



# SCHOOL PAGE

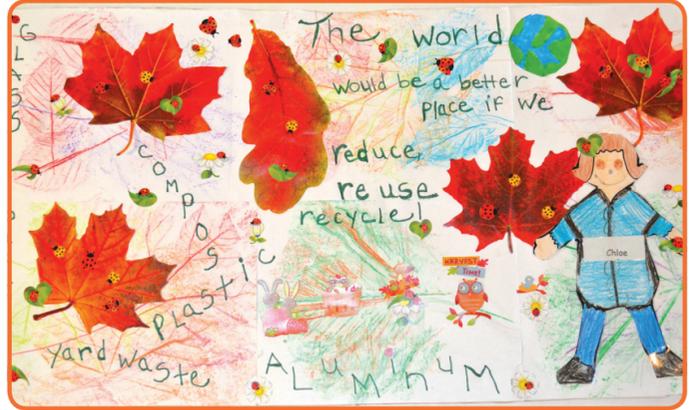


ARTWORK, POETRY, AND WRITING FROM TACOMA STUDENTS

## P.T.A. REFLECTIONS CONTEST 2014-15: THE WORLD WOULD BE A BETTER PLACE IF...



ISABELLE YE, GRADE K, BROWN'S PT. ELEMENTARY, TEACHER: MRS. ROSSETTO  
"The world would be a better place if I was playing with my best friend at the park. The world would be a better place if we played with friends who are a little different from us."



CHLOE APPLAGATE, 3RD GRADE, PT. DEFIANCE ELEMENTARY, TEACHER: MS. ELLS-SCOTT  
"By reducing, reusing, and recycling, we are saving the Earth."



HARMONY JONES, 2ND GRADE, PT. DEFIANCE ELEMENTARY, TEACHER: MS. BELL  
"The world would be a better place if everyone had a home."

### JUST TAKE A MOMENT

CATHERINE RASGAIKIS, 5TH GRADE,  
BROWN'S POINT ELEMENTARY, TEACHER:  
MARYANN GREEN

There -- I said it,  
The word I didn't mean;  
I said it out loud,  
And now everyone's heard it.

What if I had stopped,  
To consider my thoughts?  
And taken a moment  
To put down the sword?

A bad feeling can start  
Anytime, anywhere,  
During recess, or playing tag,  
With grown-ups unaware.

A day can snap at you,  
Turn you against yourself;  
But you need to calm down  
Or you'll turn on someone else.

It's one thing to say what you  
shouldn't,  
Yes, some things can be un-done,  
But quite another to find  
Your hand holding a gun.

Take a deep breath, pause;  
Look inside your heart -  
To draw back a deed,  
And change it if you must.

Every day we can take a moment  
To reach a little further;  
Walk in someone else's shoe  
And step a little closer.

Everyone is unique  
With a special point of view;  
If you'd slow down just a little,  
You'll find that this is true.

We all have ample time  
No less and no more,  
Enough to last a lifetime  
When we spend it on each other.

If we'd just take a moment  
To be kind instead of cruel,  
There would be no doubt  
We'd leave the world a bit better.



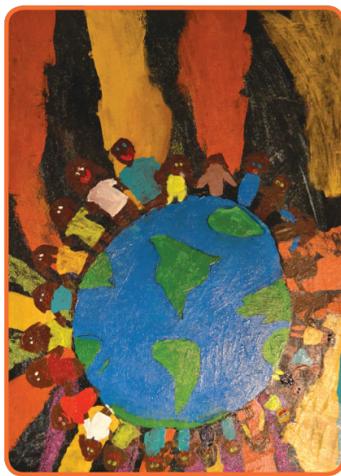
CHLOE VALADEZ, GRADE K, PT. DEFIANCE ELEMENTARY, TEACHER: MRS. RIGGIO  
"The world would be a better place if you had a castle with a flag. There would be a princess and a sun and a garden. It would rain to make a rainbow that would be really pretty! It would be a super pretty Earth."



GABRIEL DROUBAY, GRADE K, PT. DEFIANCE ELEMENTARY, TEACHER: MRS. RIGGIO  
"The world would be a better place if... (there was) no garbage on the sidewalk. Because there are more trees, because the trash is in the garbage can."



REBEKAH HAWTREY, 2ND GRADE, BROWN'S PT. ELEMENTARY,  
TEACHER: MRS. CALLENDER  
"The world would be a better place if...we could see love in everything. Why I took this photo was because I love nature and nature loves me back. This rock in this photo is my way to know that nature loves me like a friend. If we all would notice the love in everything, even the rocks in our path, the world would be a better place!"



MYA PATEL, 4TH GRADE, BROWN'S PT. ELEMENTARY,  
TEACHER: MRS. HASENAUER  
Peace Around the World: "I hope everyone has a friend. My painting is supposed to inspire kids to not bully so there will be peace around the world."



BRYNNA MAYER, 6TH GRADE, TRUMAN MIDDLE SCHOOL, TEACHER: MS. HADDIGAN  
In the Jan. 9 School Page, this piece was mistakenly credited. Tacoma Weekly apologizes for the error.

## WILSON HIGH SCHOOL: WOOD WORKING CLASS

The sign outside Wilson High School's Woodworking Class immediately caught my eye: "I'm thankful for Miss Oviatt because she teaches the skills to pay the bills!" Once you are inside and can see for yourself what is going on, it is evident that many skills that can aid students in gaining employment, can be honed here. As more advanced students learn how to use the wide variety of saws and technical equipment, they carefully mentor the younger ones. "It is a different kind of hand/eye coordination that they practice, not like the computer," explains Ms. Oviatt, who holds degrees in carpentry and math. Eileen McCarty, a community artist/woodworker, was also helping out the day we visited, teaching "Hobo" art (and beginning carving skills), which has been around for centuries. This type of art has students use materials that they can find around that have meaning to them. You will see some of these pieces this month, and others, and a few more in March. Thank you for sharing your expertise and time with our community, Ms. Oviatt and Ms. McCarty!



ALEX KHERIATY, 12TH GRADE



JARED CREIGHTON, 12TH GRADE, COMPLETED IN A 1ST LEVEL CLASS.



ASHYA BROWN, 12TH GRADE



CODY FITCH, 12TH GRADE



RYAN WILLIAMS, 11TH GRADE

Teachers and students interested in submitting work may get guidelines or information from Shari Shelton, (253) 906-3769 or at ssheltonz@centurylink.net, or may contact Donna McCracken, (253) 475-8387 or donnamccra@comcast.net.