

Aiden G. – Smithtown – We are all equal.

Ameryka C-Kings Park-Take off Your Blindfold - Have you ever been judged before? Have you ever been put into a stereotype? The drawing I created is dedicated to those feelings. The feelings that you keep to yourself because you feel like no one will understand you. Being biased is prejudice, in favor of or against one thing. Many people are biased, in fact you were probably biased today with a decision you made. It is not a bad thing, it is normal, but when does it become a problem? It becomes a problem when people have a lot to say about lives they've never lived. As well as when people do not accept the fact that other people can be different and have more than one opinion. But people fail to understand and accept people generally see what they look for and hear what they listen for. Whenever someone is biased their intention is to get their point across. Being Biased can turn into bullying for having other points of views. Bullying can cause a lot of anxiety and many other negative factors in someone's life. In my drawing you can see 2 girls representing being biased and bullying, they are covered with blind folds because usually these people do not accept the fact that they are wrong and are close minded. The girl in the middle has been set from the blindfold and can see but is peeking through her fingers which are painted with colors that show positivity and getting out of her comfort zone little by little. You learn from your lessons and you learn from every mistake. Even if you at one point were biased and it led to bullying you still have the opportunity to open your eyes. You are not alone, and just keep going today.

Austin W. – Smithtown - For my poster I chose a to speak about race, and sexuality. I chose to speak about these topics because I believe in today's society there really shouldn't be any discrimination towards people that are different than yourself. We are all human no matter who you like, or the color of your skin. In my poster I wanted to portray that by blending the hands together with the rainbow flag in the background.

Ella R. – Smithtown-Beautiful Together - For my anti-bias artwork this year, I chose to present a flower of eggs. My family has kept chickens since I was in elementary school, and we love the variety of eggs they give us. My mom and I can tell which chicken laid which egg, each is unique! All the diverse colors and sizes are beautiful together on the skelter. When brainstorming what I could photograph for this project, I thought of the eggs. Every hen lays her own signature color, shape, and size. They can be round, long, bumpy, speckled, tiny, and surprisingly to some, chocolate brown or blue! But the most important part, just like people, is what's inside. The best egg is one that comes from a hen that's well cared for. It doesn't matter what someone looks like, only that we treat them with love and respect. The flower represents the natural beauty of everyone coming together. Remember, be a good egg!

Luke B. – Smithtown - The title of my work is called *One People*. I called it *One people* because everyone on this Earth should work together and not discriminate against each other. We only have one world so why should we destroy it by fighting and discriminating?

Mia B.-Smithtown-Discrimination is an Epidemic-I chose to focus my anti-bias topic on LGBT student's experiences. They often feel alienated from their peers and isolated due to their sexuality and/or gender identities. School is a difficult place for LGBT students to feel comfortable in and in many circumstances, they are treated differently than their peers and discriminated against for something they cannot control. Smithtown is not excluded from this behavior towards LGBT students, therefore I wanted to focus my poster on this issue specifically. In my piece, I represent the isolation of feeling different from your peers and being treated differently by your peers. I wanted to illustrate the physical act of excluding someone for their sexuality or gender as well as the emotional aspect. I used black and white editing to further emphasize the feeling of being excluded and create a more serious tone. When students are alienated because of something they can't control, their world is no longer bright and their childhood is stripped away. My subject is being excluded from a game by his peers and is pictured walking away with his head down, representing how many young people feel

when they are discriminated against due to their sexuality or gender in any circumstance. Discrimination leaves students feeling lost and helpless in communities where they should be growing and learning and this ultimately hinders their safety and development. My subject is off to the side, as if discarded, while the other kids continue their game showcasing the real sad reality student's face on a daily basis due to their sexual orientation or gender identity. I also wanted my piece to encourage others to stand up and say something when they witness an act of discrimination rather than stand by. It is important for communities to uplift and protect each other rather than alienate those who seem different and I wanted to portray that through my work as well.

Owen R.- Smithtown-Sunset Wheel -The picture that I made is about bias against people in wheelchairs. My grandma is in a wheelchair and there are so many places that are not wheelchair friendly. Some people get annoyed that it takes longer to get around and do things in wheelchairs, which isn't nice. I wish they would do a better job. The picture is of a wheelchair wheel with an eye in it. I wish more people would see and care about making the world more wheelchair friendly. I put a sunset on the inside because sunsets are always nice and so is getting rid of bias against people in wheelchairs.

Samir E.-Kings Park-We are the same...even the blood in our veins. If I were ever bullied about my skin color, I would feel very upset and depressed. Life will be good without bullying because everyone will be confident and outgoing. To eliminate bias and bullying, think before you speak and post online.

Shane S.- Smithtown - Peace As One -My topic is ethnicity and race. In the photo Children are in a circle holding up a peace sign around a globe with countries on it.

Tristan M.-Hauppauge- Embrace Your Uniqueness - Should someone ever make you feel embarrassed or ashamed to be different, remember: What makes them the rightful judge of your life? Do not let the actions or beliefs of others dictate how you see and live your life. Our differences are what make humanity beautiful, diverse, and exciting. You are one of a kind, so why look at that as a bad thing? Embrace it. Embrace your uniqueness.

Tristan M.-Hauppauge-Be Kind- No two humans are going to be the same, where even twins can be completely different. No one has to adapt other beliefs if they disagree, but to fight everyone for their differences will accomplish nothing. So, what should be done? Respectfully disagree, accept others for who they are, and above all be kind.