

BARRIERS BETWEEN US

A COLLABORATIVE ZINE OF ADOLESCENT
CREATIVITY, COMMUNITY, & RESISTANCE.

Barriers Between Us

The Henry Teen Art Collective

WELCOME!

Welcome!

The Henry Teen Art Collective is proud to present our zine: *Barriers Between Us*. This zine features teens from eighth grade to college from all over the Puget Sound Area who tell their stories relating to our theme through various mediums.

The collective wanted to produce a collaborative project that reflected opinions from teens, and decided that a zine would be most exemplary of this. We were making these decisions around and after the 2016 presidential elections, and with this in mind, we chose our theme: *Barriers Between Us*. We felt that it was important to us that a diverse group of people could share the barriers that they experience in their lives. Additionally, we wanted the input of teens outside of our collective group.

With this in mind, we put out a call for submissions and to our joy received over fifty drawings, paintings, photographs, poetry, prose, comics, and even a sculpture. We ultimately had to make hard decisions about which pieces to include, but we felt the ones we picked were the most thought-provoking and representative of our theme. We looked for insightful, nuanced approaches to detailing the struggles which inspired different artists.

We hope that the poems and artworks in this zine, both the ones from members of our collective and the ones from artists across the greater Seattle area, help you see different perspectives of the world, just like it did for us. We hope you enjoy *Barriers Between Us* as much as we enjoyed putting it together.

Love,

The Henry Teen Art Collective



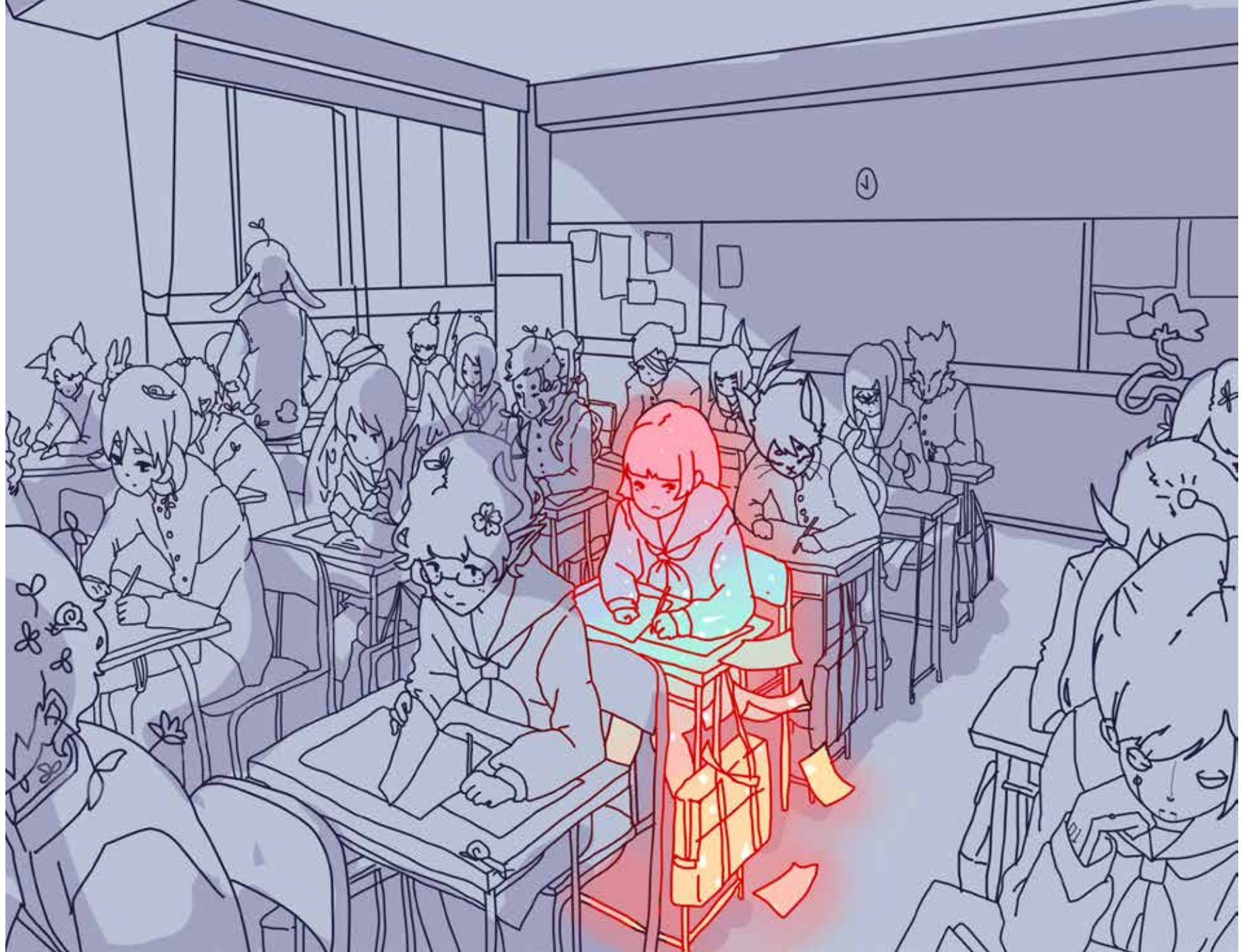
Henry Teen Art Collective Members 2016-2017

Back from left: Dakota Li, Marlowe Pody,
Max Anderson, Mya Johnson,
Viv Brannock, Ana Matsubara, Sam Tubbs,
Isabella Ortiz, Jeanette Velasquez

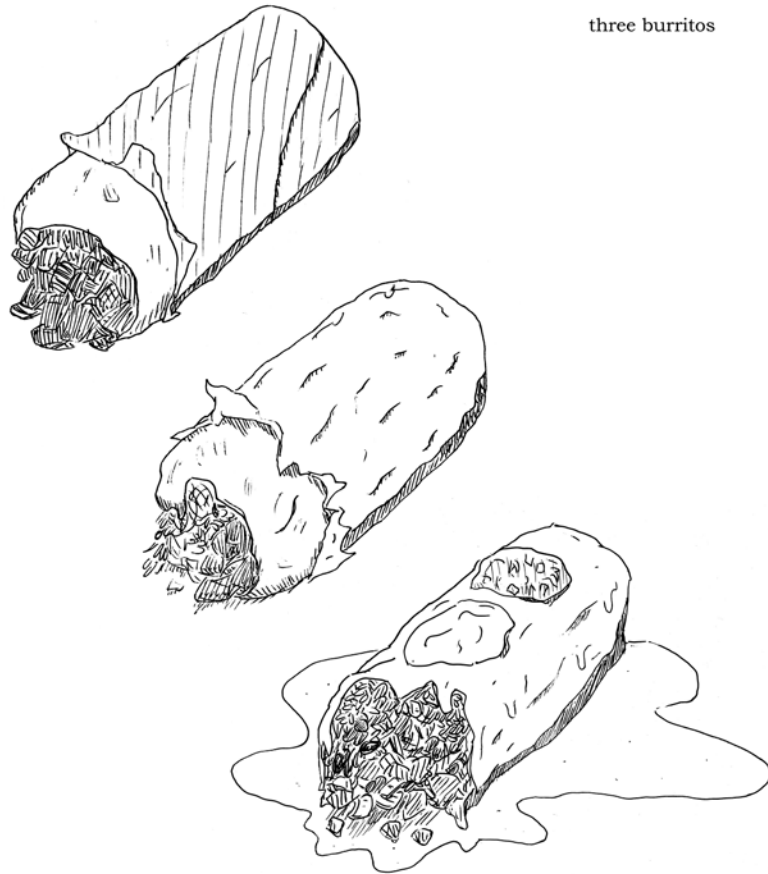
Front from left: Maki Nakano, Stella Xu,
Ludin Mejia Vasquez, Alex Kerr

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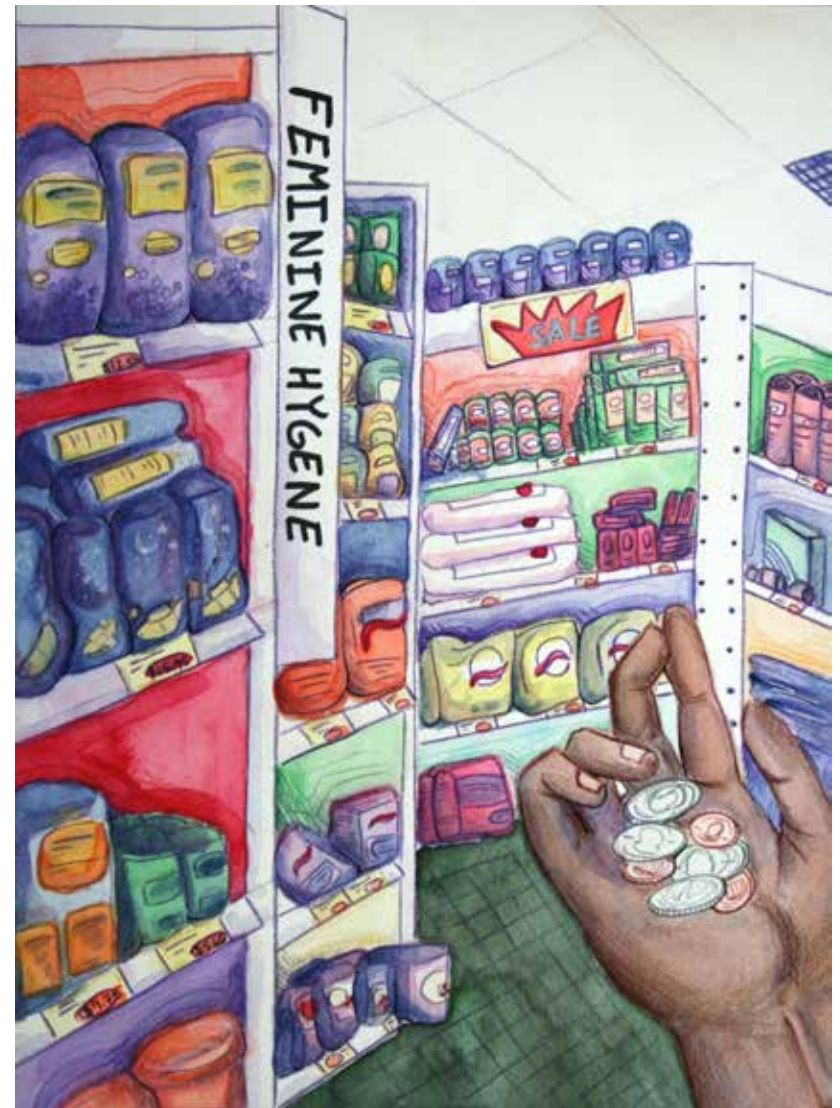


Maki Nakano. *Normality*. Digital.



three burritos

1. san diego - carne asada, pico de gallo, guacamole, paper
2. sf mission - carne asada, rice, beans, cheese, sour cream, tin foil
3. los angeles - ground beef, lettuce, cheese, wet with sour cream and guacamole



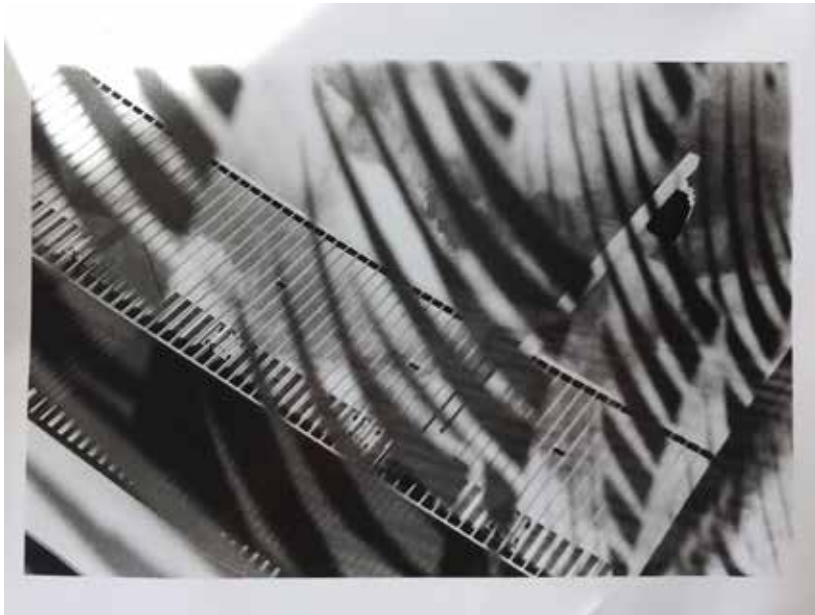
Tears Haiku

Falling shards of glass
Blue and white dissolve in rock
This is how I feel

Sitara Harmony Lewis. *Tears Haiku*.



Lucca Rader. *Perception*. Mixed media.



Sitara Harmony Lewis. *UW Station*. Photography.

IGNORANCE & TRUTH

IGNORANCE

For man is shrouded in an obscure fog
 And in his blindness and frustration
 his arms flail violently
 Groping, grasping nothing
 Lest he find a tree
 Whose great trunk seems to rise far above
 Tear it down
 He screams jealously
 For none may see where I cannot
 Tear it down
 He screams in terror
 As fingernails fall against splintered bark

TRUTH

For the man who chooses to climb
 Is liberated
 Let him, from his perch
 Witness the true beauty of the earth
 Yet let him also witness suffering
 For he too must suffer
 So that he may learn to understand
 So that he may climb farther into the beyond
 For the truth may never rest

Jackson Myers. *Ignorance & Truth*.

Reverse Poem

Softness, I mean
Everyone has it in them

But you know what?

My body is a prison
I grew up believing

softness would be my downfall
It's sad that I had such a strong conviction that
little could save me, and now

my ability for joy—
no match for

My predisposition to sadness

But my dad still told me about

a suicide attempt

At age eight, in dreams of
heavy darkness,

And yes, I learned the painful business of
“Simply being alive”

Being aware of my existence became
burdensome

Aspirations of my childhood no longer
rose

on the edge of seventeen
but

my mother cried
looking only at the evidence on my body

indulging apathy as coping

Avoided eye contact and unread messages and
No longer a belief in the notion of

“To lean into discomfort and thrive”
I had to learn how

To keep the broken parts of myself a secret

Covering up mirrors and turning the lights off with lovers
How I once adhered to

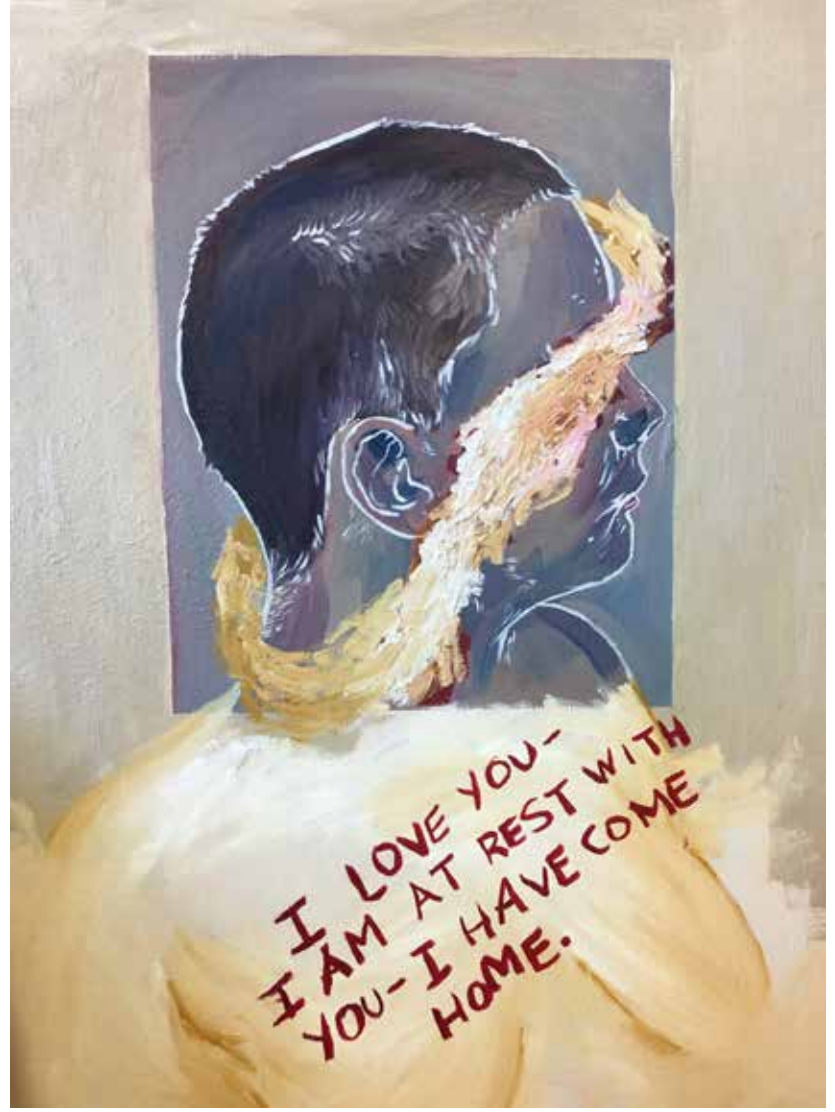
crying in my car/room/shower/closet silently
and never saying a thing about
the compulsion of self-resentment

The graveyard of my parents' hopes for me was inescapable, I let go of
Looking at my face, really looking at it, kept myself from accepting that

I have a future

Pain is inevitable, but
Everyone knows that
Being alive is tough

Every body is a little soft I suppose





Kristi Huynh. *Ultralight Beam*. Digital.



Javier Perez. *Untitled*. Collage and illustration.

Stale/Soul Mate

threads etched into my skin & a bluebird perched on my knee
 within the pressed leaves and protruding veins
 there is the proof of my heartbeat
 (and the imperfections within)
 there is truth in my eyes although I shield any attempts of contact with a cast-iron plate
 I apologize...the radioactivity of a stare burns an old scrape
 until it is shiny with new skin & blood red memories
 it is a reminder of the stalemate between me and gravity
 a lesson: gravity always wins said my seventh grade science teacher
 a question: but what if one day instead of kissing concrete I fly
 you look at me
 I am your time machine (a glimpse into the series of bruises and broken glass)
 I am light years away & I am alone
 my gaze is fixed on the trajectory of my spaceship
 condensation clouds my thoughts and windows
 I am planning my escape but –
 in my periphery I see you
 wearing a blur of a blue baseball hat
 I think you wave goodbye
 I will never know for sure
 the fog rises and rises, an iron wall, a new dimension
 and gravity wins

Sophie Poole. *Stale/Soul Mate*.



Sevena Guyer. *Pussy Grabs Back*. Photography.



Allison Zhang. *Reflection*. Painting.

How to Make A Human: Two alternative recipes for creating a beautiful human being*

Organic Recipe: is
(Creating from scratch)

Serving size: Typically 1, although some
circumstances may create 2

Total time: Roughly 25 years

Ingredients:

Sperm, 1
Ovum, 1

Instructions:

Insert sperm into ovum
Place in womb to develop until proper size is
reached, about 9 months
Monitor carefully during this time
Remove and allow to mature, about 18-25 years

Alternative Alchemic Recipe:
(Creating from a premade mix)

Serving size: 1

Total time: Roughly instantaneously

Ingredients:

Water, 35 litres
Carbon, 20kg
Ammonia, 4 litres
Lime, 1.5kg
Phosphorus, 800g
Salt, 250 g
Niter, 100g
Sulphur, 80g
Fluorine, 7.5g
Iron, 5g
Silicon 3g
15 other trace elements

Instructions:

Place all ingredients inside human transmutation
circle
Invoke an alchemical reaction

***disclaimer:** although all humans are made of the same
thing in the same way, slight natural variation may
occur in skin colour, arrangement of chromosomes,
neurological chemical balance, etc. While this is
completely normal and is not indicative of the content
nor character of a human, this variability may affect
ones' role in society



Binh Vo. *Flesh*. Drawing.



Marlowe Pody. *A Nervous Habit*. Watercolor.



Muhktar Omar. *Untitled*. Collage.



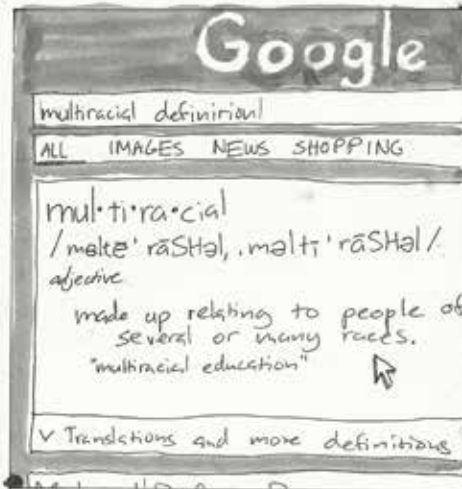
10% of students in the Seattle Public School system are multiracial.



6.9% of people in America are too.



So what does "multiracial" mean?



beyond what the Google Search says?



For me, it has always meant questions.



When I was younger, I hated standardized tests, because I felt like I was lying about my race.



I convinced myself that Caucasian meant white and Asian, because I knew it meant white and it ended with "asian."



That feeling of displacement from those
tests have listed.



The feeling of having to choose



Still, I'm lucky to be white-passing
and to be accepted.



And it's not like my experience is
unique, a multicultural enigma.



I get the same questions.



(But not the same stories)



And it's nice to know I'm not
alone.




HENRY TEEN ART COLLECTIVE

The Henry Teen Art Collective is a team of creative and enthusiastic youth in grades 9-12 dedicated to building a community around contemporary art. The Collective pulls back the curtain on the art community and goes behind the scenes at the museum, meets arts professionals, and explores contemporary art ideas with peers and visiting artists. Each year, the Collective works collaboratively to create a project of their own design.

In the 2016-2017 year, the Collective developed and produced this zine, *Barriers Between Us*. To inform the project, Collective met with a wide variety of artists and Henry Art Gallery staff who provided mentorship, insight, and inspiration for their work together. A special thank you to Chris E. Vargas, Grey Ellis, Mita Mahato, E.T. Russian, Summer Wheat, David Lipe, Matt Sellars, Dan Webb, Sarah Bergmann, and Rachel Kettler!

Contact us at: henryteencollective@gmail.com

 Follow us on Instagram @henry_teens

Henry Art Gallery
15th Ave. NE & NE 41st St.
Seattle, WA 98195

Museum Hours
Wed, Fri, Sat, Sun:
11 – 4 pm
Thu: 11 – 9 pm
Mon, Tues: Closed

Free for members, UW faculty/staff, students,
and kids.
\$10 General Public
\$6 for Seniors

Henry