

• PRINCETON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA  
ROSSEN MILANOV, MUSIC DIRECTOR



***PSO BRAVO!***  
**Listen Up!**

Creative responses to William Harvey's *Seven Decisions of Gandhi*  
May 16 - June 6, 2023



## Creative Responses to William Harvey's *Seven Decisions of Gandhi*

Talented middle school students attended the Princeton Symphony Orchestra's Saturday, March 11, 2023 concert. They listened attentively to the PSO's world premiere of *Seven Decisions of Gandhi* by composer and violinist William Harvey, conducted by Sameer Patel. These PSO BRAVO! *Listen Up!* student writers and visual artists were invited to respond freely or consider prompts relating to the work, the musical styles exhibited, and the experience of attending and listening to a live musical performance.

The *Listen Up!* exhibition was displayed at the PSO's performances on May 13 and 14, and at the Arts Council of Princeton's Paul Robeson Center for the Arts from Tuesday, May 16 - Tuesday, June 6, 2023.

**Thank you to the following teachers who supported and coordinated their students' participation in *Listen Up!* 2022-23:**

Melissa Mack, Cambridge School  
Madeleine McCarthy, Ranney School  
Pauline Swiatocha, Ranney School  
Meghan Dwyer, St. Paul School of Princeton

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The Princeton Symphony Orchestra (PSO) is grateful to teaching artist April Zay for leading an inspiring and productive workshop. The Arts Council of Princeton's (ACP) longtime partnership support is greatly valued, and the PSO is especially thankful for *Listen Up!* workshop and exhibition coordination assistance from ACP staff members.



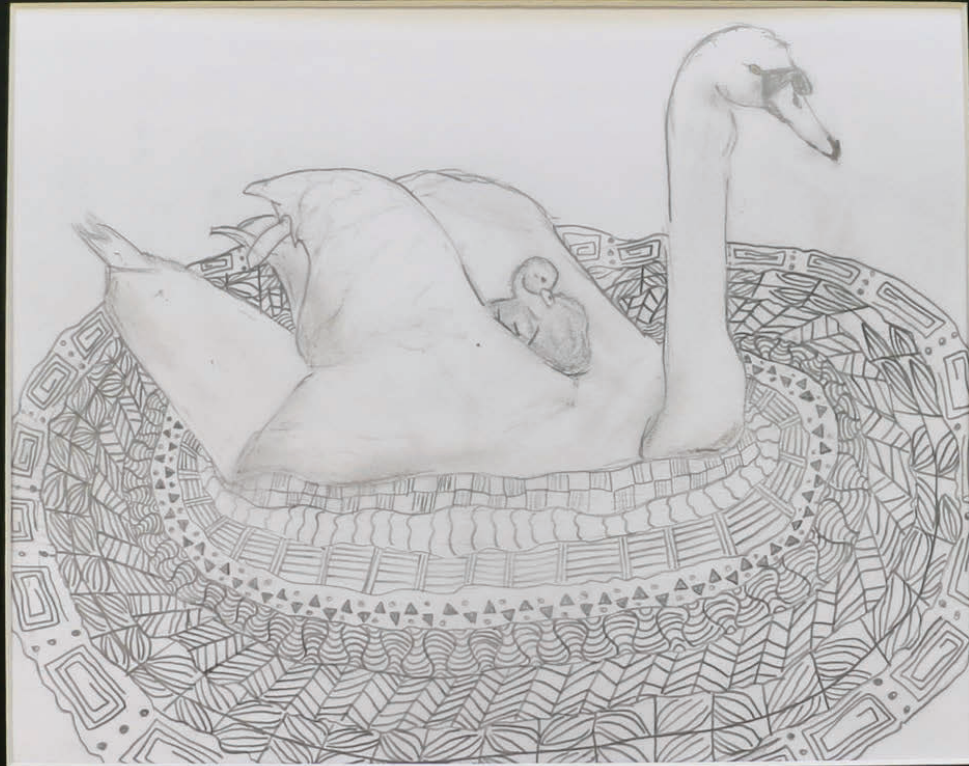


## *Listen Up! Workshop*

During the 2022-23 season, the PSO hosted its sixth *Listen Up!* workshop. On March 9, *Listen Up!* participants came to the Arts Council of Princeton (ACP), met composer and violinist William Harvey, and discussed and listened to the styles, characters, and emotions in Mr. Harvey's piece "Connecting Again." Instructor April Zay highlighted well-known visual artists who have created works in response to music, and guided the students in their artistic reflections.



*Photos of the Listen Up! Workshop: (Top and Bottom) Students preparing sketches of ideas; (Middle) Instructor April Zay talks to students about visual artists responding to music.*



***The Evolution of Gandhi***

**Claire Vitucci-Napurano**

**Grade 7—Ranney School**

**Madeleine McCarthy, Teacher**

**Pencil**

*From the first note of the music, the swan came toward me, moving across the surface of the sound with peaceful power. As it came closer, I realized it carried its cygnet on its back, nurturing the seed of a better future. I portrayed the swan I saw throughout the composition as the evolution of Gandhi. Viewing the young man in a brown tweed suit and western style, you would never know that he would grow into such powerful grace, the white mantle of the dhoti and shawl like the down of the swan protecting its young like Gandhi protecting the poor. The ripples on the surface of the water made by the great swan contain many different patterns as the legacy of Gandhi has spread across the diversity of humanity, inspiring persistence, non-violence, and forgiveness across the waters of history.*





***Falling Sand***

**Cash Balogh**

**Grade 8—Ranney School**

**Madeleine McCarthy, Teacher**

**Acrylic paint**

*This painting displays my vision after hearing the Seven Decisions of Gandhi. His journey reminded me of nature, so I thought of sand, clouds, and rain. Then I thought of man-made structures like brick walls and hourglasses. The song was intense but soft and it is conveyed in the depiction of a storm in the sky.*



## **Ripple Reaction**

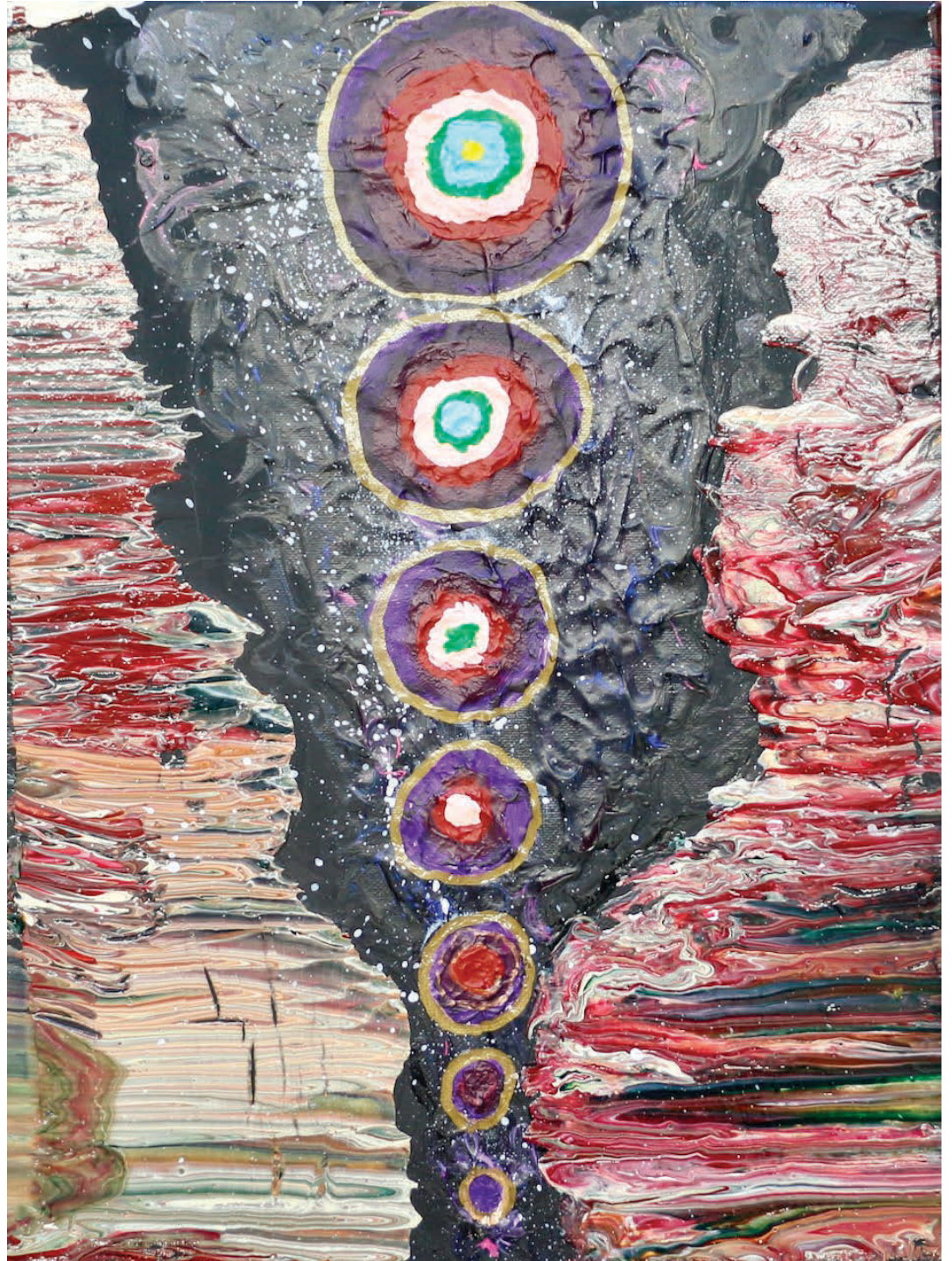
**Carter Berth**

**Grade 8—Cambridge School**

**Melissa Mack, Teacher**

**Acrylic paint on canvas**

*The colors on the outside edge represent the colors of the visual things such as the wood, marble, carpet and chairs that I saw as I arrived at the auditorium and made my way down to my seat. As the music began to play, I felt the need to close my eyes, rendering my sight to go black. This made me think of the dark past and struggles that Gandhi had come from. When the music began, I started to see color star spots in the black void. The first movement felt small and contained with only a few instruments growing more dynamic, fuller, and louder as the music progressed. This is represented in the shape of the black center of my piece. Each action has a reaction along a journey and when they meet that is when your decision is made. The circles represent the action and reaction of each point of decision and how each one builds upon each other but are just as important on their own. The path can be hard to find and is not always a smooth one, a straight one, or a perfect one during the journey. When you look back at all your choices, you can see that the end of your journey is shining down on you like the sun bringing light into the darkness and you are right where you are supposed to be.*







## *The Path to Peace*

**Jack Breiland**

**Grade 6—Cambridge School**

**Melissa Mack, Teacher**

**Acrylic on canvas**

*Gandhi faced many difficult choices in his life, yet he always chose a path of peace and nonviolence, and he taught others to do the same. Knowledge was very important to Gandhi, and his first big decision was to study in London. He tried many different things on his path of self-discovery. Soon, he created a path for others to join him in harmony. Then Gandhi proposed Indians seek a path of freedom, and Gandhi led the way. Many times Gandhi was on a path where he faced difficult decisions and conflicts. But he always chose the path of peace and nonviolence on his journey to gaining independence for his country.*

*Like Gandhi, we should choose a path of nonviolence, kindness, and bravery. In living peacefully we teach others to do the same and together we can make a difference in the world. This is the path to peace.*

**Ava Costa**

**Grade 7—Ranney School**

**Pauline Swiatocha, Teacher**

**Poetry**

*As I listened to the orchestral sounds of William Harvey's Seven Decisions of Gandhi, I envisioned seven distinct legendary beings arriving to display seven interpretations, each of which represented perfection, wholeness, and complexity. As if a heptatonic scale of music were emitting into a prism, the seven virtues of joy, knowledge, peace, love, tranquility, sanctity, and strength would produce a picture of inclusivity, diversity, and hope into the broken world we now occupy. The piece gave me optimism and faith that the world in which we live will continue to evolve, but hopefully for the better.*

### **Awakening Resurgence of the Sevens**

Seven decisions, seven conflicting personalities intertwined.  
Creating the universe, opening the portal to our very existence.  
Through piercing eyes I see, seven maidens transforming our universe  
leaving us at the mercy of their wrath  
Like a promised crazy train with no brakes  
From a muscle river in many directions  
Always advancing, never ceasing.

The colors separating and coming together all at once  
Creating a never-ending cacophony of a meaningless flecked kaleidoscope.

Crimson,

her combination of fervor and audacity from the first spring,  
which was a sea of blazing fire before there was any water.

Our existence, which has been guided by the setting sun, is met by,

Marigold,

her seat brimming with life and splendor.

Calm and sorrowful,

Canary,

emerges from her cradle and stretches down on the beach to soak up some rays.

The waves from a distant storm crested over the shoreline,  
Precipitating the aromatic moistened earth under the slate beds of,

Emerald,

bringing with her growth and devastation.



Inside,  
Cerulean,  
her possession was water  
the seat awaiting the canorous music of the land,  
frozen in the deep mist of time.  
Indigo,  
bleeds her narrowed vein rivers  
releasing streams of purple-blue hues stretching them into the horizon.  
Violet,  
a beacon without light,  
gifts the darkness bringing the stars and the universe together as well as  
serenity, secrets, and fear...so beautifully cruel,  
Seven decisive hues eradicating onyx and alabaster  
Igniting a festival from the place  
where beauty lulls the sleeping spirit  
awakening from the visioned dream into the enigmatic morning  
where darkness and light coexist.  
And as we wait for the lullaby of color to end,  
One by one, the maidens vanished,  
retreating into monochrome realms and separating themselves  
from the kaleidoscopic reality  
that eventually became our own  
remaining in the distance as a reminder of our origins,  
with darkness and light imbuing life and death with order and pandemonium.

## **Vermillion Passage**

**Amrita Randhawa**

**Grade 7—Ranney School**

**Madeleine McCarthy, Teacher**

**Acrylic paints**

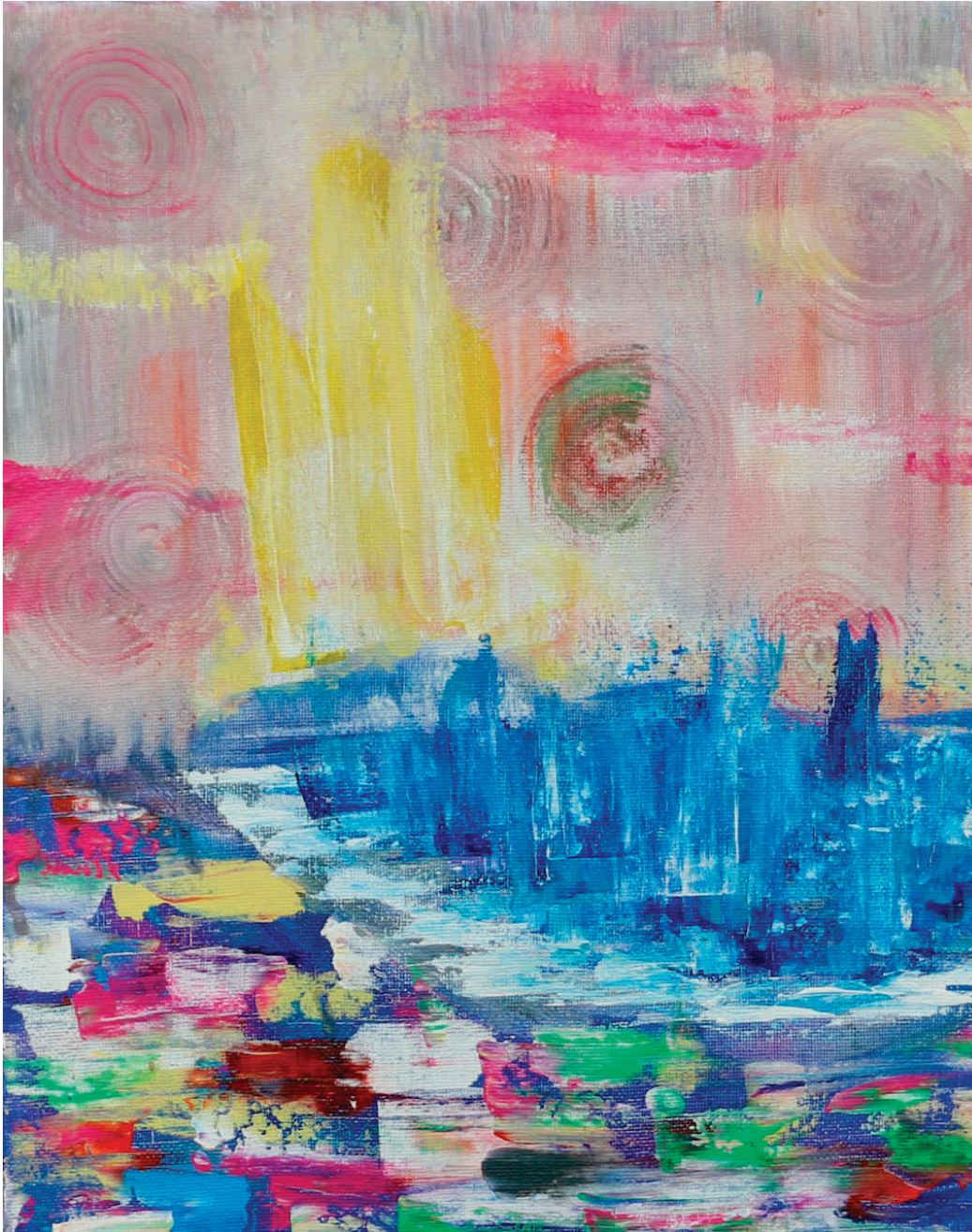
*My piece of artwork, “Vermillion Passage,” was created to show the journey from tranquility to harsh anger, division, and solemnness. The sitar and tabla composition reflected a peaceful and joyous time in Indian history. However, this was compromised by the second stage of dramatic clanging and fierce beats.*

*My artwork reflects this transition by featuring a serene nucleus surrounded by a myriad of dark mist and swirls. I have used hues of gold and saffron, traditional Hindustani colors, to reflect the culture and joy before the desolation set in. In contrast, I used deep and passionate colors like crimson, cerulean, and juniper to illustrate the rage and loneliness of the latter part of this music piece.*

*The symphony was a masterful depiction of changing moods and emotions and my aspiration for this art piece is to capture this shift with color and transitioning strokes.*







***A long walk to destiny***

**Allie Meshoyrer**

**Grade 8—Ranney School**

**Madeleine McCarthy, Teacher**

**Acrylic on canvas**

*When I listened to the music, many ideas came to my mind. But they were all different, including a range of instruments and emotions. How was I supposed to fit everything onto one canvas? I went with the initial idea of creating an abstract, although I've never made abstracts all by myself and I had no idea where to start. I picked up the paints most connected with the music I was listening to, and I began putting them onto my canvas with no plan of what to make. As I layered on many paints and textures, I found myself creating what seemed to be a path. A strange and complicated path, through upward flowing waters and spiral skies. The yellow and white spark at the end of the painting is the destination, in which there's a land of many emotions, many lifestyles, and many souls. This treacherous path is "A long walk to destiny."*



## **Seven Decisions of Gandhi**

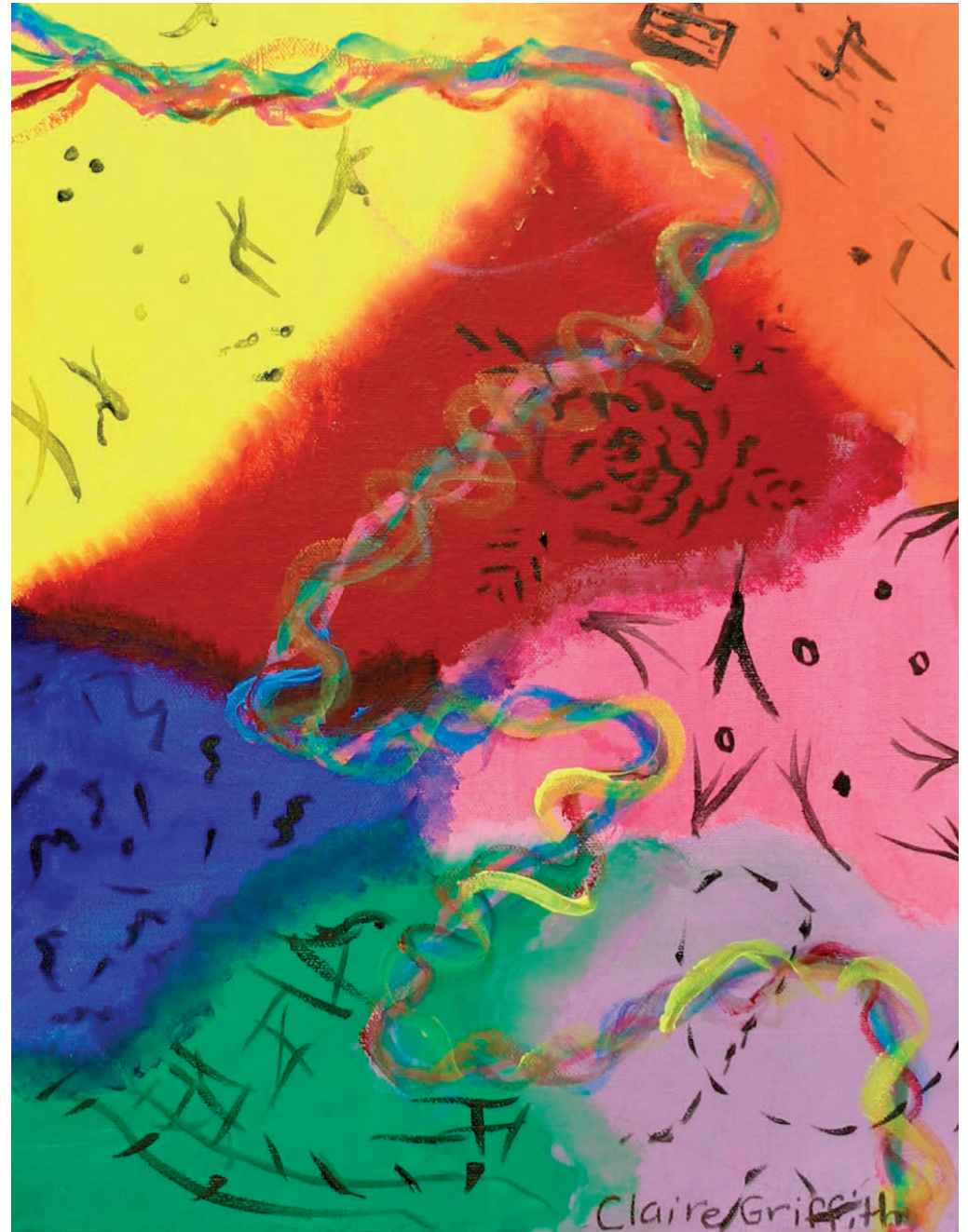
**Claire Griffith**

**Grade 8—Ranney School**

**Madeleine McCarthy, Teacher**

**Paint**

*This piece shows the seven decisions of Mahatma Gandhi, an Indian political figure who brought India to freedom. This piece shows the seven decisions of Gandhi through the uses of color. Yellow for the first decision, orange for the second decision, red for the third, blue for the fourth, pink for the fifth, green for the sixth, and purple for the seven, and final decision. These colors are all connected with a stream of all the colors put together. This shows how the decisions shaped his life and how they affected all the people he touched. The color blotches are filled with the emotions I felt while listening to each part of Seven Decisions of Gandhi.*





**Sean Ricard**

**Grade 7—Ranney School**

**Pauline Swiatocha, Teacher**

**Poetry**

*This poem is a reflection of what I heard and understood from William Harvey's Seven Decisions of Gandhi. I, being a musician myself, used what I knew about music to help me translate the piece into words. I have enjoyed the experience of me writing this, and while I found it challenging, I enjoyed creating my poem.*

## The Journey of Confrontation

Beyond the mountains, past the hills,  
The Sun rose.  
Inside, Life shows its flaws.  
As the weak fights the strong,  
His fixed confidence resists.  
And with a bitter strife settled,  
Resolution leaves a bitter taste.  
He is gone.

Now, alone in the new world,  
He *feels* happy.  
Hearing the underlying dissonance,  
The revelation creeps in;  
Happiness isn't here.  
This life is only good enough.  
He will leave where he fought to be  
In order to fight for true happiness.

There, in a place unknown,  
Happiness is not.  
As to sing a light song with a heavy voice;  
They move on with melancholy and grief.  
Now, he arrives with his mission.  
Trying to instill hope with words,  
His efforts bring but brief change;  
He has failed.

Now, there is no confusion.  
Washed away by pure, concentrated angst  
Other feelings vanish.  
What could have caused this?  
This new type of sorrow takes a toll,  
He finds himself dissociated and alone.  
Failure, he knows, caused this dark pain.  
He can never fail again.

Inside once again, he questions plenty.  
Doing so, he seeks spiritual advice.  
His subconscious responds,  
Giving him insightful direction:  
He sees that guilt, angst, and sorrow  
Cannot solve anything.  
But he can.  
And so he will.

From his advantageous journey,  
He has established a strong brotherhood.  
Their efforts, sadly, caused chaos in others;  
Disorder, confusion, madness, turmoil.  
Nobody agrees.  
He says the unsayable, the unthinkable.  
Yet it heals the terror and confusion.  
Now all are in harmony.

With this newfound harmony,  
They have an environment to accomplish.  
With the satisfaction of success near,  
True happiness finally starts to materialize.  
Although, securing this triumph isn't so easy,  
And a rueful suspense sinks in.  
He breaks this up with a defiant statement,  
And a perfect resolution is finally present.

## Secrets

Sophia Abi-Atme

Grade 8—St. Paul School of Princeton

Meghan Dwyer, Teacher

Watercolors and watercolor pencil

*This painting is from the perspective of the ground, including some of the soil, roots, and grass. Through the blades, you can see a person approaching a wood. This is the basis of the painting, but there are hidden details including animals, flowers, and a domed building in the far, far distance. The main inspiration that this piece takes from the music is the color palette. Oranges, yellows, and browns stayed in my mind the whole duration of the piece, and since the woods during autumn beautifully express these colors, I began with this. At the beginning of the concert I also visualized a boy going on an adventure in an unfamiliar place with many secrets, which was also an inspiration. With these pieces in mind, I just began to paint and let the drawing unfold.*







***Seven Decisions of Gandhi***

**Juily Nayar**

**Grade 8—Ranney School**

**Madeleine McCarthy, Teacher**

**Acrylic paint**

*This piece expresses the changes throughout the song and how it relates to Gandhi. William Harvey composed the musical piece Seven Decisions of Gandhi and it inspired me to make this piece of artwork. The rhythm of his musical piece made me think and create this painting. I used red, blue, yellow, and black in the background to show how the piece changing tempo and volume of the music implied a bigger meaning behind it. Gandhi's actions made a huge impact on the world so, the background of this painting shows how destructive everything can be at first but on the inside of the piece it soon comes together.*

**Charlie Guzman**

**Grade 7—Ranney School**

**Pauline Swiatocha, Teacher**

**Poetry**

*When writing this piece, I was immediately inspired by the intense focus on the violin throughout the symphony. The fascinating conversations between the violin and other instruments itself was the basis for the concept of a split between one's conscious and subconscious. Along with that, the violin merged flawlessly with the rest of the orchestra in a way that spoke to me as incredibly hopeful in nature. Hence, I decided to focus on that "hopefulness" and turn it into a powerful force within the poem. Seven Decisions of Gandhi also reflected a strong tone of anxiety, which helped further shape the idea of inner conflict. I had quite an enjoyable time translating the symphony into a written piece, as I've never done anything quite like the Listen Up! program before. This was an incredible experience all throughout, and I truly hope everyone else had as much fun as I did!*

## War of the Body and Mind

The sun rises; day is reborn  
Thoughts explode like fireworks, overwhelming the blissfulness of the mind.

A pressure so great, it can barely handle its own weight  
Yet it is gone as fast as it had appeared.

Only one is left; it holds steady amidst the chaos.

The thought radiates an unfamiliar feeling  
It teases the mind as it dances about  
A feeling of Hope.

Before you can grasp the idea, it is swept away by a sea of complexities  
Doubt begins to seep through, tainting the mind.

The Hope retaliates.

The two begin to talk in an incomprehensible way  
Yet, despite this,  
It all makes sense.

The once peaceful domain of the mind is now stunned.

With no other options, you reluctantly submit to the start of the day  
But the Hope has not, will not, be left behind.

Colors wildly dance about the room, crashing violently into each other;  
The immense brightness is nearly blinding.

You try to focus,  
While the mind tries to distract.

It does not want to let go of what it had been blessed with  
That wonderful, tantalizing feeling.

You try to convince the mind that the struggle is not worth it,  
That it is better to resign now  
And spare the sorrow.

It will not listen.

A new thought emerges from the depths  
You try to drive it back down.

What if...?  
No, you couldn't even attempt thinking about it  
You knew the consequences.

But the reward...  
It beckoned you, like the beautiful voice of a Siren.

What if I listened?

The very idea was dangerously enticing.  
Yet the unyielding force of the mind refused to give up.

It had decided that it would be heard.

All other emotions are washed away  
Forcing you to focus.

Suddenly, you understand.

The sun rises once again; the harsh light forces its way through the windows.

Brilliant flowers are showcased wherever sunlight may hit them.  
Not a single one appears flawed under its spotlight,  
Even if it really is.



The thoughts come rushing, same as before,  
But you are indifferent to them.

The rest of the world doesn't matter right now.

Something feels different today; an unfamiliar vibrance fills each room  
While an overwhelming amount of joy follows.

You can only hear the Hope.

For once, you feel coordinated.  
You are no longer just a swarm of rapid and confusing thoughts.

The body and the mind have agreed to work in unison,  
Rather than to work against one another.

Today, things will change.

All of the abandoned dreams have been resurrected  
Although anxious, you are ready to pursue them.

Newfound happiness is reflected in the mind's perception of life  
Each step, each breath has gained an invaluable significance.

You uneasily approach the Source.  
The center of the mind's galaxy,  
A limitless supply of doubt, sorrow, *anger*.

Its blank, cold stare pierces your soul like a dagger.

There is only emptiness here  
No vibrance, no joy.

But you are indifferent to it.

The little Hope that you carry has found its purpose,  
And now it wants to be set free.

Yet you do not want to let go.

The mind opens its mouth to speak,  
Though there is nothing left to say.

You drop the Hope.  
A heartbreaking thud follows.

It is immediately absorbed into the greater conglomerate of your conscious,  
Like a lost fish that finds its way to the school.  
Regardless, it still contains the power to change.

The silence is deafening, but it is soon filled.  
Beautiful, radiant flowers begin to sprout across the infinite plane,  
Bringing a surge of life to the mind's domain.

You recall the unstable, chaotic state your mind was once in.  
Too many aspirations. Too little time.

The disappointment still lingers,  
But you are indifferent to it.

The Source, standing in the glowing field of flowers, violently reaches out its hand  
One last desperate attempt to convince you to stay.

You nimbly dodge its attack; the Source is left staggered.

Taking advantage of its weakness, you begin to fiercely run towards it  
You nearly crash into the Source, embracing it with all your might.

The two sit in silence for a moment, embracing one another  
The Source sheds a quiet, single tear.

The outside world smashes its way into the haven of the mind,  
Before you could even say goodbye.

The thought still tortures you, yet you do not understand why  
What would compel you to feel remorse for your greatest tormentor?

Suddenly, you realize  
You race back to the center, while the world rushes to stop you at every turn.

The flowers are still there, but one stands out.  
This one seems defeated, like it had never achieved the brilliance of the others.

But you know who is hiding underneath.

You swipe a petal, grasping it firmly.  
And vow to never let it go.

As you slowly open your eyes,  
The sunshine welcomes you to the beginning of a new life.



***The Change***

**Lyla Garcia**

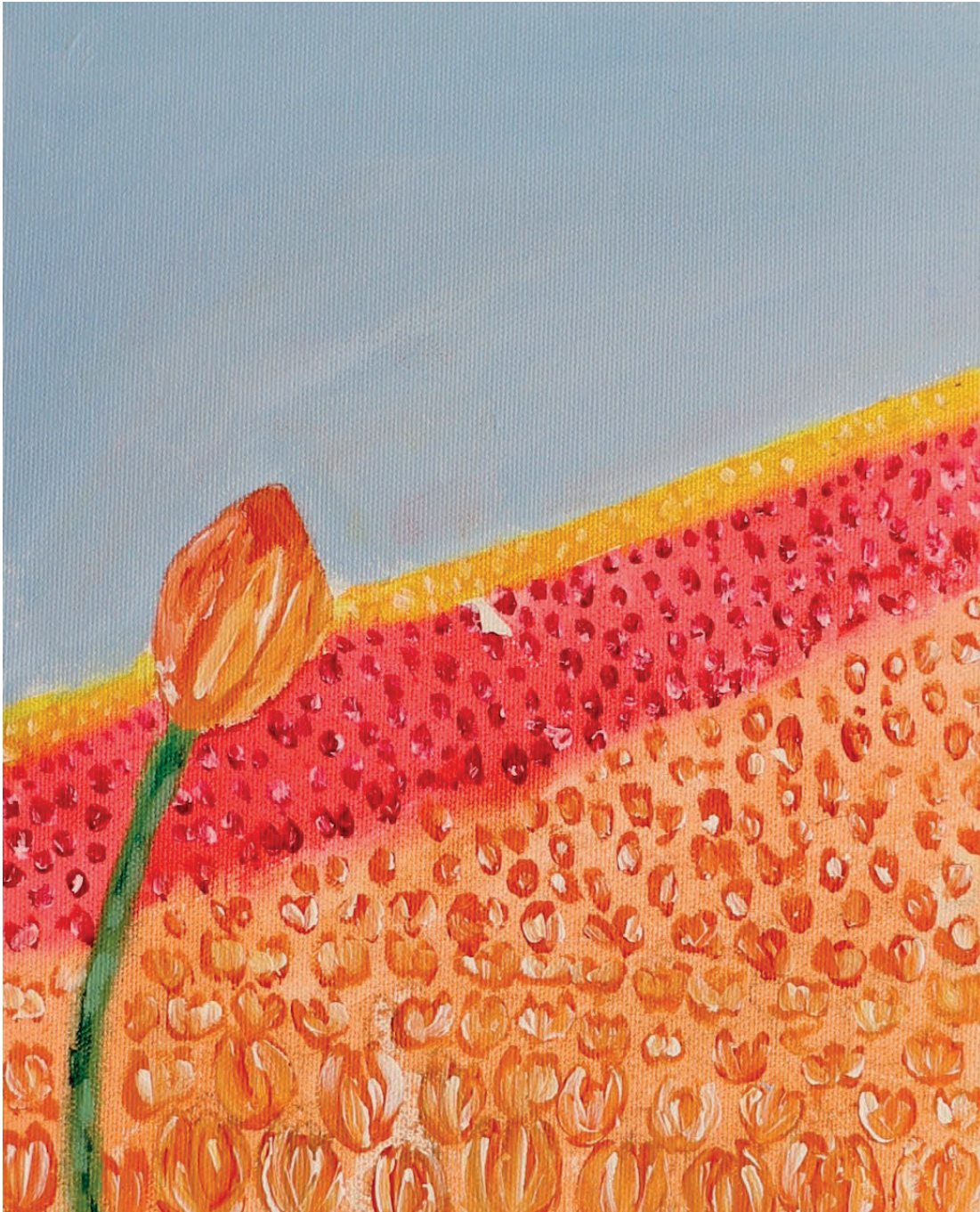
**Grade 8—Ranney School**

**Madeleine McCarthy, Teacher**

**Acrylic paint**

*My artwork shows the change of emotions throughout the symphony. Each color represents a different emotion and how they combine and change. While listening, my emotions floated as the song went on, so I created what I think represents my emotions while listening. My art piece represents how I interpreted the symphony.*





***The Field of Freedom***

**Nola Geffon**

**Grade 8—Ranney School**

**Madeleine McCarthy, Teacher**

**Acrylic paint**

*There is beauty in the complexity of life. The found freedom of finally letting go is so incredibly rewarding. My piece titled “The Field of Freedom” represents the moment you succumb to the overwhelming emotion of everyday trials and tribulations, and finally decide to surrender. Although the singular tulip signifies leadership and the strength and courage needed to lead, it is a lonely path. A true leader knows their limits and when they reach their end it is up to those around them to continue what has been started. Some choose to persevere and others find their peace in knowing when to give up.*





### ***Waves of the Shore***

**Sally Saliba**

**Grade 7—St. Paul School of Princeton**

**Meghan Dwyer, Teacher**

**Paint, sand, shells**

*The beach scene that I have created was inspired by the sounds and the feeling that I felt from the orchestra music. At one point in the music, there was a strong rush that reminded me of the strong waves a beach has. As the sounds and music continued, there were some calming sounds that would be relaxing towards people. It reminded me so much of a beach because of how peaceful a beach is to me. A beach is where all the happiness in life meet me. The rush of waves in the breezy summer morning, and the peaceful sounds the water makes as it collides with the sand, it's one of the more peaceful things people love in life. The shells that I have pointed out in my painting were inspired along with the sand and wave description. They bring that peace, and build up character towards the painting itself.*





### ***A Light in Darkness***

**Celestine Sutter**

**Grade 8—St. Paul School of Princeton**

**Meghan Dwyer, Teacher**

**Watercolor, colored pencil, pen**

*The music had dark elements at certain points, creeping into our minds with its ethereal qualities. However, no matter what struggles of Gandhi were depicted through the music, there was always hope. The cheerful violin brought feelings of calm and joy even in gloomy moments, captivating listeners. While listening to the music, I pictured a forest leaning into the violin player while he spread brightness and peace and turned even the dark spectators to the light. Everything was green, a color that can be as bright or as melancholy as the music was at different points. Music and art have the same effect that Gandhi had. He changed the world with his love amidst war and suffering, and he truly was a light in darkness.*

## Flowers

A girl, a human rises out above  
To be heard so others may accept her as one  
She knows the world is burning down  
But all she sees are flowers.

What was once a fire is now harmony,  
A euphony to the ear  
A rage turned benevolence she rises up  
For acceptance and for those to hear.

For soon the blue fire will be all worn out  
And the red light will again rise  
Then what shall they do when she can't persist?  
Burn more flames? Bear more cries?

Worlds collide, one more try  
For the girl to rise up from the ashes;  
The people respond, with no more flames  
but with harmony, the girl filled with passion.

Soon all the people do rise up,  
The blue flame with more power,  
And so the world stops burning down  
And all that's left are flowers.



## Flowers

**Stephanie Chynoweth**

**Grade 7—St. Paul School of Princeton**

**Meghan Dwyer, Teacher**

**Poem and painting**

*When I first listened to the Princeton Symphony Orchestra perform William Harvey's Seven Decisions of Gandhi, there were three things that came to mind: suspense, competition, and a fight for freedom. As the music continued to play I became lost in my own world of what I thought of the magnificent piece. I pictured a girl, stuck between two worlds, drifting toward the light, but with the darkness closely behind, which I incorporated in both my poem and painting, with the girl spinning in a field of flowers in front of a mountain landscape toward a bright sky, but a dark cloud drifting toward her at the same time. A fight for freedom was also a big theme of the piece to me, which I incorporated very explicitly in my poem because it was of such significant importance to me. Combining all of these feelings I experienced, I shaped them into what would become two pieces: one a poem, and one a painting, both named "Flowers," as they give off peace and serenity, while they long for attention, waiting and waiting to be seen.*





### **Seven Decisions of Gandhi**

**Austin Wang**

**Grade 7—Ranney School**

**Madeleine McCarthy, Teacher**

**Colored pencil**

*This piece shows a drawing of Mahatma Gandhi, an Indian political ethicist who believed in nonviolent resistance, and William Harvey, the composer of Seven Decisions of Gandhi, playing the violin together as one person. Gandhi's actions greatly inspired movements for civil rights and freedom across the world. The seven fingers playing the violin symbolizes the seven movements and the seven decisions of Gandhi. I used colored pencils and carefully blended all colors together to make a neutral tone and feeling to this artwork. Lots of pink, blue, green, purple, and red was mixed into this one piece which gives it a more warm vibe. Many darker parts of the piece were made by coloring it in with sharpie and markers.*

**Gianna Eliseo**

**Grade 7—Ranney School**

**Pauline Swiatocha, Teacher**

**Poetry**

*During the past year or so I have had this collection of emotions trailing behind me. With it I have tried multiple ways to express it in order to release it from my conscience, whether through drawing, singing/writing songs, anything but words. By being given this opportunity I was able to take the beautiful piece (William Harvey's Seven Decisions of Gandhi) and transform it as the prompt said into what spoke to me. I am very grateful for this experience as it was very therapeutic. My mommy and daddy have always supported me and this opportunity is something I will never forget.*

## **Paper-thin Promises**

What is a promise?  
Is it a feeling of security when lost?  
Or a game of charades?  
Is it a friendship necklace you wear  
until love's rawness turns your neck green?  
Or is it the split second in the eye of the storm  
when pinkies unlatch?  
If so, why do I fall for the script every time?  
And why do I convince the spirit  
within me that I am settled?  
Settled physically, yes, on the rocky and jagged  
earth manifested from the light above.  
When mentally I am treading in murky waters that  
send out ear-splitting roars in response to my whimpers.  
Still, why do I welcome that presence when lost?  
Why do I play that game of charades?  
Why do I continually wear that necklace?  
Why do I waste my one-of-a-kind, intricate  
perfected fingerprint, on every latch?  
If so, I should be on Broadway.  
If I perform for myself, why can't I for others?  
Making my way across the stage.  
Gliding on perfectly crafted floorboards.  
Each crease in the wood patterns shows  
gradients of gracefulness.  
That, at least, can create a secure foundation.  
Never different.  
Always the same.  
Only one promise.  
Not 13.  
I will then always have security.  
Only one act of charades.  
\$13,000 quality necklaces that shine every night  
in the spotlight like the clusters of constellations  
that I wish on at dusk.  
Hands are held by the same interest every night  
Never someone who will one day take the rusted key  
to my heart and run away.  
But still, as the curtain closes.  
My head, stomach, and heart yearn to go back to  
the manipulation of it all.

I want to never accept the fact and  
the truth of the situation.  
I tell myself the door slams are just charades.  
I tell myself my neck isn't green.  
I tell myself the pinkie promise apology  
is the climax of my story.  
When it's all just a horrible book series  
written by a trash writer that repeats the same  
storyline and events with new settings in  
every book  
But me.  
The reader.  
Eat it up every time like a desolate  
mountain lion, searching for its protection  
from the frigid and nabbing cold.  
I stay attentive.  
Hoping each page is new.  
Bloody paper cuts fog my senses.  
Because after all...  
A promise is worth everything.





***The Eighth Decision***

**Katie Zeruld**

**Grade 6—Cambridge School**

**Melissa Mack, Teacher**

**Acrylic on canvas**

*The bright colors represent the journey of Gandhi's seven decisions. Purple represents the wisdom and strength that guided him through these decisions. It also represents his goal of achieving freedom for India through peaceful protest. There are eight streams of color because the first seven are his decisions and the last is our chance to help the world.*

### ***A Dancer's Dream***

**Bridget Lowery**

**Grade 7—St. Paul School of Princeton**

**Meghan Dwyer, Teacher**

*This piece really resembles a fairytale to me. It shows most dancers dream to make it big in the professional world. Making this got me to imagine what it would be like to be a part of that world. The field shows the millions of opportunities just waiting for the dancer. The music really connected to a dancer's life through the ups and downs. That's what gave me the idea of a dancer. The music also just felt like an intro into a Disney movie, just so magical and inspiring. That is what inspired me to draw "A Dancer's Dream."*







*train tracks through a forest*

Justin Zamirowski

Grade 8—St. Paul School of Princeton

Meghan Dwyer, Teacher

Painting

*During the performance many thoughts rushed through my head, many of them showing me a large grassy forest. This forest which I saw I then transferred into a painting. The music was mostly very calming but at certain moments it got really intense and started to sound like there was a steam powered locomotive rushing through that very calm forest. These things inspired me to make my painting a painting of a forest with train tracks running through it. The painting is mostly inspired by the calm parts of the performance with the one really big tree representing the amount of calm aspects of the music.*





### **7 Decisions of Gandhi**

**Chloe Foster**

**Grade 8—Ranney School**

**Madeleine McCarthy, Teacher**

**Acrylic paint**

*This artwork shows the christening of a champagne bottle being smashed on the side of a boat. The champagne bottle breaks and seven pieces of glass are in the air. The seven pieces of glass represent the violin piece composed by William Harvey called the Seven Decisions of Gandhi. The boat represents how Gandhi took a boat to gain Independence and freedom for India. There is a road to show his path of actually gaining peace for India and the pole coming from the ground shows that the peace is rising and will soon happen. On the sign, I used the colors of the Indian flag with a peace sign in the middle to show that India gained peace and freedom.*





**Bottom Row:** Sean Ricard, Jack Breiland, Gianna Eliseo, Katie Zeruld, Stephanie Chynoweth, conductor Sameer Patel, composer and violinist William Harvey, Juily Nayar, Sally Saliba, Amrita Randhawa; **Middle Row:** Sophia Abi-Atme, Carter Berth, Ava Costa, Claire Vitucci-Napurano, Charlie Guzman, Austin Wang, Justin Zamirowski, Celestine Sutter; **Top Row:** Cash Balogh, Nola Geffon, Chloe Foster, Tara Ozdemir, Bridget Lowery; **Not Pictured:** Claire Griffith, Lyla Garcia, Allie Meshoyrer





Rossen Milanov, Edward T. Cone Music Director — Marc Uys, Executive Director  
Katie Miller, Manager of Education and Community Engagement  
Betsy Loughran, *Listen Up!* Project Coordinator

**The PSO gratefully acknowledges the following individuals and organizations for their support of PSO BRAVO! this season:**

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Rebecca Callahan  
Bing Bing Chang  
Citizens Philanthropic Foundation  
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Rossen Milanov  
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Ann Dandurand and Darek Hahn  
Matt Hanson and Jesse Landon  
Laurel and George Harvey  
Susan and Richard Hempself

Yvonne Marcuse  
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Wendy Wolff Herbert  
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Allison and Jon MacGahan  
Dr. Samina Kanwar and Mr. Thomas Majdanski  
Joanna Gordon Martin and Bob Martin  
Anastasia Marty  
Cecilia and Michael Mathews  
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Lori and Andy Vitale  
Kristin and Benedikt von Schroder  
Ramona and Jack Vosbikian  
Mary and Jim Waskovich  
Stephanie and Rob Wedeking  
Louise and John Wellemeyer  
Dr. Philip Wey  
Nicholas Wiggins  
Suzanne and Steve Wray  
Anonymous

*\*Deceased*

Many thanks to Mastergraphx for the printing and courtesy binding of this exhibition catalog.