BARRIERS BETWEEN US

A COLLABORATIVE ZINE OF ADOLESCENT CREATIVITY, COMMUNITY, & RESISTANCE.
Barriers Between Us

The Henry Teen Art Collective
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

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*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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<td>Ilah Walker</td>
<td>The In Between</td>
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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
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
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
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.
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
- Phosperus, 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.

Leading the Teams of the Future

Ilah Walker. The In Between. Ink.
Wait, you aren't white?

- and THEN one of the riot boys yelled, "What the hell is that an ASIAN?" and they drove away.

I get the same questions.

(But not the same stories)

21 Assumptions Multiracial
Are SO Over

It's really, oh to call a person ethnic.

1. Being multiracial means you automatically speak multiple languages.

Still, I'm lucky to be white-passing and to be accepted. And it's not like my experience is unique, a multicultural enigma.

69%.

Thanks for understanding!

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