

Art describes how we can make change for the better

Editor's Note: The Palm Beach Fellowship of Christians & Jews has announced the winners of its 2018 Essay Contest and Creative Arts Competition. The theme this year was inspired by the Robert Frost poem, "The Road Not Taken."

2-D art winner — Mia Starkman, Pine Crest School, Grade 7

This drawing symbolizes pollution and how we, the people, affect the mountains, oceans, and nature. I drew this because I really do care about the planet's health and condition so that we can continue to inhabit the planet before our species goes extinct. Notice how the figures are melting. Our Earth is slowly dying because of us. It's "melting" away and we just watch. Instead of just watching, we can take place in conservation acts such as picking up trash on the beach, walking or biking to destinations, or just recycling. If everyone makes an effort, we can change the world.

3-D art winner — Matthew "Matti" Cohen, Rosarian Academy, Grade 7

After my first year playing hockey as a goalie, my coach decided to move me to the forward position. I had not really skated since I was in the net all year. Everyone on my team was a far better skater than I was and I really loved being a goalie.



Mia Starkman, grade 7, draws melting figures to show earth is slowly dying.

Artwork by Mia Starkman

Should I stay on the team and try the new position or should I try out for a new team as a goalie?

I made the decision to stay on my team and try the forward position. At first I was awful. I couldn't keep up with any of my teammates, shoot the puck or pass the puck. My family and I decided I should take skate lessons every week. I worked very hard each time and gained balance and speed with every practice and lesson. I am a really good skater now. I have a hard wrist shot, snap shot and slap shot. I have not been in a goal for one and a half years. My difficult decision to leave the goalie position behind has taught me how to become open minded to change and try new things in life. At first it was scary to be out on the ice with the team and not safe in my goalie net. I have incredible discipline, and strength now because of my dedication to my sport and position on the team. If I went to the other team and stayed in my goalie net I would not have grown as a



Starkman



Artwork by Matthew "Matti" Cohen

Matthew "Matti" Cohen's 3-D artwork depicts his efforts to overcome fears in hockey.

person and as an athlete. I have learned an important lesson in my life.

It has affected my life in mostly good ways and a few bad ways. I still have flashbacks of me being in the goalie position. I sometimes want to be in goal. But being a forward is such a great position to play. I score goals and that helps my team win, which makes me feel great!

I am physically in good condition, which makes my soul feel good. Overall, I look forward each and every day to play my new position. I also recently achieved MVP of a game. That was the most awesome and proud moment ever.



Cohen

Art describes the dilemma of making choices for future

Art, second place — Victoria Bassey, Western Pines Middle School, Grade 8

My artwork was inspired by my own experiences.

As a young person, one of the most asked questions I get is, "What do you want to be when you grow up?" Recently, I started to give that question more thought instead of giving quick and simple answers like vet, dancer and fashion designer. The girl in the picture I created is in a house of mirrors, looking at herself. Because of the strange mirrors, the images of her are distorted and shows different



Bassey

versions of her. One as artist, the other as a surgeon, and the last as a normal mirror. I used these professions as they are the professions I would possibly choose. Like me, the girl is weighing her options between the two things she will want to do for the rest of her life. If the freelance artist is chosen, she will be living her dream to make others smile, yet she



Artwork by Victoria Bassey

Victoria Bassey, grade 8, is trying to convey through her art that she still is young and doesn't have to stress about the future.

won't have a stable source of income. As a general surgeon, she receives a large sum of money to support herself and others, but she will have a feeling that she could do something better for others. I used a simple art style to draw this, to convey the idea that she is still young and doesn't have to stress about the future as much as she is. For now, both of us will just live our lives to the fullest, and when the time comes to decide, we will finally be ready.

LETTERS



Damon Higgins / Daily News

A feral cat that lives on the island comes out to be fed by Damian Vidaurre around 3 a.m. May 13. Vidaurre says he supplies food and water to about 40 stray cat colonies across the town roughly six nights each week.

Palm Beach Island Cats leader seeks assistance from public

The mission of Palm Beach Island Cats is to prevent future generations of community cats. We need your continued help to achieve this goal. If you see any kittens, please call us immediately so we can catch the mom and little ones. We will spay the mom, and domesticate and find inside homes for the kittens.

We want our cats to come out to feed late at night and then hide in the daytime. This is much safer for the cats and better for the residents. We use a high-quality food. We let the cats feed for two hours in the middle of the night and then clean up any remaining food.

Some well-intended people are feeding at our stations and elsewhere in the daytime. This puts the cats at risk by attracting wildlife that disrupts the cats' food and water. We hope these people will realize they are endangering the cats. This is also a problem. Community cats are safest when they are wary and unseen.

If you see kittens, an ill cat or a pile of cat food, please call us at 561-800-4725.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

DAVID LEAVITT
President of Palm Beach Island Cats

HOW TO SUBMIT LETTERS

The "Palm Beach Daily News" welcomes letters to the editor.

By mail: Please mail or bring your letters to: Palm Beach Daily News, 400 Royal Palm Way, Suite 100, Palm Beach, FL 33480

By fax: Our fax number is 561-820-3802.

By email: To letters@pbdailynews.com

Please include your name, address and daytime phone number for us to verify your letter. We routinely edit letters for brevity, accuracy and good taste. We publish only original letters written to us, not copies of letters to others or open letters. Letters must be received by noon Thursday for publication in Sunday's Opinion page.

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