

Speak Your Piece

Jaden Alfonso

October 20, 2024

First Christian Academy

We are complex individuals that are distinct from each other, but have one important thing in common. We are human beings; we want to be loved and accepted, we long for friendship, we want hope, we want to contribute positively to society, we want successful lives. Because of that, it's in our nature to *connect* with each other.

Yet, that connection is constantly broken. There is violence in schools, wars, suicide, and other devastating events that bring nothing but sadness and struggle. Influences of dishonesty, hate, and anger have taken control of us, breaking the togetherness we are meant to have.

This piece is meant to deny that and embrace the beauty of joining together. Each character coming from each corner represents the diversity and vibrancy of mankind. Every human is individually unique; there is no "same" person. The purpose of including different elements of nature pertaining to each character is to bring light to how we are a creation, just like nature, and that the way we are connected to nature is an example of how we are connected to each other. The background colors belonging to each character bleed and fade into a white center, which demonstrates how even with our differences, whether it is our appearance, our home life, our opinions, we can still accept each other. At the white center, the hands come together in a soft, delicate touch. This demonstrates how with the simplest and gentlest acts of acceptance and compassion, we can have an impact on the world. With the want to connect and the ability to accept, we are led into love. It has been built into us to love, and when we love, it is not violence that results. It is peace.

12/27/2024  
10/20/2024