Embracing our Differences 2018

"Spectrum" by Alex LaBonte
9th Grade, Venice High School

Lesson's Author:
Carol LaVallee-Sarasota County Schools
Artist Statement: The internet is a black hole. You can either get sucked in or dive in willingly. Social media is no exception. I see how people act and treat each other online. I created this piece to show that we can either build each other up or tear each other down.

"When you make someone feel small, you make yourself look foolish." - Katy Joseph, Ellenton, Florida
Artist Statement: We live in a world of diversity and we interact with diverse groups of people in our daily lives. Our streets, subways, malls, and parks are rich with diversity. In this new age of social media, we not only interact in person with people across all cultures, races, and religions, but we also communicate with diverse groups beyond our borders. Technology can connect us with the whole world, but it can also isolate us from the people nearest us.
Artist Statement: “Ripples” depicts the "monster" earth receiving a flower from a small child, who represents innocence and hope for the future. The title, “Ripples,” refers to how one small act of kindness can change the world—one small ripple at a time.

Hatred is a cage, kindness is the key. Dorian Carter, 6th Grade, Pine View School
Migration by Rafael Triana  
Paris, France

The strength of a nation is in its unity; the beauty of a nation is in its diversity.  Ancisha Lancaster, Kingston, Jamaica
Artist Statement: There is more to a person than their stereotype. Just get to know them!

More To A Person
by Kaylee Luna,
7th Grade, Laurel Nokomis School

Don't let them make you look away; face them with eyes of confidence and courage.
-Nuris Fanning, Bradenton, Florida
Artist Statement:
This work shows how people react differently to situations and to the world. One person is trying to destroy the flower; the other trying to nourish it. Every day, we have a choice to recognize and nurture the beauty of nature or to ignore or destroy it. I’d like this piece to inspire people to think more about our beautiful earth, which can still be saved.
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Questions or Comments-
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