represents to me.

Judges' Recognition



EVA PEI
Dare to Fly
 Lino Print

Grade 10
 Valley Christian High School
 Karen Dequine

In our society, one aspect of its cruel competition could simplify into an elimination process into schools and professions.

Many take flight from their nest, but many more mercilessly shoot them down. We are both the birds and the hunters. We wish to fly, yet at the same time, we wish to shoot down the competition - the very same flock of competition that somehow also comforts us when we take flight.



SIRI VELAGAPUDI
Justice Will Prevail
 Lino Reduction Print

Grade 9
 Valley Christian High School
 Karen Dequine

In a place where we are allowed to dare speak our minds, we decided to have justice be our country's basis. Dr. Christine Ford stands under the scales that represent objectivity and in front of Colin Kaepernick, who is depicted taking a knee. Next to the double edged sword, people protest in front of the Supreme Court Building. But Lady Justice always stands in the midst of the chaos, promising to have justice forever prevail.

LUCY YUE
Who're you?
Lino Print

Grade 9
Valley Christian High School
Karen Dequine

Each day women face social prejudice on their age, ethnicity, and the fact that they're women. Every day is a challenge to overcome simply because they are women. Women are called names based on how they dress and how they look every single day. It's simply a fact. Because of the perspective with which the society looks upon women, their life is a constant struggle. Women unnecessarily need to prove their worth to the world.



1st Place in Printmaking

ESTHER ZHU
Enlightening
Lino Print

Grade 9
Valley Christian High School
Karen Dequine

The Statue of Enlightenment, better known as the Statue of Liberty, faces the challenge of representing all the ideals of a nation of unrest. How she does it, I really don't know. No matter what happens, even as the world falls to ruin, I know that the ideal of liberty dares to defy all else and stands strong through the wreckage. I know that enlightenment will resonate past the end of time and back.



2nd Place in Printmaking

YINGSHU ZHU

Retrieve
Lino Print

Grade 9
Valley Christian High
School
Karen Dequine

To me, it is daring to find my true self under the pressure of society and I've always been afraid that my honest self will be judged. In this picture, I'm looking into a mirror at myself. However, in the mirror, my reflection is twisted by hands, representing how society force us into something who we are not. Yet the action of reaching into the mirror and becoming who I truly am is frightening.





SCULPTURE

DANIEL CHUN

Dr. Dented
Sculpture
(ceramics)

Grade 12
Valley Christian High
School
Karen Dequine

Becoming a medical doctor is one of the most stressful decisions a person could make. Many physicians feel like robots, having to work long hours to give life to others. Blood stained hands, bloodshot eyes, and mental trauma leave a permanent mark on all hospital workers. They persevere through their sufferings while desperately trying to care for their many patients. Doctors dare to go throughout the world to seek the best treatment for all.



JIYEON CHUN

Ecdysis
Sweater, wire, plaster,
yarn, acrylic

Grade 12
Leigh High School
Kimberly Bartel

As our bodies grow bigger, the clothes we once routinely wore are no longer able to fit us: an "ecdysis", or shedding of the old skin. Similarly, we must "dare" to break out of the institutions that once sheltered us so comfortably - be it family, school, or a certain community.

1st Place in Sculpture

LOUISE de OLIVEIRA

Memory Cocoon
Other Chicken wire, screen door mesh, embroidery thread, photos

Grade 12
Notre Dame High School
Chris Johnson

This piece focuses on the fleeting nature of memories and the futility of attempting to hold on to memories forever. The "cocoon" represents the protections we have around our memories. The threads represent time altering memories wrapping around the cocoon and obscuring parts of the photos. Aside from personal photos, the photos used were found at a scrapyard. I found it interesting how these moments were precious enough to document but ultimately thrown away.



MARK FAIRWEATHER

Galaxy Painter
Sculpture (ceramics)

Grade 12
Valley Christian High School
Karen Dequine

Galaxy Painter is my desire to express creativity and be courageous in my life. Two symbols of infinite possibilities are the astronaut who represents the human traveler in infinite, unknown space and the paint brush that represents the arts as an expressive tool that transcends a personal idea and communicates to any being in the universe. As my creed, I will challenge myself to -

Dare to adventure,
Dare to reach outside my comfort zone,
Dare to seek the unknown,
Dare to do something that has never been done before,
Dare to not listen to society labels,
Dare to stand up for what I believe in,
Dare to be different,
Dare to lead and not always follow.

Judges' Recognition in Sculpture



ZEYU LI

Chairman
Other Upholstered chair, print collages

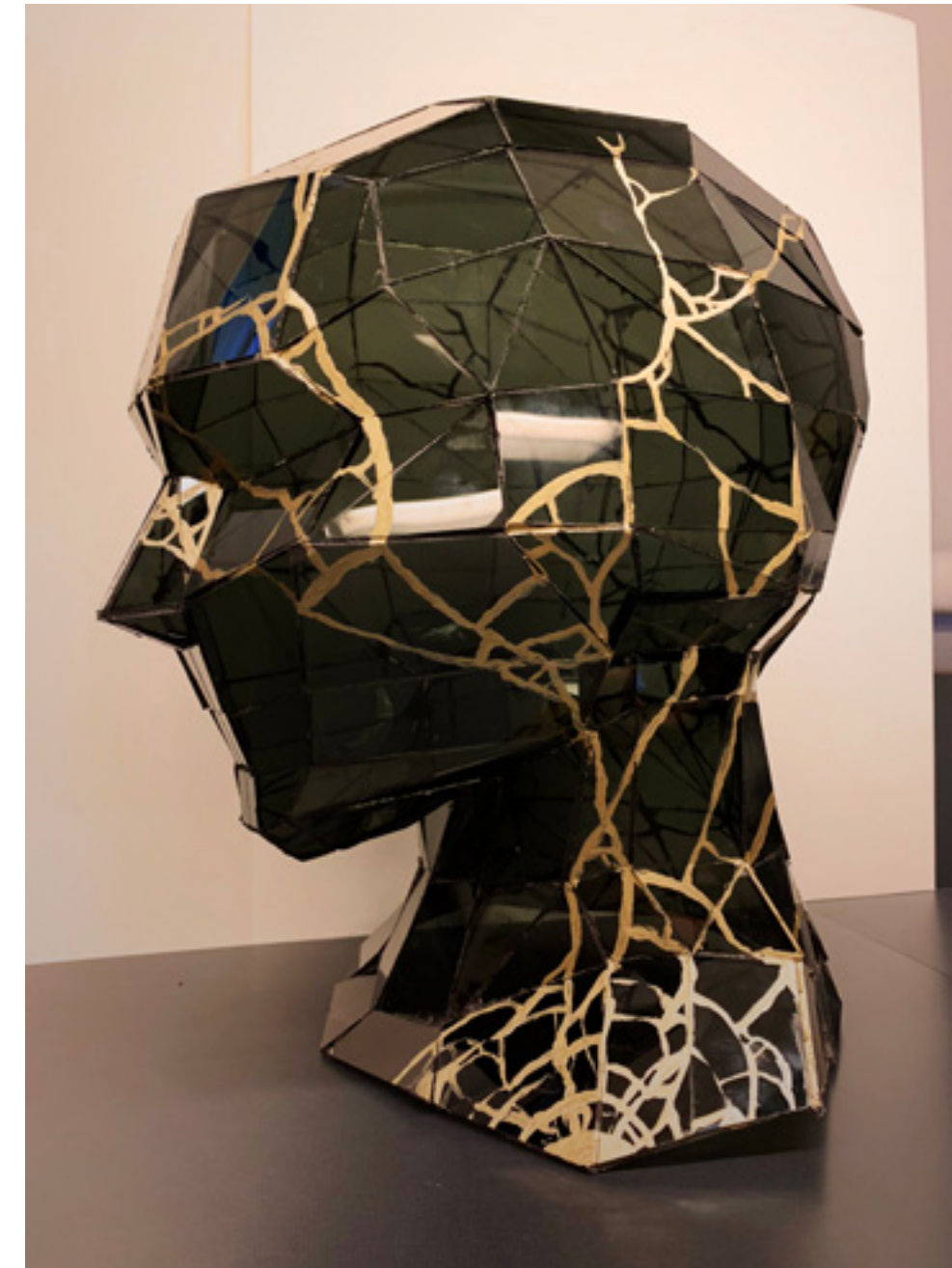
Grade 12
Los Altos High School
Christine An

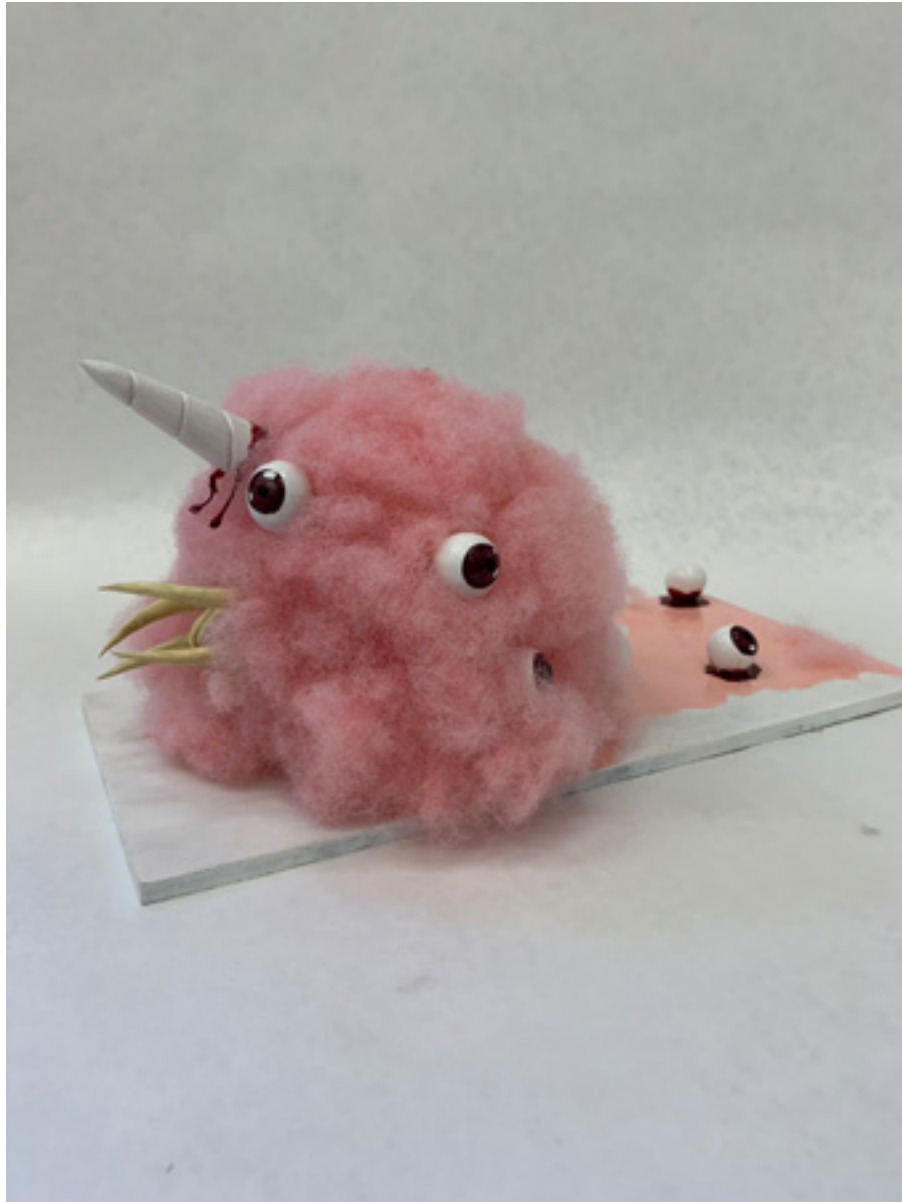
I dare to criticize my past. My background as a Chinese immigrant affects my experience in the U.S. As a child, propaganda filled my daily life, and I was forced to believe it because there was no other access to contrasting opinions. Governmental control is portrayed as a gift, a luxury for the masses. Despite the punishment and censorship, I dare to criticize the government's unjustified control over my life.

NATALIE MOHR
How the Light Gets Out
Other Sculpture (acrylic)

Grade 10
Los Altos High School
Christine An

I've had anxiety for my entire life, and depression for a good portion of my recent years. For me, even the simplest tasks can seem daunting which makes me feel inadequate, broken. The stained glass represents the fragility of myself, whereas the golden cracks demonstrate the beauty behind the cracks and flaws. Mental illness will never be a beautiful thing, but I have become better for it, and that is where beauty can be found.





SARAH NEDWICH
Cotton Candy Nightmare
Other Polymer Clay,
Sponge, Fiber Fill, Wire,
Resin, Acrylic Paint, Wood

Grade 9
Los Gatos High School
Augustina Matsui

I dare you to consume what was thought to be a sweet, fluffy, innocent treat that has transformed into a horrific monster. I decided to create this monster because I wanted to change the way people viewed this popular dessert and have it perceived in a way that was opposite. By using polymer clay and painting techniques, I have created a realistic yet terrifying addition to my monster.



LUKE SAGE
Earthling
Other RPU 3D print plastic
and spray paint

Grade 11
Los Altos High School
Christine An

When I was younger, I loved to stare at the stars and dream of visiting them. As time passed and the reality of life set in, that dream seemed to become distant. The teddy bear that the space-helmeted boy is holding anchors him to Earth, far from the stars he dreams of. But he continues to hope in the face of reality, defying the disappointments of reality for the joy of his dreams.

2nd Place in Sculpture

NINA STINNETT
Carp-e-Diem
Sculpture (glass)

Grade 12
Prospect High School
Mark Fisher

Breaking free from societal norms is a daring thing to do as society looks down upon this endeavor. My piece depicts this bold challenge. The fish are attempting to escape the confines of the bowl which represents daring to break out of the expectations that society has imposed upon them. The frit (small fragments of glass circling the rim) symbolizes taking a risky, additional step; one that shatters the oppressive concept of normality.



NIDHI TALASU
Small but mighty
Sculpture (ceramics)

Grade 12
Valley Christian High School
Karen Dequine

I chose to depict a rabbit because although they are typically known to be timid creatures, they can also have a courageous side. Even though they are prey animals, they still dare to venture far out for food and defend their territory. The rabbit represents me as while I appear timid and shy on the outside, I still dare to stand up for what I believe in.

VIDEO/ANIMATION



AMANDA CHAN

Type One
Video

Grade 12
Los Altos High School
Christine An

I dare you to redesign all your ideas around type one diabetes. It's uncomfortable visits to the nurse, endless buzzing and beeping of an insulin pump, embarrassment in hiding it from those you care about. Welcome to the fantasy land of living with diabetes. I hope you enjoy your stay.

1st Place in Video/Animation



ALICE CHEN

Closing In
Video

Grade 12
Cupertino High School
Alice Cunningham

This piece is about struggles in the mind and the bravery it takes to open up about those struggles. Being an introvert, it's difficult to open up to others, especially about uncomfortable topics such as mental health. But it's definitely worth being honest to those who are there to help.

I poured carbon black into a water-filled fish-tank to get the effect of the black closing in on the light, which symbolizes the mind.



RYAN WELLS
Death or Endeavor
Video

Grade 11
Mountain View High School
Matthew Taylor

Running around in drainage tunnels and filming before sunset for three hours was quite the experience in filming this piece. But this was not the only toll that this film took on me. Before filming, thinking about the meaning behind the metaphorical imagery and unexplained information on screen was what caught my eye. Venturing into the unknown, is the most daring thing anyone can ever experience. Especially when the viewer is fearing for someone's life.

Thank You to Our Generous Sponsors



The Flick
Family



Valerie & John
Hopkins



Exhibition Catalogue Graciously Underwritten by



**Saratoga
Rotary**

NUMU

NEW MUSEUM LOS GATOS