

**IDENTITY 37**

This book was written by the sophomore students in Linda Yaron's English class and printed in November 2015 at

826LA,  
12515 Venice Blvd,  
Los Angeles, CA 90066.

Designed by: Jenny Song

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**826LA**

www.826LA.org

Echo Park  
1714 W. Sunset Blvd  
Los Angeles, CA 90026

Mar Vista  
12515 Venice Blvd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90066

Education  
 The J. Paul Getty Museum  
at the Getty Center

**Community Photoworks** is a collaboration between the J. Paul Getty Museum's Education Department, the nonprofit writing and tutoring center, 826LA, and a Title I secondary school in the Los Angeles Unified School District. We invite students to discover contemporary photography and the depths of their artistic and creative potential—but the students don't embark on this journey alone.

This year, sophomore students in Linda Yaron's English class took on the project. Students partnered with artist Tomoko Sawada, who spoke with them about her innovative and unique self-portraits that explore persona and identity. Students were able to connect what they had been learning in an identity unit in English class with the perceptions that can be made about one's identity through photographs. Students took a curator-guided tour of *The Younger Generation: Contemporary Japanese Photography* exhibition at the Getty and were able to see Tomoko's work firsthand, as well as dozens of portraits from the Getty's permanent collection up close in the study room. Afterward, students were tasked with creating their *own* self-portraits, using the knowledge and techniques they had learned.

Staff and volunteers from 826LA then worked with students over several sessions to select a single portrait for the exhibition and author multiple drafts of their artist statements, until each one eloquently stated the intention and power behind their work.

The final result is *Identity 37*, an exhibition that showcases students' creative energies and invites the viewer to piece together their own interpretation of each student's identity.

View the student gallery online at: [bit.ly/identity37](http://bit.ly/identity37)



# Cameron Rogers

This photograph captures an inner struggle that defines me as a person. On the left is the good man, the rule maker, the persecutor, the man in the light, the “suit.” On the right is the bad man, the rule breaker, the accused, the man of the shadows, the “prisoner.” The internal struggle between good deeds and bad actions is personified by the white light on the left and the dark picture on the right. Every decision and challenge I face brings about this confrontation, but ultimately, it’s up to me to decide who ends up leaving the table, victorious.



*The Choice*



# Ashley Castellon

I see my portrait as a motivation. It represents the ups and downs I go through to get to where I want to be in life. They can either make or break me. The portrait displays myself going down steep stairs at the Getty Museum. There will be obstacles trying to make me go down those stairs as I get closer to the top. At the top of the stairs lies success and happiness. It's normal to get knocked down a few times, but the important thing is to never give up and to always follow my dreams. It may be a long journey to get to the top, but it will all be worth it.



*Success*



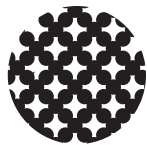
# Sabrina Malinda

When I'm at CIMI, I feel people can truly see me. This is a photo of me wearing a shirt that has my camp's logo on it. I took this self portrait of me because my camp represents me in many ways. There, I am able to try new things that I wouldn't feel as comfortable doing in my normal environment. At camp, I have a clean slate and I don't feel obligated to justify anything

I do because it's a judgement-free zone. Everybody accepts the craziness that is camp without thinking twice. I decided to focus on the shirt only for this self portrait because even though I am only at camp for a short time, I'm always thinking about it, knowing I'll be back soon. On the small island of Catalina, I am the best reflection of myself; real.



*See Me at CIMI*

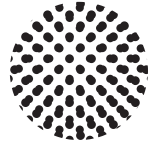


# Joseph Yacoub

My artwork represents a Christian minority in Egypt. The cross on my wrist was used in Ancient times by Arab Conquerors to differentiate between Christians and Muslims. This is similar to when Jews had to wear the Jewish Star to differentiate between Jewish and "Aryan" in Nazi Germany. Now, millions of Coptic Christians get the cross tattooed on them as a symbol of pride. I feel that the cross is very powerful because it is a sign of resilience. Until this day, many Copts are discriminated against and have no options, yet they stay strong and continue wearing the cross. My brothers and sisters are persecuted while I live a lavish life in comparison. For this reason I wear the cross to symbolize support. I feel that it embodies my life, my culture, and my religion.



*Coptic is Me*

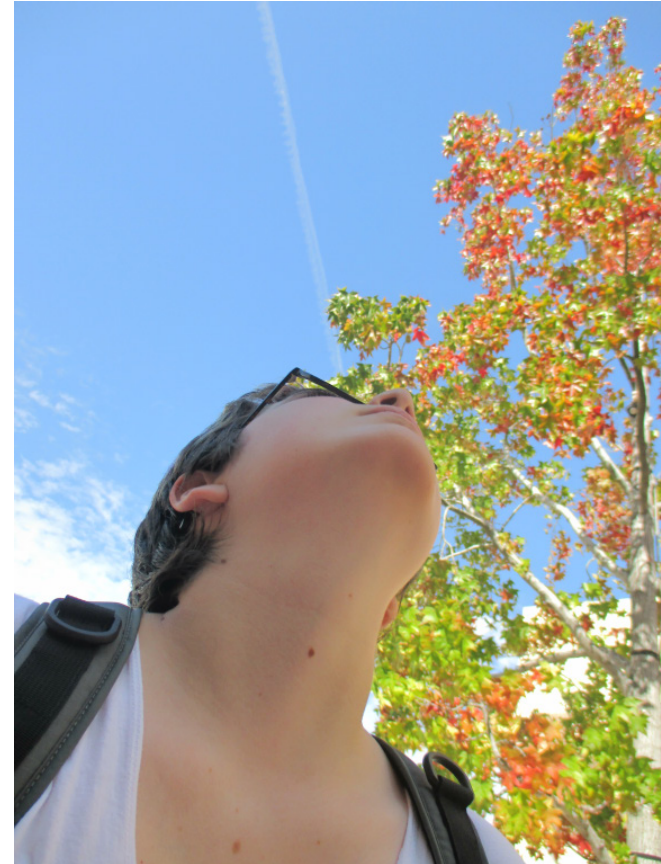


# Rose Upton

My photo went differently than what I had planned for it. I was walking around at the Getty and decided to take a selfie of myself and the sky. Right before the camera clicked, a friend called my name, forcing my head to look up at them. Then SNAP! The photo was taken and my idea twisted.

In a way this photo represents the small moments in life that have big impacts. At the time I didn't think about looking up in the photo but by not looking at the camera it gives the

photo a feeling of unity. It also gives the photo some movement, I look like I'm going somewhere or have something more important to do than stop for a picture. The background has so much empty space that it balances out my body without causing symmetry. What I find the most interesting is my body language. As I said before, it appears I have somewhere to be, but you cannot tell where I'm going or where I've been. The photo is a literal snapshot of a moment in my life, a story that has no end and no beginning.



*A Thousand Words*



# Enoque Huh

People often don't see themselves as they actually are. They may perceive themselves as better or worse looking than they actually are. The key is to authentically see oneself exactly as we are. This picture is spontaneous, accidental, unplanned, and not staged. It represents me doing homework and writing on my notebook when my friend Angie took a picture of me in fish-eye mode, without anyone noticing. It shows what my "resting face" looks like, what I look like in real life, in a fish-eye mode. My face looks like an egg, covering most of the paper, distorting the picture of how I look and who I am. By exaggerating the fish-eye mode, it makes a new perspective of myself more visible and attainable. Understanding new views and takes of the face, we can understand ourselves as humans better in a way never seen before, ironically, by distorting our faces.



*Fish-Eye*





# Julie Han

Walking towards the tree,  
The branches of opportunity.  
Society lays them out for you.  
Always having to follow through.  
Fight their words, fight them hard  
It's time for you to find your start.

Komorebi is a Japanese word which means sunshine filtering through the leaves of trees. I believe that komorebi represents the act of removing the negativity in an individual's life, leaving them with all the possibilities of leading their own life. For me, in my life, this means countering the expectations which are thrown at me and accepting those which positively shape me as a human.



*Komorebi*



# Angelica Blanco

I see myself—a piece of my identity—in my sister. In this photo, her facial expressions look sassy, and you can read what she's thinking, like she's a tad bit annoyed, frustrated and impatient. At that moment, my dad had taken my sisters and me to the bank, and since he was taking a while, she was fussing that she wanted to go home because she was bored and sick of waiting. I, on the other hand, didn't want to say anything so I wouldn't frustrate my dad. She is just a little kid, and blurts everything she feels. She's so honest with her emotions. The intensity of the bright blue color

of her shirt and how she's positioned right in the middle of the image makes it seem like she is the only one in the room...and that's exactly how you feel as a child—you want everything and all eyes on you. As I've gotten older, I've learned to suppress my feelings or things I want to say aloud, in fear of disappointing anyone. This is unlike children, who have the freedom to say anything that is on their mind, and are truly their authentic selves. And that's what I see in my sister, a piece of myself that wishes to freely say anything. For Dayanara, my sister, says the things I cannot say.



*Freedom Of A Child*



# Saad Hamid

Sight.

We take it all for granted  
Our eyes are enchanted  
Some don't have it  
So make the most of it.  
We see what is authentic  
We see our goals and dreams  
No matter how it seems  
Just lean.

Sight is the most important feature in many people's lives. Some don't have sight, others have different vision. Believe it or not, sight is how we describe people and discover first impressions of them. Perspective is a significant trait we all have and sight influences our perspective. I have perspective through my eyes but sometimes it comes down to more than that. Sight has significance.



*Sight*



# Justin Nicolas

Most think life, from beginning to end, is a great stretch of time. To me it's the opposite, a short hallway. The more time I spend not moving, the more time I waste living in emptiness. Going forward, I've been pushed to accomplish more throughout the time I have. I've settled for going forward.



*Life*



# Taylor Itagaki

Shadows go unnoticed... just like my desire for freedom. This photograph depicts my inner self reaching for the liberty that I so deeply need. This is a corner of a mural I pass every day at school, and this word always jumps out at me. I like that you can tell I'm reaching for the word free... is it out of reach or will I finally get a hold of it? It's a suspenseful photo that catches your attention and makes you wonder if I am going to get my freedom or not. The asymmetrical composition makes it more dynamic and makes one have to look more deeply at the photo to really understand it. All my life I have felt confined, as if someone or something is holding me down. If it's not my parents ignoring my feelings and keeping me from living life the way I want to, it's everyone else judging

me for being myself and not seeing why I do the things I do. Without freedom one cannot dare greatly to the best of one's ability. If I had the freedom that I so deeply want, I would feel less stressed about making others happy and I would focus more on making myself happy. Feeling as if I can't be myself all the time is tough and my soul can't take it any longer. When looking at this photo, I hope that people notice how much I want to be set free from all the expectations I am obligated to fulfill. I'm always that one person that just goes with the flow but my inner self is exhausted from doing what everyone else wants to do and not what I want to do. I do matter and people need to know this.



*Unnoticed*



# Abraham Eshetu

I noticed and approached a wall of windows with a see-through curtain hanging over them. I tried to see the skyscrapers, the cars and the highway, but I couldn't because the curtains were blocking my view. I thought that moving to the shade and changing my point of view would help, but it just made the view darker. As I stepped closer and closer to the light, the view was getting clearer and I realized that changing my perspective

on the world is determined by my personality. The shadows in the photo symbolize the darkness of someone's personality, meaning the anger, the hate, the jealousy and all that is bad in the world. Walking towards the light means joy, happiness, love and all the optimism in the world. I walk confidently towards the light, the window to my soul.



*Window to the Soul*



# Gracie Globerman

As you look at a person's hands, you can infer a lot about what they do and who they are. Are they working hands? Are they manicured? Although what is shown on the outside is the first thing one notices and judges about a person, what is on the inside is what matters and what should shine. This image includes two interpretations of one main idea. When analyzing the details of the hands, one can infer many things about me. The sparkle of the rings, interrupted

by the rough calluses on the palm paint a picture of my life, yet my story is not complete. The shadow is blank and unrecognizable. Nothing can be said about me looking at that part of the image, but maybe that is what's best. The most important thing about a being is within the depths of that person, and must be discovered through.



*Broken Hands*



# Joshua Shin

Life is full of hobbies and objects that we can relate to. However, for me, I identify my life to a piano. There are high and low tones on the piano, and just like a piano life is full of highs and lows that we have to face. Pianos, whether it be an upright or a grand, generate music but have different sound and quality. Similarly, some are people but we all have something that makes unique and different. The music we play on the piano expresses our feelings, just as how our body language reflects our emotions. Life is full of sound and life and the only the only way to stay in tune is to follow the keys.



*The Pianist*





# Sarah Melgar

As I passed by this flower, its beauty drew me to it. I almost missed it because of how fast I was walking. It was then that I realized how everything worth admiring in life takes time to really appreciate. The world we live in today is so fast paced that almost no one slows down to appreciate the most beautiful things that life has to offer. Many may not realize it but slowing down is crucial to enjoying life, I myself try to slow down as much as possible because if I don't, I forget that life is beautiful and worth living, I end up getting so wrapped up

in my work that I become mad and irritated all the time. Slowing down reminds me of all the things that are going right in my life, allowing me to refresh and put 100% of myself into everything I do. Sometimes the most beautiful things are in our everyday lives and we just don't notice them. How many beautiful things go unappreciated in your life?



*The Things That Are Worth It*



# Brooklyn Reed

Music is the gateway to my soul. It's like food for it; it helps me grow and shapes my personality. You can say I'm highly influenced by it, but in the right terms. It helps me control my emotions. There's a song for everything I'm feeling. There's even a song I listen to when I feel like giving up. It motivates me to keep going and pushing on. That song is "Devil May Cry" by The Weeknd. My favorite lyric from it is "You'll put a smile upon their faces, the world will be yours for the taking, the story you birth will be ageless, just learn to love pain and be patient." This means to me that I'll get through the hard

times, just keep prevailing and I'll see the light at the end of the tunnel. When you look at my photograph, you see The Weeknd, Drake, Lana Del Rey, Frank Ocean, and Jhené Aiko on posters. Those are the artists who inspire me to continue to look for the light. I listen to them when I feel not like myself. Their music brings me joy and happiness and peace. It brings me to a place where I can forget all my worries and live stress free. Their music helps me create a world where nothing bad happens and all I need to visit that place is my headphones.

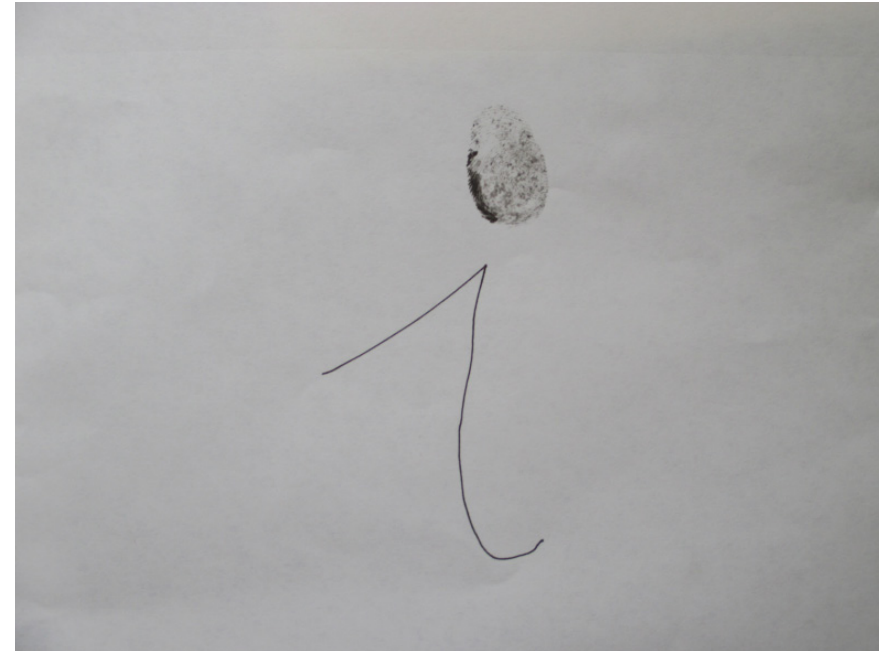


Gateway

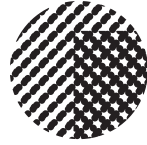


# Jack Sullivan

My self portrait titled “i” actually originated, and was inspired by a poem. The poem demonstrated how something personal, for example a fingerprint, could be used to personalize something in a way that nothing else could. Something that nobody else could copy. The idea was that, my fingerprint is unique in that no one else in the world could have exactly the same picture as i. The fingerprint really made the image special and embodies everything i am. A fingerprint is yours; it cannot be copyrighted or plagiarized. It cannot be taken or copied; It is mine, and only mine.



*i*

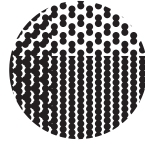


# Jack Koscheka

This is a picture of my foot which symbolizes running. Humans are animals made for distance running. Running is something I just could not live without. The leaves and branches symbolize the nature involved in running. Cross country is a sport that originates from nature and utilizes distance. It is a sport of teamwork, even though it is thought of by most as a solo sport. You must realize your teammates' strengths and weaknesses in order to overcome them as a team. It teaches us many real life struggles while keeping us fit. Just like life; sometimes you hate it, sometimes you love it, but either way you have to continue moving forward.



XC



# Andrew Ramirez

It was a usual school morning and I was going to school. The only thing that was different was that I had to take a self-portrait for the art exhibit. As I went through my daily routine to get ready to get ready for school I took random shots of myself in my home and near my home in Los Angeles, California in Westwood. I took this picture in an alley of a rear view mirror that I pass everyday. This picture shows the daily routine of a high school teenager had to do to get ready for school.



*Morning*



# Manuel Diaz

Life in the city moves too fast  
sit down, try to relax.

This is my home, city of Los Angeles where I grew up. I'm a 15 year old boy in search of a successful future. I live in a big world for a kid my size. Los Angeles gives me lots of opportunities to make something of my life. I just need to take advantage, especially knowing I'm still young kid. *Todo lo que necesito es echarle ganas*, the desire to do great. To be honest, I don't know what I'm supposed to do. It's a big world out there, so many things to do with my life. Los Angeles is the city in which many people come to strive, and I know I will do something amazing.



*Life*



# Lenin Hernandez

Sports teams in the freshman year of high school can help you get friends. When you're a freshman, you may not know everyone, but throughout the year you get to know everyone's names and you never forget them. Over the 4 years of high school, you tend to have a bond with those that you call friends and they can develop into being part of "your" family. They help you and push you to your limits when playing the sport — either football, baseball, soccer, track, or cross country.



*Friends*



# Maryam Taati

Ten years ago, a photo like this couldn't have been taken. Ten years ago, people would have to print out their photos to share them with other people. Today, I can take a picture on my phone or my computer and instantly upload it to Instagram or Snapchat so my friends can see it. Ten years ago, people could only talk to their family in person or over the phone. Today, I can video chat with my family that live on a completely different continent. I can see them without having to take a fourteen hour flight. Ten

years ago, most people could only learn from the small amount of books available to them. Today, I have the ability to search any topic on the internet and receive endless amounts of information on it. This photo shows my reflection through the screen of my laptop. It represents who I am today because of technology. Even though I appear to be alone in my room, I'm connected to the world through a thirteen-inch screen.



*Today*





# Brisa Cruz

I can see myself through this photo because art is a major part of my life. Growing up, it has helped me find my identity. Everything around me was inspiration to turn into art. I was always afraid of what others would think. To me, my art was ugly and not good enough, but over the years I have learned to embrace my art and not be afraid of the judgment. Everything around us is art, no matter if it's a photograph, painting, or a sculpture. I choose to express myself through a pen and a piece of paper. We all have different ways of expressing ourselves and I have learned to do it without being afraid. Art has helped me realize that I am enough and that being vulnerable to the judgment of others is a positive thing.



*Art Within Me*



# Gabriel Griffin

At some point, we all are faced with a challenge. A problem that has to be overcome in some shape or form. Much like a staircase, these small challenges can come one after another; the next one is usually higher in importance than the one before it. After reaching the top of the staircase, one may experience relief or exhilaration from the effort given to ascend the slope. The same feelings occur when one succeeds during their life, especially after a long journey up the stairway that everyone attempts to ascend: success. The end result is uncertain, oftentimes slightly blurred and hazy. Even previous challenges may become forgotten after the climb becomes longer and the end nears. Many others climb this same stairway, myself included. As a student and partially integrated citizen, the main hindrances I face are mainly my education as well as further including myself into society as a young adolescent. Many more face me in the years to come, and those I have previously encountered have been long forgotten, blurred away to keep them from distracting me from my main goal of achievement.



*Stairway to Success*



# Meleny Vasquez

Friendship. Not just any friendship, but an unknown friendship. An unknown friendship where no one's face, race, gender, nor age is shown. An image different from a regular picture where it makes it more personal and makes it have a story of its own. An image where it shows not only me, but others as well—that friendship is powerful and that many of us are never alone. Many of us are not alone, most of us have that one person who we trust and will always trust whenever we need to talk about an issue or so. An image where it shows that no matter what race or age you are a friendship is a friendship.



*Not Alone But With A Friend*



# Jennifer Ramirez

My picture presents many different aspects but it depends on the person viewing it on what it represents to them. For some, it could merely be a boy laughing. Yet to me it represents my life. It represents how I feel, what I'm feeling, and where. This is my life. It was just a photo I took in the moment. I feel like photos shouldn't be planned, but it should be a photo representing the moment. Photos should represent something more than a pretty picture with nice colors. It should make you think about it, it should make you wonder, question it. This is what I'm doing with my photo. It represents the people in my life, how we laugh together and how unstaged and raw everything was.



*Raw Happiness*



# Naomi Lumanauw

At the Getty Museum, we witnessed many types of self portraits: old and new, black and white and color, and abstract and literal. My self portrait is a picture of a picture on my phone of my best friend, Taylor and me at the Getty Museum. On the screen, there is a reflection of me. The reflection of me is a result of natural lighting from nature. The mixture of the natural reflection and digital image shows us that technology does not fill our lives with materialistic items, but actually connects people and friendships in many ways. I have known Taylor since we were in ninth grade. Our friendship has grown stronger due to the technology we have today. Our friendship started because of a group chat. Today, we are now able to talk to each other whenever and wherever. We always send each other funny pictures and videos and are always a phone call away. The composition of my self-portrait is deliberately casual, just like the kind of pictures Taylor and I share every day.



*Buddies*



# Francesca Cojuangco

Unexpected.

Lighting, improvised poses.

My theater friends, as usual, were excited to try something new.

5 times.

4 faces.

20 emotions.

The spotlight on me,

and these people are my feelings.

Up and down,

This and that,

Here and there.

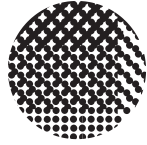
Happy, Confused, Sad,

All these faces—Me.

I hauled my body to the stage. Rehearsals were two and a half hours and home was my next destination. I felt tired and rehearsals were over, but I had to get this shot. Theatre is a part of me that's a positive distraction from life's boringness. I like to exaggerate my actions and show it and so I took off my mask that hid my emotions.



*What's the Drama?*



# Sarah Rios

Any book of baby names will tell you that the name Sarah means 'princess'. For me, princess became a sort of pet name growing up. But as I got older, the name was used less and less often.

This photo symbolized something that many teens have to go through at this point of their lives, coming of age. My expression and body language was meant to convey vulnerability and a little bit of fear. This was an important message for me to convey in my artwork because every day, I seem to be gaining more freedom. I am free to make my own mistakes and suffer the consequences on my own, but I am also free to begin discovering who I really am as a person. This piece represents my journey from princess, to Reina, the Spanish word for queen.



*Reina*



# Claire Hafteck

I felt that this photo was a strong visual representation of myself because I believe that in a world where we are often faced with negativity and darkness, the choice to be positive and go towards light lies in our hands. In my case, I tend to choose positivity and light. Through this photo I hope to convey that we are the deciding factor of our own destiny and future, and whether or not we want to stay in the darkness.



*Light and Darkness*





# Suu Suu Zhou

The pictured objects are inherently me, and blue happens to be my favorite. I am a time-centered person, and I fill it with drawing, writing, and drinking water, apparently. Blue is typically a gendered color, in favor of masculinity. However, all supposedly predetermined societal standards are not as solid as they seem. Until the 1940s, blue was a feminine color. In reality, though, colors are not and should not be gendered. Colors don't need to be gendered, and neither should people.



6:40:53



# Ikjae Youn

I am on the swim team and I go to practice every day. Because I go to practice every day, most people don't know that I don't actually like practicing every day. I was taking this picture thinking about swim practice that I had that day. This picture is important to me because this is my real face before a hard workout. This picture shows me the real side of me thinking, "I don't care about this!" To me, this picture shows the real side of me and also shows my real personality that most people don't know.



*The Real Me*



# Jackson Ross

My photo is a reflection of the world. It represents the trials that we go through as humans in today's society . Friends must be chosen wisely. Not everyone is what they seem. The choice of lighting definitely means something, but that part is open to interpretation. While this picture represents a world where good friends are scarce, not every photo has to represent something. If a photographer takes a picture of a blue sky, it's usually just a picture of a blue sky, not a metaphor for life and death, for example. If you enjoy this picture, on December 18th it will go on sale for \$350. But it only can be purchased by Kanye West, or his affiliates.



*Sunflower*



# Angelica Martinez

“If you’re walking down the right path and you’re willing to keep walking, eventually you’ll make progress.” Whatever I do in life, I have to be willing to not give up and keep walking. My picture captured what is my favorite saying to keep moving forward. The two people walking represent a decision on what path I can chose. I can keep walking and move forward or turn around and give up. It shows how I can chose success and how I have to follow the right path in order to be successful. When I look at my picture I feel motivated because it shows how success may be a long road to get to, but all the struggles and bumps I may face will be nothing compared to when I have reached success.



*The Path*



# Kara Temena

This photo resembles diving into the uncertainties in life. I dove headfirst, which I need to do in life to achieve great things. This photo shows that uniqueness is what true beauty actually is. That you don't have to be perfect to be beautiful. Quite the opposite is true. Originally, I was not going to choose this photo because my body looks disproportionate in it. However, the abstractness of the photo and the way the light reflects on the water, in truth portrays me by the uniqueness of it and my personality. In reality, the imperfection of the photo is a reflection of the perfection I find within my uniqueness. Though I might not know what I will get myself into in life, I confidently dive head first into all that may come.



*Submersion*



# Marel J. Pryor

In my self-portrait, I wanted to capture who I am as a person. I felt that having objects that represented aspects or parts of me was the best and most expressive way to do so. The cup was a gift from being in Debbie Allen's *Hot Chocolate Nutcracker*, which I have participated in for the past five years. It also ties into another part of the portrait, my leg and at the end the pointe shoe. These components represent my creative side because I am a dancer, and dance is considered an art form which requires an enormous amount of discipline. The book represents my nerdy side and exposes me for the bookworm that I am. I have had a passion for reading and a constant thirst for

knowledge for as long as I can remember. The last component is my track shoe which represents my athletic side. Even before I started dancing, I had always been athletic. My leg stretching across the picture is the glue that ties my creative, athletic, and scholarly sides together, making the composition as a whole fluid and dynamic. These elements not only express who I am as a person, but they also helped me flourish and mature into the young lady that I am. This portrait is titled *Stepping Stones*. The qualities that make up someone's personality are also the very things that helps one grow as a person, especially if those qualities have been with you since you were little.



## *Stepping Stones*



# Kenneth Beckford

As I stand in the field of life, I look forward into the far future and I can see my path clearly. In my peripheral vision is the near future, right under my nose. It is right under my nose, but it is blurred. And so my vision of the the world is advanced, but still flawed in an important way. I live my life fighting with a double edged blade: the good and bad of my handicap/advantage balances out, it is an interesting existence...



*My Strongest Weakness in My Weakest Strength*

# ABOUT 826LA

## AFTER-SCHOOL TUTORING

From Monday to Thursday, students rush to 826LA after school for free individual tutoring in all subjects. Once homework is completed, students read books from 826LA's library and write stories based on a monthly theme. Students submit their writing for inclusion in chapbooks, which 826LA publishes throughout the year. To celebrate students' hard work, 826LA unveils these chapbooks at book release parties, where students read their work to thunderous applause from their tutors, families, and peers.

## IN-SCHOOL SUPPORT

Because not all students can come to us, 826LA brings specially trained volunteer tutors into under-resourced public schools. There, volunteers provide one-on-one assistance with writing projects. 826LA works with teachers to craft all projects, which are designed to engage students while targeting curricular issues. In addition to visiting twenty schools in the Los Angeles Unified School District each year, 826LA has a satellite writing center at Manual Arts High School in South Los Angeles.

## WORKSHOPS

826LA's workshops bring students together with artists, writers, and professionals for creative collaboration. Whether the subject is journalism or preparing for the zombie apocalypse, our workshops foster creativity while strengthening writing skills. On Saturday mornings, 826LA's ongoing workshop for reading development, Barnacle's Bookworms, meets on both sides of town.

## FIELD TRIPS

Weekday mornings, public school teachers bring their students to 826LA for a morning of collaboration, creativity, and writing. Whether the topic is Storytelling & Bookmaking, Choose Your Own Adventure, or something entirely different, these three-hour field trips are always in high demand. Every student leaves with an individualized publication of the finished story under his or her arm, complete with illustrations and an author photo! One hundred percent of teachers report that their students take a new excitement for writing back to the classroom thanks to 826LA's field trips.

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