

#	STUDENT FIRST NAME	STUDENT LAST NAME	GRADE	GRADE DIVISION	ARTS CATEGORY	TITLE OF ARTWORK	ARTIST STATEMENT	SCHOOL / PTA NAME
1	Olivia	Kang	5	Intermediate	Visual Arts	Little But Big	"I Matter Because" my drawing shows how I'm a tiny part of the world, yet I can make an impact. I am a student, an older sister, and a helpful citizen in the community. Being a good student helps me to become what I want to be, an optometrist. I would be able to make differences in people's lives by helping with their eyes. As an older sister your job is to help and inspire younger siblings to make them a better person. When helping the community like picking up trash, that encourages others to do the same.	Francis Hopkinson Elementary PTA
2	Isla	Maloyo	3	Intermediate	Music Composition	Walk on the Beach	I matter because I'm loved and cared for by my family and God.	Francis Hopkinson Elementary PTA
3	Gianna	Payne	5	Intermediate	Literature	Ella's Story	My story relates to the theme because it shows why Ella matters. It proves that whether or not you can find it quickly or if it is harder to see everyone matters and everyone is important and has a purpose in life. My story is realistic fiction and is 1,221 words long.	Francis Hopkinson Elementary PTA
4	Gianna	Payne	5	Intermediate	Visual Arts	Beach Sunset	The dimensions are 10" by 8" by 1/2". My painting relates to the theme because it shows that everyone matters because everyone is different, like the are no two alike grains of sand, or wave, or drop of salt water.	Francis Hopkinson Elementary PTA

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5	Anya	Peterson	5	Intermediate	Visual Arts	COVID and I	During COVID-19 quarantine I spent most of my time in isolation learning how to make slime and art. My artwork shows how I feel about COVID. It is made out of homemade slime, rubber bands, beads, glitter, and acrylic paint. It relates to the theme because the blue represents the sadness I felt not being able to see my friends and missing out on every day life. The random objects were trapped in the slime, much like I was at home. I matter because I am a sister and a daughter. I matter because I am someone's friend.	Francis Hopkinson Elementary PTA
6	Noor	Saadeh	2	Primary	Dance Choreography	I Matter Because I Am A Child	I chose this song composed of three languages. Arabic, French, and English. Wait until the third part, you will understand. I think all kids matter. Just give us a chance because we are the future. Love, Noor.	Francis Hopkinson Elementary PTA
7	Asher	Stone	3	Intermediate	Literature	Never Quit	My song is to inspire others to never quit or give up. If you work hard and never quit you'll accomplish your dreams. We can all work hard and become successful.	Francis Hopkinson Elementary PTA
1	Brannon	Bagwell	1	Primary	Photography	The Great Seal Beach Picture	I matter because..we are part of a beautiful world. These palm trees are cool because I saw them with my family.	J.H. McGaugh Elementary PTA
2	Aimee	Belzer	3	Intermediate	Visual Arts	I am Unique	I used my fingerprints to make faces of all different people but there is only one me. I matter because..I am unique."	J.H. McGaugh Elementary PTA
3	Evan	Belzer	3	Intermediate	Visual Arts	I am Creative	I matter because..I am creative! I created an animal only I could have thought of.	J.H. McGaugh Elementary PTA
4	Elijah	Benoit	2	Primary	Literature	Our Talents		J.H. McGaugh Elementary PTA

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5	Jolie	Benoit	5	Intermediate	Literature	What Makes Us Who We Are	The piece of writing shows how what makes us special contributes to who we are. The drawings go along representing each part of me writing.	J.H. McGaugh Elementary PTA
6	Milee	Cook	3	Intermediate	Visual Arts	The Spa	Having your nails done makes you matter just the way you are. Your beauty is within and it shines through like your pretty nails.	J.H. McGaugh Elementary PTA
7	Sienna	Esposito	5	Intermediate	Visual Arts	Teachers Matter	My picture relates to this theme because when I grow up I want to be a teacher ad teachers can teach kids how to learn. So they matter.	J.H. McGaugh Elementary PTA
8	Lincoln	Fenton	5	Intermediate	Literature	The World Matters Because	This is a poem about the earth and how it shows light and darkness.	J.H. McGaugh Elementary PTA
9	Lincoln	Fenton	5	Intermediate	Photography	A Life About Dreaming	This is a picture of my little brother. He does the sport gymnastics. In gymnastics there is normally more girls than boys. But my brother is strong and motivated and doing his favorite things. He Matters!	J.H. McGaugh Elementary PTA
10	Ruben	Fenton	3	Intermediate	Literature	I Matter	This is a poem about why I matter.	J.H. McGaugh Elementary PTA
11	Ruben	Fenton	2	Intermediate	Photography	The Lonely Mango	This photo I took at the store. You can see there is a difference. Just because there is one different one doesn't mean they should be left out. They should be treated equally. All together.	J.H. McGaugh Elementary PTA
12	Ruben	Fenton	3	Intermediate	Photography	A left out Banana	Everyone always wants the perfect banana. Even if you look different, act different or talk different, you are still part of the bunch!	J.H. McGaugh Elementary PTA
13	Josie	Gardner	2	Primary	Literature	Equality Matters	I am inspired by RBG, Auggie from wonder and Dr. Martin Luther King. I want to fight for everyone's rights.	J.H. McGaugh Elementary PTA
14	Shannon	Garner	4	Intermediate	Visual Arts	Why I matter	I drew myself on paper with pencils and then blended it. I drew myself and said all the things I think are special about me.	J.H. McGaugh Elementary PTA

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15	Ayden	Gheorghe	1	Primary	Photography	Our Planet	I matter because I like animals.	J.H. McGaugh Elementary PTA
16	Ayden	Gheorghe	1	Primary	Visual Arts	Warm Colors and Cool Colors	I matter because I am kind.	J.H. McGaugh Elementary PTA
17	Zain	Gheorghe	5	Intermediate	Literature	Dear Soccer	I matter because I love learning.	J.H. McGaugh Elementary PTA
18	Zain	Gheorghe	5	Intermediate	Visual Arts	Sweet like an Orange	I matter because I am kind to nature and people.	J.H. McGaugh Elementary PTA
19	Zoe	Heiselt	4	Intermediate	Music Composition	On Top of the World	I am singing an original song of mine. My song is called Im on top of the world. What inspired me to write this song was that everybody is different and we are all the asme but we all still matter.	J.H. McGaugh Elementary PTA
20	Julia	Hererra	3	Intermediate	Literature	I'm Me.	You matter because you're you. We were all perfectly created for this world and are exactly who we are meant to be.	J.H. McGaugh Elementary PTA
21	Paige	Lamphear	1	Primary	Literature	Paige's Picture and Paper	I took pictures with my own camera. These four pictures help show why I matter.	J.H. McGaugh Elementary PTA
22	Emma	Livingston	5	Intermediate	Literature	You'll Save Me, I'll Save You.	This Poem is about how everyone should come together and be a team. But someone has to start the groups and that would be me as one of them. I matter because I want to bring people together.	J.H. McGaugh Elementary PTA
23	Emma	Livingston	5	Intermediate	Visual Arts	Trash is Gone	I matter because without people here trash would take over the earth and make an environment where humans can not live.	J.H. McGaugh Elementary PTA
24	Emma	Livingston	5	Intermediate	Visual Arts	Oxygen	I matter because I have to plant Shrubs and trees to build up our atmosphere and help our land because plants make oxygen from CO2 which is very bad for us.	J.H. McGaugh Elementary PTA

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25	Jeanne	Marki	5	Intermediate	Film Production	I matter because...	My film production shows that I matter by showing my talents and saying that I can change the world in my own ways. I matter because I can change the world.	J.H. McGaugh Elementary PTA
26	Jeanne	Marki	5	Intermediate	Music Composition	Let the Journey Begin	This song shows that I matter because I will overcome fears and do impossible things.	J.H. McGaugh Elementary PTA
27	Ben	Nguyen	K	Primary	Literature	Young Chef Ben	Young chef Ben writes a short story about how he matters because he will make recipes for everyone and help picky eaters.	J.H. McGaugh Elementary PTA
28	Chris	Nguyen	1	Primary	Literature	I Matter Because...	A short story on why Chris matters.	J.H. McGaugh Elementary PTA
29	Landon	Pardasani	1	Primary	Visual Arts	I matter because...WE ALL MATTER!	I drew my hand in different colors to show that if one person matters, doesn't it make sense that we all matter even if we look different?	J.H. McGaugh Elementary PTA
30	Raya	Pardasani	4	Intermediate	Visual Arts	I matter because I believe in the light.	I drew two high rise buildings that would normally shine with lights but made them dark. I did this to show that even in darkness, one can see the light if they believe!	J.H. McGaugh Elementary PTA
31	Mary Jane	Pitts	K	Primary	Literature	I Matter	Because God is the best. He is mighty and he is strong and I just love him!	J.H. McGaugh Elementary PTA
32	Elizabeth	Pollock	4	Intermediate	Visual Arts	Save the Animals	I matter because I want to take care of the environment and save the animals like turtles and fish. This is why I matter. Since I am a girl scout I do many projects like beach cleanups, recycling and saving water. Mostly we make the world a better place.	J.H. McGaugh Elementary PTA
33	Shea	Reilly	3	Intermediate	Literature	I Matter Because	I curate this book so people know why I matter. I think everybody matters. No matter what people think about you. You matter.	J.H. McGaugh Elementary PTA
34	Tatum	Reilly	1	Primary	Literature	My Name	I wrote a poem describing me because it's who I am and I matter.	J.H. McGaugh Elementary PTA

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35	Lucy	Simoneaux	3	Intermediate	Visual Arts	Love is All Around Us	I matter to the world because I am kind and loving. The world could use more kindness and love right now.	J.H. McGaugh Elementary PTA
36	Jack	Standlea	2	Primary	Film Production	We R One	My name is Jack Standlea and I matter because I ask people who they want to be and how they are going to help the world.	J.H. McGaugh Elementary PTA
37	Airlie	Stevens	K	Primary	Visual Arts	We are all Different	I matter because we are all different but we all matter.	J.H. McGaugh Elementary PTA
38	Sebastian	Stevens	2	Primary	Visual Arts	Helper	I matter because I am a helper. Everyone needs help sometimes.	J.H. McGaugh Elementary PTA
39	Reyna	Terry	K	Primary	Film Production	Rainbow	I matter because I want to help the ocean. I want to help sea animals like jellyfish and turtles. My video is to bring good luck to the ocean and show beauty.	J.H. McGaugh Elementary PTA
40	Skylar	Wadleigh	4	Intermediate	Visual Arts	Spreading Joy with Art		J.H. McGaugh Elementary PTA
41	Sadie	Wagner	1	Primary	Visual Arts	Be Yourself!	My project shows that I matter because I am myself and I can do so many things.	J.H. McGaugh Elementary PTA
1	Audrey	Allison	K	Primary	Visual Arts			Jack L. Weaver PTA
2	Eimaan	Aneesh	3	Intermediate	Visual Arts			Jack L. Weaver PTA
3	Atharv	Arora	1	Primary	Literature	I matter because	I am kind and I care for earth, that is why I matter.	Jack L. Weaver PTA

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4	Atharv	Arora	1	Primary	Photography	I matter because	I want to be an engineer and an astronaut so that I can explore space and make a difference in this world! I want to be an engineer and an astronaut so that I can explore space and make a difference in this world! I want to be an engineer and an astronaut so that I can explore space and make a difference in this world!	Jack L. Weaver PTA
5	Atharv	Arora	1	Primary	Visual Arts			Jack L. Weaver PTA
6	Owen	Bawek-Garcia	5	Intermediate	Visual Arts			Jack L. Weaver PTA
7	Sloane	Bawek-Garcia	2	Primary	Visual Arts	Peace matters	I care about people in the world and they care about me. When we care about each other there is peace in the world.	Jack L. Weaver PTA
8	Benedict	Broas	3	Intermediate	Literature	What matters	Everyone needs each other, and that is why they matter.	Jack L. Weaver PTA
9	Franziska	Broas	TK	Primary	Visual Arts			Jack L. Weaver PTA
10	Sebastian	Broas	1	Primary	Literature	Learning	Everyone matters because they teach us about the world.	Jack L. Weaver PTA
11	Miranda	Casas	2	Primary	Visual Arts			Jack L. Weaver PTA
12	Ellie	Chen	4	Intermediate	Literature	Why I Matter	My writing is a short, feel-good poem. It tells why I matter, why you matter, and how we are different, but that is what make us unique.	Jack L. Weaver PTA
13	Aiden	Chhe	1	Primary	Visual Arts			Jack L. Weaver PTA
14	Alexandra	Chhe	2	Primary	Visual Arts			Jack L. Weaver PTA

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15	Ian	Chou	4	Intermediate	Visual Arts			Jack L. Weaver PTA
16	Carter	Davis	3	Intermediate	Visual Arts			Jack L. Weaver PTA
17	Harper	Davis	5	Intermediate	Literature			Jack L. Weaver PTA
18	Dave	Deshpande	K	Primary	Visual Arts			Jack L. Weaver PTA
19	Isha	Deshpande	2	Primary	Music Compostion	I matter because	I have composed a song on all reasons I matter.	Jack L. Weaver PTA
20	Isha	Deshpande	2	Primary	Visual Arts	I matter because	I care about ocean life. In my artwork,I transform into a mermaid to wrap bandaid around a bleeding turtle's leg.	Jack L. Weaver PTA
21	Ariya	Dhanadia	1	Primary	Literature			Jack L. Weaver PTA
22	Ariya	Dhanadia	1	Primary	Photography	Heart of Gold	I took a picture of a red heart surrounded by gold rocks. Both red and gold colors represent that I love and care for my friends and family. This is why I matter!	Jack L. Weaver PTA
23	Ariya	Dhanadia	1	Primary	Visual Arts			Jack L. Weaver PTA
24	Mason	Ghose	5	Intermediate	Photography	The Worker Bee	Like the worker bee in the photo, I matter because just like bees if I do my part in the world it will cause my small actions to make a big difference.	Jack L. Weaver PTA
25	Teddy	Ghose	1	Primary	Visual Arts			Jack L. Weaver PTA
26	Niha	Goel	4	Intermediate	Visual Arts			Jack L. Weaver PTA
27	Meira	Golvecker	2	Primary	Visual Arts			Jack L. Weaver PTA
28	Nina	Huh	4	Intermediate	Visual Arts			Jack L. Weaver PTA

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29	Mia	Kasayama	3	Intermediate	Visual Arts			Jack L. Weaver PTA
30	Morgan	Kelsey	5	Intermediate	Photography	Nature's Friend	My photograph is of an orange marigold flower, printed on 8x10 glossy photo paper. I focused on one flower with many others in the background. I chose to photograph flowers because I care about nature. Gardening and working with nature calms me. Nature is one thing that we use in our everyday life such as paper, food and some clothes that we wear. Nature is important to me and this is why I matter.	Jack L. Weaver PTA
31	Asami	Kubota	4	Intermediate	Visual Arts			Jack L. Weaver PTA
32	Ava	La	K	Primary	Visual Arts	I am the future	I painted my favorite colors because the world is pretty. I want my hands on my painting because I do a lot of nice things with my hands. I play, I share, I create and I hug. I matter because I am the future (and I will make a difference in the world).	Jack L. Weaver PTA
33	Elyse	La	4	Intermediate	Literature	I Matter	I wrote about changing the world and why I matter.	Jack L. Weaver PTA
34	Carter	Le Duc	5	Intermediate	Literature			Jack L. Weaver PTA
35	Carter	Le Duc	5	Intermediate	Visual Arts			Jack L. Weaver PTA
36	Olivia	Le Duc	2	Primary	Visual Arts			Jack L. Weaver PTA
37	Gwendoline	Lengsfeld	4	Intermediate	Visual Arts			Jack L. Weaver PTA
38	Sloane	Lewis	2	Primary	Literature			Jack L. Weaver PTA
39	Emmy	Liu	3	Intermediate	Visual Arts			Jack L. Weaver PTA

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40	Annika	Logue	3	Intermediate	Visual Arts			Jack L. Weaver PTA
41	Isha	Masina	1	Primary	Literature	I Matter Because...	I matter because I am ME. I love the way I am - caring and grateful. I love the way I do things - being kind and loving.	Jack L. Weaver PTA
42	Isha	Masina	1	Primary	Visual Arts			Jack L. Weaver PTA
43	Ella	Moradkhani	4	Intermediate	Visual Arts			Jack L. Weaver PTA
44	Bruno	Nowell	3	Intermediate	Visual Arts			Jack L. Weaver PTA
45	Sarah	Nowell	5	Intermediate	Literature			Jack L. Weaver PTA
46	Ellie	Oh	3	Intermediate	Visual Arts	I Can Make A Difference	I matter because I can make a change in the world. Nobody knows what I can do or what I will become. I believe that everyone is here for a reason. Many small things we do everyday can change our lives, even though we don't realize that sometimes. People we see around us, like teachers, police, doctors, entrepreneurs, presidents, and more! One cured patient, one caught criminal, one new technology can change the world! I want to be one of those people who can change the world to make a difference.	Jack L. Weaver PTA
47	Emma	Oh	3	Intermediate	Visual Arts			Jack L. Weaver PTA
48	Megan	Oh	5	Intermediate	Visual Arts	This Is Me	My piece of artwork shows how I matter by showing not telling. The words of why I matter is shown in the mind. I decided to do this because I wanted to show why I think I matter not why other people think I matter.	Jack L. Weaver PTA

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49	Avalon	Ostrander	1	Primary	Visual Arts			Jack L. Weaver PTA
50	Aurora	Perez	K	Primary	Visual Arts			Jack L. Weaver PTA
51	Ellie	Phan	4	Intermediate	Visual Arts			Jack L. Weaver PTA
52	Anna	Rath	1	Primary	Literature			Jack L. Weaver PTA
53	Audrey	Rath	3	Intermediate	Literature			Jack L. Weaver PTA
54	Sylvie	Russell	4	Intermediate	Literature			Jack L. Weaver PTA
55	Nirajana	Sarkar	2	Primary	Literature			Jack L. Weaver PTA
56	Harlin	Shatzkin	4	Intermediate	Visual Arts			Jack L. Weaver PTA
57	Jonah	Simon	2	Primary	Visual Arts			Jack L. Weaver PTA
58	Kayla	Teng	5	Intermediate	Visual Arts	Nature's Mother	I matter because I have a mom and family who cares. I have a home and a place in this earth. All 7 billion people out there have a place, including me. My mom gave birth to me. I am fortunate to have been born. I will make the most of it.	Jack L. Weaver PTA
59	Nam	Vu	3	Intermediate	Visual Arts			Jack L. Weaver PTA
60	Thai	Vu	5	Intermediate	Literature			Jack L. Weaver PTA
61	Lucas	Wadleigh	4	Intermediate	Literature			Jack L. Weaver PTA
62	Emily	Woo	3	Intermediate	Visual Arts			Jack L. Weaver PTA

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63	Bradley	Wu	1	Primary	Visual Arts			Jack L. Weaver PTA
64	Tayla	Wu	5	Intermediate	Visual Arts			Jack L. Weaver PTA
65	Matthew	Zheng	K	Primary	Photography	My Little Sisters 1st Pumpkin Patch	I matter because I can take picture for my baby sister using the tricks daddy taught me.	Jack L. Weaver PTA
66	Matthew	Zheng	K	Primary	Visual Arts			Jack L. Weaver PTA
1	Penelope	Carter	K	Primary	Visual Arts	I Matter Because I Play	When I play it makes me happy.	Los Alamitos Elementary PTA
2	Sierra	Haley	5	Intermediate	Visual Arts	Waterfall Pond	My phrase "my dreams take me far" relates to each eater drop can go far and be unique.	Los Alamitos Elementary PTA
3	Brady	Hollar	4	Intermediate	Visual Arts	Friendship	I am giving someone else an apple. I matter because I always help people in need and always be thoughtful and have manners.	Los Alamitos Elementary PTA
4	Jameson	Hollar	5	Intermediate	Visual Arts	Tarzan	I made me as Tarzan because I do musical theater. I have inspired other kids to join theater and do aerial silks. Tarzan matters because he is helpful and always wants to learn.	Los Alamitos Elementary PTA
5	Ephraim	Priyakumar	2	Primary	Music Composition	Happy Rap	I matter because I can sing. I can make music and music makes people happy.	Los Alamitos Elementary PTA
6	Nathaniel	Priyakumar	5	Intermediate	Film Production	Noah And The 3 Bullies	Noah is a stammerer. He is being bullied by 3 guys. Noah defends himself by telling them why he matters. The bullies learned their lesson.	Los Alamitos Elementary PTA
7	Andrea-Zoelle	Ruiz	5	Intermediate	Literature	I Matter!	My poem and drawing relates to the theme because it describes and forms me. It says I matter, I am unique, and important. The tiger has character traits of me and is my favorite wild animal. Also, in my poem, it says, "A to Z." That is just a shortening of my two first names that some of my teachers call me.	Los Alamitos Elementary PTA

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8	Zoe	Tang	5	Intermediate	Visual Arts	My Culture Matters	I matter because my culture matters and I made it matter because it matters to a lot of other people. So, it is very important to me and other people.	Los Alamitos Elementary PTA
1	Raphael	Bitton	12	High School	Music Composition	For You	"For You" is a through-composed SATB choral work that seeks to unify people through song and encourage people to reach out to others during these tough times. When working on the song, I wanted to share my belief that music should be a uniting force and that everyone should feel welcomed and loved. **Singing in SATB is really hard during the pandemic so I did my best to get recordings and put them together without affecting the presentation of the song. Some rhythms and pitches are off, so please use the provided score.	Los Alamitos High School PTSA
2	Toni	Clingan-Puhr	11	High School	Music Composition	Sensory Rush	I wrote Sensory Rush to vocalize the issues I have with my senses that other kids might not deal with. Things like loud noise, hospital smells, bad textures and foods that aren't plain all play a part in upsetting me, but I'm not bad because of these experiences. I'm still important and I still matter.	Los Alamitos High School PTSA
3	Walker	Dean	11	High School	Music Composition	Xpansion	Why does my life matter? This year in English and History we've been studying Westward Expansion. I began to realize there's no more West to expand to. My song is a chaotic and unsettling composition that exclaims "Can't go West no more!" and that is why my life matters. Keep our earth safe because there's no more West to explore.	Los Alamitos High School PTSA

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4	Aron	Delos Reyez	12	High School	Music Composition	Confession That I Matter	The reason that I chose to write this song is because since we are in the COVID season, I realize that a lot of people decide to have a lot of depression and anxiety because they are scared of getting the virus. I wrote this song so you don't have to be afraid because if one person can stay positive, than anyone can stay positive.	Los Alamitos High School PTSA
5	Luke	Goldade	11	High School	Literature	The Big Struggle	"Fatso", chubby", "chunky", "heifer", "porker", "plump"...What else did you hear on your playground or at your school? Why do we shame fat kids? Bullying needs to end. The social stigma of being overweight follows kids throughout their lives and as adults. Overweight Americans face challenges physically and emotionally. I wrote this essay to share my grandmother's struggles. My grandma's life matters; I matter because I can share her story.I can help change the pattern of childhood obesity with overweight kids growing into plus size adults. I matter because I can help change society's perspective of the obese elderly.	Los Alamitos High School PTSA

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6	Luke	Goldade	11	High School	Photography	Wayward	Do you have a runaway plan? Do you know of a safe place to shelter? Some of my friends have shared their plans to escape problems. I am concerned that teenagers face intense fears and insecurities. I hope that my photograph will illuminate the problems teens face at home and at school that can drive them to run away. Mental health matters. Teen lives matter. I matter because I can share their story. My photograph of feet walking the railroad symbolizes the uncertainty of the path that teenagers experience whether it is personal problems, isolation, or new hope for the future.	Los Alamitos High School PTSA
7	Bailey	Gomez	12	High School	Dance Choreography		I wanted to represent dance choreography and I chose this song because the lyrics represent everything I have felt since Covid-19 has begun. When Celine sings "To feel the chance to live again I reminisce the times I took dancing on stage for granted and hope I could feel the freedom and excitement rush through my toes again. While I am not able to showcase my talent on stage I've found creative outlets to compete and enjoy my passion. While recording video submissions for competitions is still different, I still matter.	Los Alamitos High School PTSA

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8	Dimitri	June	9	High School	Photography	Connection in Isolation	Seemingly random elements express disillusion. I'm connected in isolation. In isolation I ask, " <i>How do I Matter?</i> " Dirt represents emptiness. In the emptiness is an abstract mural of figures. They are painted black and white, still and flat. The figures are boxed in but separated. Powerlines, telephone poles, and cell tower refer to connection but lack of humanity. The truck with the flag triggers questions about our nation: Who is the driver? What is the destination? The shadow of the telephone pole forms a barrier between the scene and the observer. Darkened elements seek light as national issues need attention.	Los Alamitos High School PTSA
9	Rui	Kong	10	High School	Visual Arts	The Candle of Hope	For a variety of reasons, many people still live in the darkness. We live in the light. It is possible to touch them by a smile, a hug, and even some words. Their hearts will be filled with hope and light. I matter because I want to help them find hope and happiness, and pass love to them."When fears are grounded, dreams take flight." -Jenova Chen Candle is a symbol of light and hope, and coronavirus and the game, "Sky:Children of the Light", inspired me.	Los Alamitos High School PTSA

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10	Irene (Soomin)	Lee	10	High School	Visual Arts	Purpose for Difference	Growing up, I struggled finding my purpose in life because of my fear toward self-expression. However, my talent was revealed when I decided to let go of my hesitancy in life. I matter because I create. Through the artwork, I wanted to depict the power I possess and the sudden desire to impact the world. While the hands and the string symbolizes the self-doubt I experienced, the buttons and light emphasizes the dedication to use my talent in art to make a difference. By continuing to create inspirational art, I desire to help others realize their self-worth and significance.	Los Alamitos High School PTSA
11	Francesca	Macomber	12	High School	Visual Arts	You....Aren't Alone	My entry symbolizes how it's okay to be emotionally vulnerable, and it's okay to lean on friends. Lavender represents calmness, and the scent of it is used to soothe anxiety, so I included lavender plants in the background. The theme "I Matter" appears in the artwork, because it's important to remember that one is not alone; I have family and friends who are always here for me and who remind me that...I matter. We matter...The boy who is crying is supported by his friends, and the gesture of touching the hand is a physical reminder of this theme.	Los Alamitos High School PTSA

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12	Kaia	Majka	9	High School	Visual Arts	We Matter	When I think about what it means to matter, I think of how one affects others, even if that only means making someone smile when they're down. I hope to matter as a result of helping others, and fighting for LGBTQIA+ rights. As a part of the community, this cause is very close to me; many people are afraid to show who they truly are, out of fear of how people around them will react. I hope to dedicate my life to ensuring that no one has to apologize for who they are. I hope to matter for this reason.	Los Alamitos High School PTSA
13	Dylan	Marquez	10	High School	Music Composition	You Matter Because You Care	My song is a simple short song. This song is about me singing to a girl (which represents me) about why she (I) matter. Admittedly, it is not the best and I didn't have all of the materials needed.	Los Alamitos High School PTSA
14	Jessica	Moses	12	High School	Music Composition	What Matters to Me	This song relates to the prompt because it shows that I am not afraid to fail; because I will still be important if I do. My song goes through two of the major transitions I've had- going from dancing to singing. Music is important to me, so writing a song helps me remember that I matter. I arranged the music this way because I feel that it enhances the words.	Los Alamitos High School PTSA

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15	Vincent	Ngo	12	High School	Music Composition	Wandering	<i>Wandering</i> is made of three parts. The introduction is in A pentatonic minor and features fleeting ostinatos, representing the energy and chaos in youth. However, it is interrupted by a non-functional bridge. While the chaos in the beginning had an underlying order, this section is meant to pull the rug from under your feet. The percussion flails instead of giving a steady rhythm. It represents a changing worldview and the question "I matter because..." is introduced. After a moment of thought, the music collects itself and has found an answer. More powerful than before, it ends on a major chord.	Los Alamitos High School PTSA
16	Benjamin	Pareti	9	High School	Visual Arts	I Matter Because	My art submission relates to the "I Matter Because" theme because it depicts several aspects of my personality that matter in the world. Each character in my drawing corresponds to a skill, hobby, or passion that I enjoy, and each of these characteristics matter because they shape who I am.	Los Alamitos High School PTSA
17	Samantha	Paul	12	High School	Literature	Milo Moves Away	I matter because I want to spark change across the world. I care very deeply about animals and the environment, so one day I hope to become a wildlife veterinarian. Although I am too young to be a vet right now, I still want to make a difference today, which is why I wrote and illustrated <i>Milo Moves Away</i> . I know that my generation and the youth of today are Earth's last hope, so I made this book to raise awareness of environmental issues in hopes that children will be inspired to take action to help our planet and its wildlife.	Los Alamitos High School PTSA

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18	Gia	Poznanski	11	High School	Music Composition	I've Got Plans For You	"I matter because." This theme was an interesting concept to fully communicate effectively. At least for me it was. My song is about those who do not quite fit in to society. Their lack of conformity is celebrated because their eccentric mindsets make the world a more vibrant place. I matter because despite being a little crazy, I have interesting plans for my future. Like I always tell my friends: "I'm on board the awesome train and you can either hop on or get run over."	Los Alamitos High School PTSA
19	Audrey	Savedra	9	High School	Music Composition	You	The song, YOU, I created is based off of my emotions and how that sometimes affects how I am around others. Often, my emotions get the best of me and I end up unintentionally hurting the ones I love, who make me who I am. This song focuses on how despite I have my own problems going on, my friends and family stayed by my side and supported me throughout everything. They are the reason I matter.	Los Alamitos High School PTSA
20	Sally	Stuart	12	High School	Dance Choreography	Open Doors	I matter because I open the door, for girls like me, to break societal expectations on what a girl should look like. I matter because strength and grace should not be an oxymoron. In dance, I find the courage to be authentic, accomplishing things no one, not even myself, believed I could. I matter because I am proof that others have no right to predetermine your future according to their biases. I matter because I work to ensure all girls have the opportunity to experience the freedom and joy I feel when dancing.	Los Alamitos High School PTSA

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21	Jean	Sullivan	12	High School	Literature	"You Matter"	It's true, you matter. But what's also true is that too many people don't believe it. My hope is that this poem reaches at least one person and helps them realize their truth. And I felt like I was taking a risk by creating a heart shape within the lines of my poem because it would be too "cheesy", but what about love is so "cheesy" that it renders it insignificant? I shape my words into a message of love so that someone else can take it and spread that love to the next person who needs it.	Los Alamitos High School PTSA
22	Jean	Sullivan	12	High School	Literature	"No"	No, I wasn't okay before I wrote this. I was feeling the lowest I had in months. But I said NO, enough of this, I want something better for myself. This poem marks one of my greatest revelations: No, I am not weak, I am self-motivated, determined, and I will keep moving forward on this foggy, twisted path of life. I deserve to keep going, everyone does, because the life ahead of them matters and the struggles they've overcome to get here matter. They matter. That's something I want everyone to <i>really</i> know. I hope this helps them realize it.	Los Alamitos High School PTSA

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23	Jean	Sullivan	12	High School	Music Composition	For Now	"For Now", it's hopeful, but tired. Like one who looks toward the future for a better tomorrow, but is aware of their dreary present. I worked four straight hours on this, driven by frustration at society for not taking better care of our world, and at myself for knowing this and not doing anything more impactful to help. But this which came straight from my aching heart says that no one can do it alone, and it's okay to feel this way, but that no one should carry the weight of our problematic world on their shoulders. Our combined efforts matter.	Los Alamitos High School PTSA
24	Alicia	Tan	10	High School	Literature	A Glimps Through A Foggy Window	This poem is a message from my best self to my worst self in which my best self explains the worries it has about my worst self. I used the theme of "I matter because" by illustrating that no matter how hard you try, a part of yourself will always believe that you don't. Even so, there is also a part of you constantly reminding you that you do, displaying that we matter only if we let that little part of ourselves tell us we do.	Los Alamitos High School PTSA
25	Owen	Trevino	11	High School	Music Composition	Happy	My family has always been a big inspiration and helped me throughout my life.	Los Alamitos High School PTSA
26	Elazar	Vilensky	12	High School	Music Composition	One Day At A Time	This song explores the idea of caring for others and how that gives meaning to existing.	Los Alamitos High School PTSA

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27	Samantha	Wildman	11	High School	Literature	The Magic of Food	I believe that an artist's work is up to interpretation, so I hope any readers will keep an open mind, read the piece first, make their own opinions/create their own ideas about its topics, and then, take my own interpretation into account. Relating to current events and discussing anxiety, my piece focuses on how people matter and how their worth to those around them/society cannot be quantified based on one thing alone. As we all know, there is more to a person than meets the eye. Likewise, it is essential for people to never let something define them. Hopefully, this piece might be able to spread awareness and make people feel like they are not in this alone.	Los Alamitos High School PTSA
1	Brooklyn	Bliss-Frisinger	7	Middle School	Literature	We Matter Because...	The writing paper is to show that we all matter, in our own way.	McAuliffe Middle PTA
2	Maleah	Fennessey	8	Middle School	Literature	Who Am I?	Who am I discusses different parts of identity using body parts as symbols. Another theme is the expression of individuality. The poem is written in a first person perspective but it is not an individual. It may not directly state why the main character matters.	McAuliffe Middle PTA
3	Keila	Holsey	6	Middle School	Literature	I Matter Because I am a Older Sister	My Reflections contest poem relates to the theme because it describes why I matter. It describes what being an older sister is like. I matter because I'm the oldest sister and have to take care of my little sisters.	McAuliffe Middle PTA
4	Tasha	Johnson	6	Middle School	Visual Arts	I Am	The theme is I matter because. My painting is about how special, smart, nice and anything else that they are. This relates to the theme because both are talking about how important people are and why.	McAuliffe Middle PTA

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5	Riley	Mitchell	6	Middle School	Visual Arts	I Matter Because I'm Me	My work realtes to the theme because I wanted to express that no one is perfect and we only matter for being ourselves. Not for being perfect. Also, I wanted to express that I matter because I am a good person.	McAuliffe Middle PTA
6	Liam	Park	6	Middle School	Visual Arts	I Matter Because I am a Part of the Infinite Universe	In my artwork, I represented myself in the universe by using a photo of myself placed upon a painted background of a galaxy. You will notice the galaxy in my eye. I added a butterfly and a hurricane because according to chaos theory a butterfly that flaps its wings can lead to a series of changes that can create a hurricane. My artwork reflects the message that I matter because I am part of the fabric of an infinite universe and a small action that I can make can lead to big changes. The change I can affect is infinite.	McAuliffe Middle PTA

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7	Yara	Saadeh	7	Middle School	Dance Choreography	This is Me and I Matter!	"Our lives begin to end the day that we become silent about the things that matter" Martin Luther King I couldn't agree more with Dr. Martin Luther King My name is Yara Saadeh and I am a seventh grader at McAuliffe Middle School. The theme, "I matter because " is such a strong statement. For someone to know and accept the fact that they matter in their own shape and beauty is a hard thing to come by. Many people think that if they are different or have a disability they don't matter. They think that they don't have a chance to go up against people that (they think) are perfect. The truth is it makes no difference if you are a kid or if you have a disability or even if you have different colored skin. You are still a human being. You still matter. I danced to the song "This is me" by Keala Settle to show that no matter who or what you are, you matter! In the song it says, "But, I won't let them break me down to dust. I know that there is a place for us!" This segment of the song emphasises the them "I matter." It shows that they can try to tear down, but they will find their place! It shows all the people that thought that they don't matter realising that they do. I wore a gray costume to symbolize that you don't need anything bright or shiny to show that you matter. I loved this song because it showed me all these different perspectives of "I maater." I hope you enjoy my danceand that you understand, I matter because this is Me and you matter because this is You! Thank You!	McAuliffe Middle PTA

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8	Emi	Watanabe	7	Middle School	Film Production	My Worth	Whenever one of my friends is at a low point, I am here to help them up. If my friends are fighting amongst themselves, I help find a solution to resolve the problem. Taking care of relationships between my friends is important to me. It concerns me when any of my friends feel extreme low self worth, so I encourage them to be true to themselves and be happy with who they are. Sometimes all it takes is a hug. This strengthens our friendship, especially through tough times. This shows my worth and why I matter in this world.	McAuliffe Middle PTA
9	Emy	Chen	8	MS	Literature	Why I Matter	I wrote about the importance of my own voice and writing. With these two, I have the power to create changes in my own community. My voice matters, which is why I matter.	Oak Middle School PTA
10	Sasha	Farajian	7	Middle School	Visual Arts	Line Art	I matter because I was given a life and I intend to live it to it's fullest. Living my life ti the fullest means helping people in need and makeing a positive difference in the world. In hopes that the next generation can have an easier life.	Oak Middle School PTA
11	Shawati	Jay	6	Middle School	Photography	The Message from the Beach	The subject is my younger sister who matters to me!	Oak Middle School PTA
12	Sophia	June	6	Middle School	Literature	A Matter of Heart	This is a rhythmic poem about why I matter. I use "I matter" in a rhyhmic pattern to give my poem a beat like my heart.	Oak Middle School PTA
13	Sophia	June	6	Middle School	Visual Arts	True Colors	This is a self portrait of my true colors. We are many colors that define us. Some are open to the world and others are hidden deep inside. I was inspired by the connection between abstract art and human nature.	Oak Middle School PTA

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14	Thani	June	6	Middle School	Visual Arts	Sunlight	I painted this to the music of Mozart. These colors came to me and I put them on black canvas. The sun inspired me to give light to the darkness. I matter because I have to be the light in darkness.	Oak Middle School PTA
15	Lauren	Kassawara	7	Middle School	Photography	Reflection Within	I matter because, I rescued her once. She saves me everyday. She saves me from boredom and loneliness during this pandemic. If I could, I would rescue all the homeless animals. I matter.	Oak Middle School PTA
16	Bridgette	Knapp	8	Middle School	Visual Arts	"Crewsing"	I matter because I am part of an amazing family and wonderful crew team. I love rowing because while I am on the water I forget about everything and just have fun! Being a part of these things make me feel like I matter because I know I am loved.	Oak Middle School PTA
17	Sana	Lam	7	Middle School	Visual Arts	Flower Fireworks	I matter because I have an ability to change. I made an origami flower fireworks to show that we can change because this firework can change into different shapes.	Oak Middle School PTA
1	Wolfgang	Lengsfeld	6	Middle School	Visual Arts	Half of Me	A world that was not able to get everyone to stop climate change vs a world that succeeded in stopping climate change because I had helped everyone.	Oak Middle School PTA
2	Sohan	Manur	6	Middle School	Literature	Everybody Matters	It not only shows that I matter; but that everybody does.	Oak Middle School PTA

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3	Paige	Oleson Hardy	7	Middle School	Photography	The Heart of a Dandelion	As I wondered through the par, I came across a dandelion. It was seemingly alone, and it mesmerized me. I knelt to my knees to get a closer look and to take a picture of it. I hadn't realized what a beautiful picture. it was until later. To my surprise, it captured the sun in the most beautiful way. This photo reminds me that beauty is in everything, and if you look a little deeper and try a little harder, you will find it. I matter because even though I'm one of a billion, my unique light always shines.	Oak Middle School PTA
4	Mairi	Payne	8	Middle School	Visual Arts	I Matter Because I Heal	The art shows how we as a community heal all from broken hearts to mother earth's perfect ecosystem. The colors also show emotion in the piece.	Oak Middle School PTA
5	Rosen	Phyllisia	8	Middle School	Visual Arts	My Kindness is a Continuum	I matter because even in a pandemic, I still know that kindness is a continuum. From wearing a mask to connecting with friends online, each act matters. Similar to the stars coming together to make a beautiful night sky, everybody's kind acts contribute to the brightness in a dark place.	Oak Middle School PTA
6	Luke	Pinto	7	Middle School	Visual Arts	Love Matters	I know I am just a kid but my life matters. This drawing represents the three areas in my life that I	Oak Middle School PTA
7	Ryder	Rafferty	6	Middle School	Photography	Footsteps on the Beach	I took this photo with my dad's I-Phone 5. This photo was taken in sunset beach in summer. I was inspired to enter this photo because I believed . The theme is I matter because; so this is why I matter. I matter because every footstep I take, every breath I make, I know will lead to something bigger. I can continue to possibly bigger things in the future. And this is where I start.	Oak Middle School PTA

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8	Garrett	Stilinovich	7	Middle School	Film Production	One of a Seagull	Our seagull friend goes through some tough challenges throughout his day. Later, he will find out what really matters. I created an animated movie from approximately 80 individual pencil drawings. Using stop animation, I combined all of the images into a movie and then added my own piano music as a score.	Oak Middle School PTA
1	Emma	Boatwright	3	Intermediate	Dance Choreography	This is Me	I made this dance because even in the dark you can be glorious. At the end of the dance it show who I'm meant to be and it shows why I matter.	Richard Henry Lee Elementary PTA
2	Shunki	Lam	3	Intermediate	Visual Arts	Now and Future	I matter because I am the future in the world. I want to keep the nature alive forever.	Richard Henry Lee Elementary PTA
3	Hannah	Loomis	2	Primary	Visual Arts	Grammy's Hibiscus	I matter because I can draw and paint in my own way. It makes me feel happy to paint. I took my grandma's picture of her hibiscus and I painted one.	Richard Henry Lee Elementary PTA
4	Sydney	Loomis	4	Intermediate	Visual Arts	Sydney's Creation	I matter because I am creative. I like to create and embroider my own things. I am very generous. I love to give my creations away to friends and family that makes them feel good.	Richard Henry Lee Elementary PTA
5	Elliott	Miller	1	Primary	Visual Arts	Get Your Head in the Clouds	It's important to be yourself	Richard Henry Lee Elementary PTA

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1	Alice	Clary	5	Special Arts	Visual Arts	I Matter, (try to) Change my mind	I used ibispaint to make this drawing. It's a homemade meme that includes highish detailed artwork. I have a stubborn brain, so it's gonna be hard to take down my self-confidence. I used my main original character, aka Aleano, to represent me! The drawing took about haft an hour, with four separate layers; including: a sketch, line art coloring, and shading with few highlights.	Rossmoor Elementary PTA
2	Sydney	Clary	5	Intermediate	Film Production	Hey, Friend.	This animation represents how my friends will always find a way to cheer me up. They make me feel like I always matter. The game I mentioned is Among Us, and lately my friends and I have a lot of fun playing! The characters in the animation are my friends avatars. (Yes, they agreed to me putting their first names in.) Thank you to everyone who inspired me to do that!	Rossmoor Elementary PTA
3	Tanner	Gurrola	4	Intermediate	Visual Arts	Child of God	I painted a cross because it reminds me when Jesus died on the cross He did it for me, so that I could live in eternity with Him. Right now He is making a special place for me in heaven. So this is why I matter, because I'm a child of God.	Rossmoor Elementary PTA
4	Leina	Hsu	3	Intermediate	Visual Arts	Love What Matters	My artwork relates to the theme because it is important to love others and yourself. I take care of myself so that I am healthy enough to show others love. I show love by helping others. When you help someone, it could make the other person happy.	Rossmoor Elementary PTA
5	Malia	Komer	4	Intermediate	Film Production	My Day	This film reflects I matter because it shows a typical day for me.	Rossmoor Elementary PTA
6	Malia	Komer	4	Intermediate	Literature	All about Makia Komer	This poemreflects I matter because it shows qho I am and how I am. (My poem is 79 words)	Rossmoor Elementary PTA

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7	Malia	Komer	4	Intermediate	Music Composition	Listen	My song reflects I matter because it shows how I like to play the guitar and is the first time I composed an original song.	Rossmoor Elementary PTA
8	Malia	Komer	4	Intermediate	Photography	Backyard	This photograph reflects I matter because I am really into a clean sustainable environment. I took a picture of our lemon bush and our beautiful plumeria tree.	Rossmoor Elementary PTA
9	Malia	Komer	4	Intermediate	Visual Arts	Things I Do	This painting reflects I matter because it shows all the things I like to do.	Rossmoor Elementary PTA
10	Sophia	MacCready	4	Intermediate	Visual Arts	I will, I am	I matter because I'm strong, I'm smart, and I will change the world.	Rossmoor Elementary PTA
11	Danica	Rodriguez	4	Intermediate	Visual Arts	Simply Me!!!	My work shows me, with my arms open wide, smiling, in a rosy dress. Around me is boxes with what makes me unique. For example, in one of the boxes is a pair of ballet shoes to represent that I am a dancer. My work relates to the theme by showing why I matter, which I matter because I am unique. I am my own person so I think that is important about me because there is no one else like me. I think I matter because I am unique.	Rossmoor Elementary PTA
12	Teah	Semingson	4	Intermediate	Visual Arts	Small Actions Make Big Change	This art represents how my actions matter to help the Earth stay clean for all living things. My seaturtle shows how I collected trash from the beach and made it inot something beautiful. I can make a difference by picking up a little part of the trach on the beach because it helps the ocean stay clean. My artwork can influence other people to be more mindful about the life around us.	Rossmoor Elementary PTA
13	Taylor	Steece	4	Intermediate	Visual Arts	Atoms	It relates to the theme because Atmos also equal matter and matter is the theme.	Rossmoor Elementary PTA