



STUDENT CREATIVES

ABSTRACT

Spring 2024

WELCOME

Welcome to *Student Creatives!*

***Student Creatives* showcase the creative works of youth ages 15-19. In this edition, our sophomore issue, *Creatives* share works of the abstract. Whether written or drawn, we are excited to see the unique perspectives and talents of our young artists.**

Flip through the pages and be inspired!

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About In Reach, Inc.

Founded in December 1999, In Reach is a community-focused 501(c)(3) tax-exempt, non-profit organization. After 24 years of preparing students for college, work, and life, in 2024, we ushered in a new era with a refocused vision, mission, and guiding principles to broaden our impact.

Driven by the belief that learning unlocks potential, In Reach equips individuals to become powerful advocates for themselves and their communities. By activating networks, providing resources, and building collaborative partnerships, we create an environment where individuals can "level up" and unite for a cause, creating a ripple effect of empowered voices and collective action.

Our Guiding Principles

- We value learning and open access to information.**
- We value health and enhancing the social, emotional, and well-being of people.**
- We value investing in youth and young adults as sources to a better future.**
- We value advocating for justice and equity to affirm the dignity and work of marginalized people.**
- We value holding institutions accountable for doing what they say they will do.**

About Teens Talk Network

It all started with a show. Planned before the coronavirus pandemic, Teens Talk Television kicked off right in the confusion of it during the summer of 2020, with the production of five episodes - Voting, Social Justice, Mental Health, Money, Life After High School - and two amazing interns, Madison Harris, now a graduate of Howard University, and Solange Muller, currently a senior at Temple University. We pivoted quickly from studio recording to Google Meet and made it work. Thanks to the continued support of Parks and Recreation, M-NCPPC, Teens Talk Television has expanded to Teens Talk Network (TTN) and includes *Student Creatives*, a forthcoming podcast, and much more.

Focusing on youth aged 16-24, Teens Talk Television captures youth voices in conversations about their growth and experiences as they navigate their journey to college, at work, and through life. A recorded show, Teens Talk Television shares a variety of stories, perspectives, and discussions relevant to high school-aged youth, young adults, and a range of individuals supporting teens and young adults in becoming healthy, productive, and prepared citizens. Watch the most recent season, *The College Experience*, on our website.

Meet Our Spring 2024 Student Creatives

We are so excited about our
sophomore class of Creatives.

The stars aligned again
and illuminated seven
bright supernovas.

Artists, poets, photographers, and
essayists responded with their
creative interpretations
and the world is a
more colorful and better place
as a result.

Student Creative

RYAN REED

**DR. HENRY A. WISE, JR. HIGH SCHOOL
UPPER MARLBORO, MD**



“I enjoy writing, reading, running, knitting, and playing the violin. I am very interested in student leadership, advocacy, and increasing student involvement. I want to become a lawyer. I believe words have the power to change the world.”

**POEM: Standing Perfectly Still
How it feels to lose someone as you grow up.**

Standing Perfectly Still

by Ryan Reed

**i watched the clock as my father's words echoed in my head.
i watched the clock as my gums bled.
i watched the clock as my legs ached.
i watched the clock as my heart burned.
i watched the clock as my elbow snapped.
i watched it as i stood still through it all.
my mind stood still with me.
i froze, and watched time revolve around me.
The clock spun and when i watched it, it ran circles around me.
i blinked and years passed, another blink and a decade went by.
i stood still watching it, my lungs crumbled,
my legs elongated, my hair grew, but my mind
my mind
my mind
my mind stayed the same.
people tried to force their way into it i kicked them out
watched them fall out of my ears and
time still sped up the same.
Today i saw a stranger
I saw a stranger and i knew their name
I knew their favorite color
I knew their heart
They slowed down time
They rivaled the sun with their smile
Today i saw a stranger and passed him
i felt his eyes burn a hole into my face
the eyes that used to melt my heart Today
i saw a stranger and left
Just like that
I no longer stood still
I moved fluidly
Just like that
Time started again
except i felt every agonizing minute of it.**

Student Creative

TIWALOLUWA DAPO-ADEYEMO

**HENRY E. LACKEY HIGH SCHOOL
INDIAN HEAD, MD**



“In the fall of 2024, I will head to college to study Business Administration. I’m heavily involved in local community service and government volunteer work to stay in touch with my city. I love to try all kinds of teas and read all kinds of fictional books! I have a special interest in Shounen and Josei anime, along with fashion and interior decoration.”

Model Study 9: (referenced work) Organic pastels from a professional fashion model’s shoot!

The Witch’s Brew: (original work) A young witch, brewing her concoctions under a full moon!



Juna

3-7-22



Tiina

Student Creative

DANIEL ALAWODE

DR. HENRY S. WISE, JR. HIGH SCHOOL
UPPER MARLBORO, MD



“This art piece was from my 10th grade year in the class. Art 2. My final exam was to create an abstract representation of yourself or the things in the world around you. To be honest, I didn't even know what to draw so I just put a bunch of random things together because that was my definition of abstract. **Something hard to understand but intriguing to look at.**”

Daniel
Adams
USA



Student Creative

KATHERINE DEWHURST

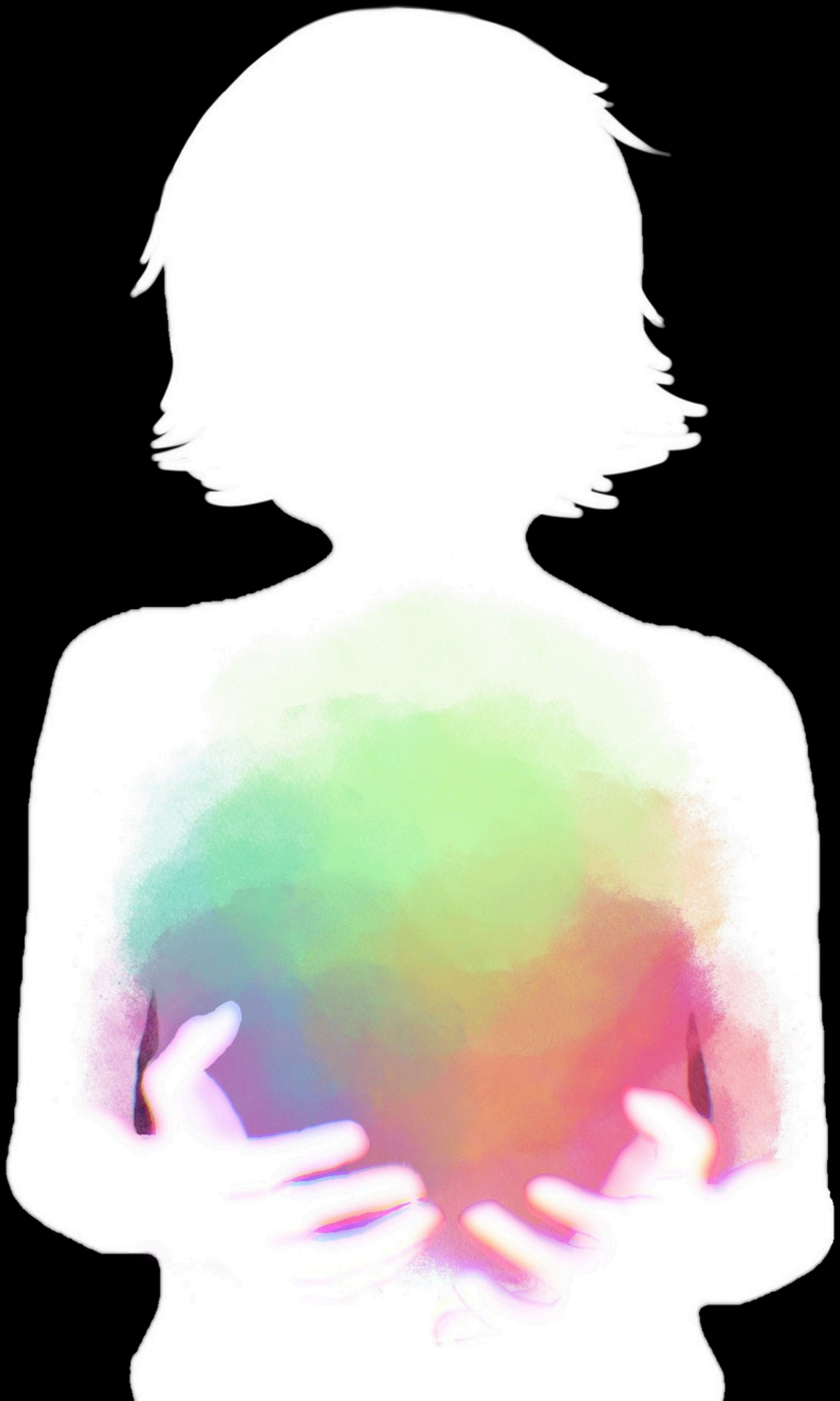
HOMESCHOOLED, MD

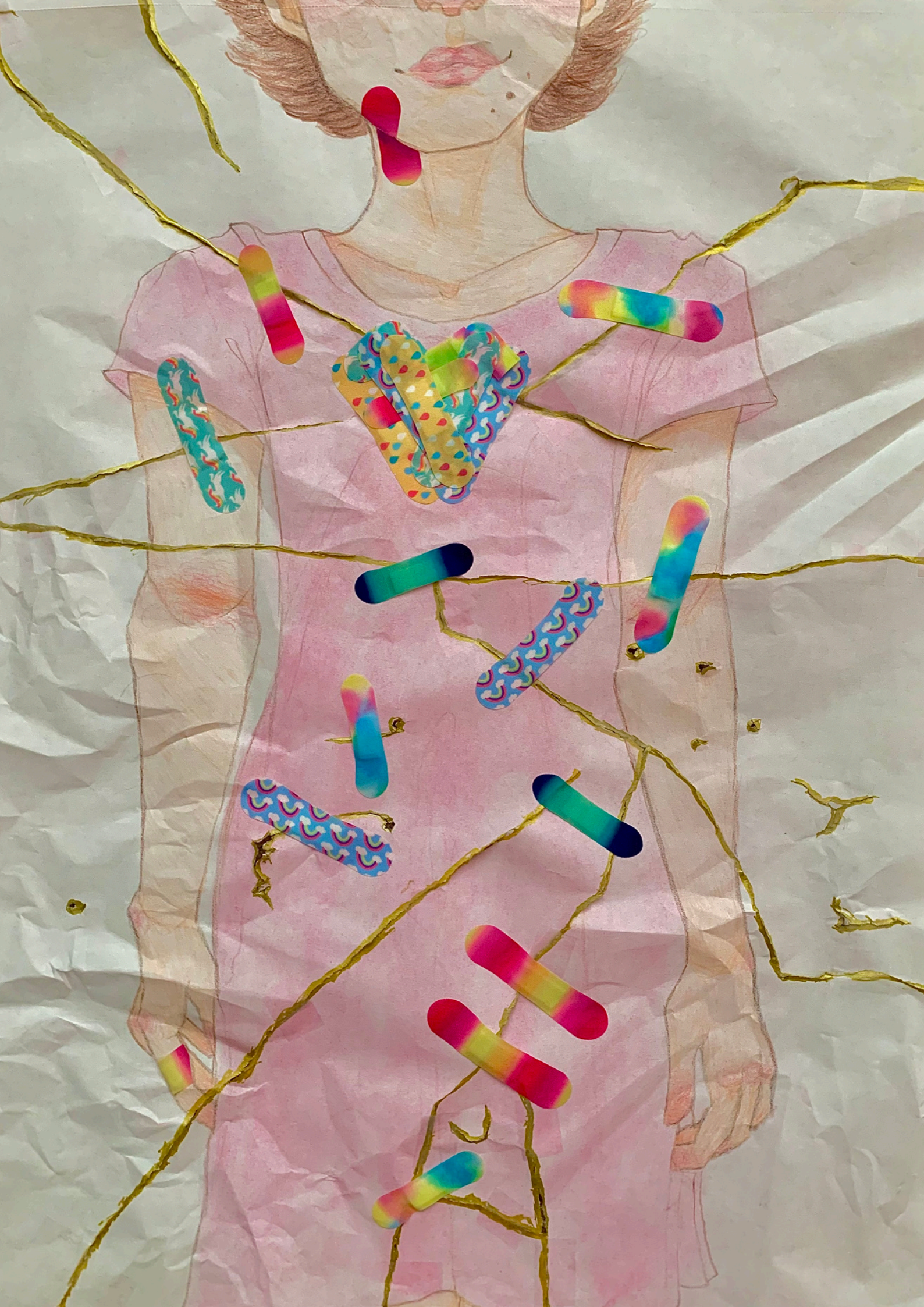


“Katherine has loved art and drawing since they were very little and has filled many sketchbooks in their desire to improve. They plan to start a career in designing book covers and their hope is to also work in character design and to publish a graphic novel series.”

Gender: A visual representation of how I feel about my gender identity.

Survivor: We are shattered but still beautiful and whole.





Student Creative

KEWANNA LOWERY

**FAIRMONT HEIGHTS HIGH SCHOOL
GREATER LANDOVER, MD**



“Ever since I was young, I've aspired to be a renowned photographer who could travel the world and photograph places and people in a way no one has done before. I want to learn new techniques, styles, and unheard-of directions to take with my photos. My goal is to capture moments and speak without words through my photographs. I started taking pictures of my family when they asked me to. Now I'm preparing to go to school for it in two years.”

Photography: Soothing Nature, Dying Trees



Student Creative

BAYRON MARTINEZ

**LAUREL HIGH SCHOOL
LAUREL, MD**



“ My full name is Bayron Josue Martinez Rivera, but I prefer to go as Josue Rivera, which is my middle name and second last name. I use these as my poetic signature “~J.R.” I have 3 dreams which are to become an artist, writer, or model, because in all of these categories, I know I can express myself, and the things I find beauty within.”

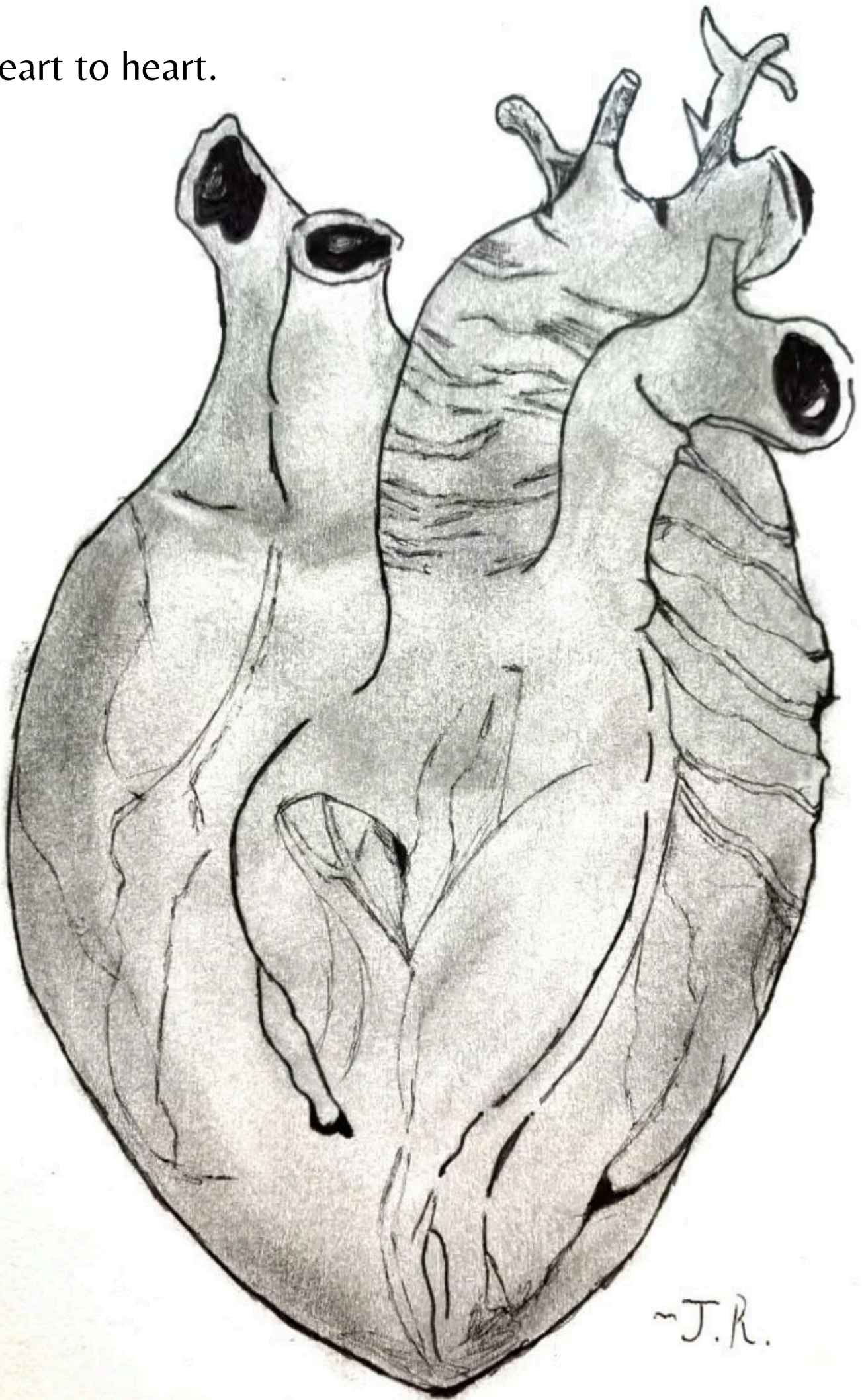
“I love writing poetry because I can share and express my feelings to people, finding how my simple yet well-spoken words can become very relatable between me and others.”

Heart to heart.

~

Poem: Invisible ink, inspired by a difficult attachment in relationships.

Heart to heart.



Invisible ink

07/19/23

You were the ink and i was the pen.

I wrote and marked your words into my body.

Every part you said you loved.

And everywhere, where you once kissed, marking the
shape of your lips

Into my skin.

My body is full of invisible tattoos,

With your name being written right in my chest.

Your fingerprints are marked in these hands that you once
held.

But now there is no more ink for me to use.

So when i look in a mirror, i only see every tattoo i once
made using your ink.

~J.R.

Student Creative

JAYDEN VIA

**LAUREL HIGH SCHOOL
LAUREL, MD**



“When I first started drawing, I used to draw the video game characters in the games I played like Mario and Link. As I got older, I began watching anime and animated movies which inspired me to start drawing different types of characters from many different series such as Demon Slayer, all the different Spiderman characters, and SpongeBob characters.”

Drawing of Miles Morales's Spiderman



Like Student Creatives?

Make a secure donation to help us continue to showcase and support the creative work of our incredible youth.

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