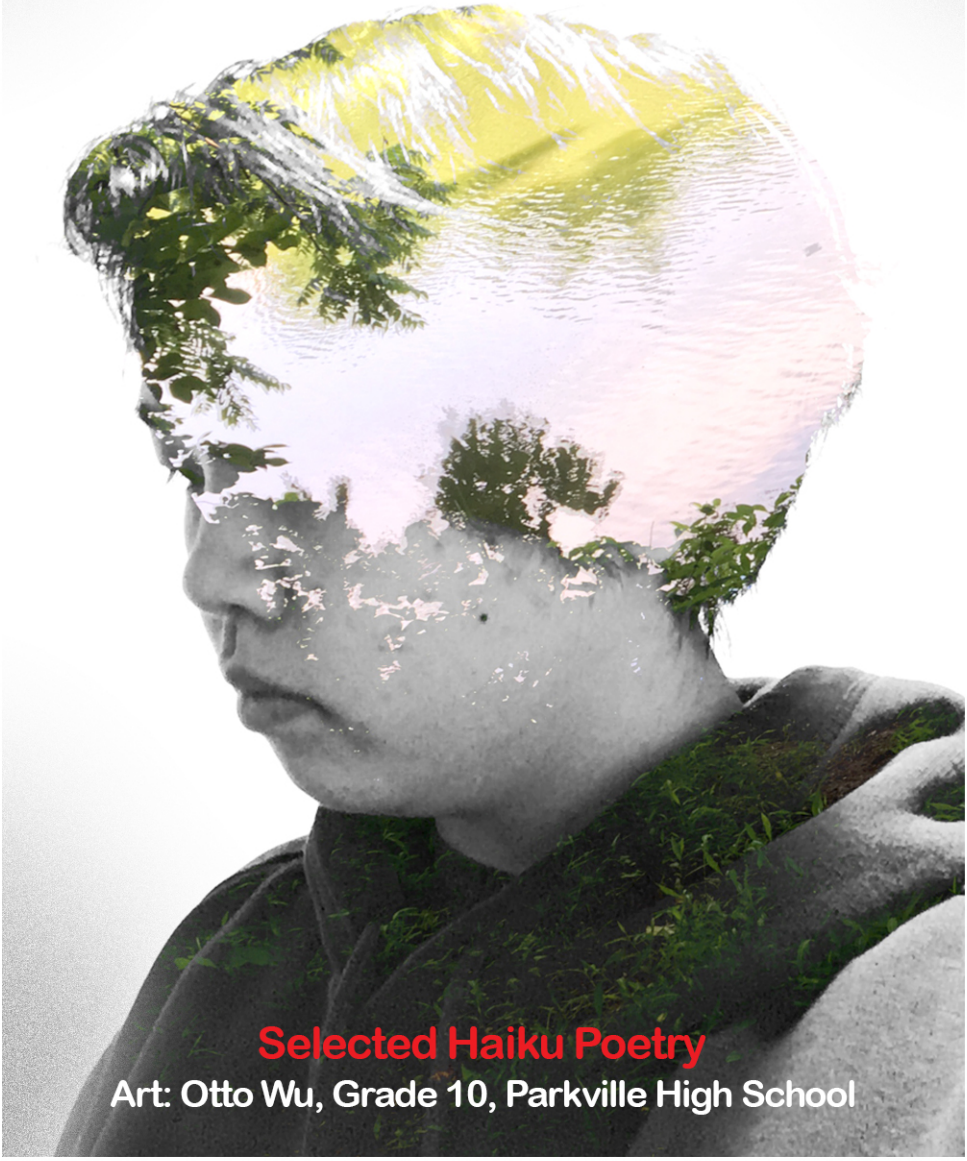
TEAM BCPS

2021 Haiku poetry contest

Theme: Change



Selected Haiku Poetry

Art: Otto Wu, Grade 10, Parkville High School

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Introduction

Despite the many challenges of COVID-19 for our community, the 2021 Team BCPS Haiku Contest resulted in our highest ever school participation. In our fifth year, students from 108 schools entered the contest, setting a record that we hope to surpass in the future.

We have tremendous appreciation for our educators, who encourage students to give haiku a try each March. In response to our request for a three-line poem (five syllables in line one, seven syllables in line two, and five syllables in line three), we received a whopping 1,649 entries.

This year's theme of change inspired many angles, from new school routines during the pandemic, to commentary about growing up, painful losses, the seasons, and the environment. We were struck by the resilient tone of the entries, as our young people told us a story in 17 syllables, sometimes humorous and often poignant.

Our panel of judges was charged with the arduous task of choosing just one contest winner at each school level. After a lengthy debate, the following were chosen:

Elementary School Winner
Aubrey Suljak, Jacksonville Elementary School, Grade 5

Middle School Winner
Madilyn Senisse, Arbutus Middle School, Grade 8

High School Winner
Noah Colosino, George Washington Carver Center for Arts and Technology, Grade 10

Each winner earned the following prize pack: gift cards from The Charmery and The Ivy Bookshop, and a framed poster of their haiku from BCPS.

Our distinguished 14-member judging panel included staff from the Department of Communications and Community Outreach, Office of English Language Arts, Division of Human Resources, and student Madeline Carlson, George Washington Carver Center for Arts and Technology, Grade 10.

An additional 190 haiku were chosen by the judges to compile this book. Student artwork was selected to complement each section of the book.

The Haiku Contest is only possible because of the support and enthusiasm of BCPS teachers and students. We celebrate and honor our writers and artists for their contributions, and we hope you enjoy this book.

* Please note that poems are presented as submitted, without corrections to writers' spelling and grammar.

Elementary School Winner

2021 Team BCPS Haiku Poetry Contest

Walks in with no cure

Takes all the toilet paper

Stays for a whole year

Aubrey Suljak, Grade: 5

Jacksonville Elementary School

Teacher: Kimberly Kelch

Middle School Winner

2021 Team BCPS Haiku Poetry Contest

I watched it happen
the people chanting for change
fists high in the air

Madilyn Senisse, Grade: 8

Arbutus Middle School

Teacher: Rebecca Bowers

High School Winner

2021 Team BCPS Haiku Poetry Contest

us and the trees stand
both stark naked and waiting
beaming thoughts of bloom

Noah Colosino, Grade: 10

George Washington Carver Center for Arts and Technology

Teacher: Rebecca Mlinek

Selected Haiku Poems 2021

2021 Haiku poetry contest

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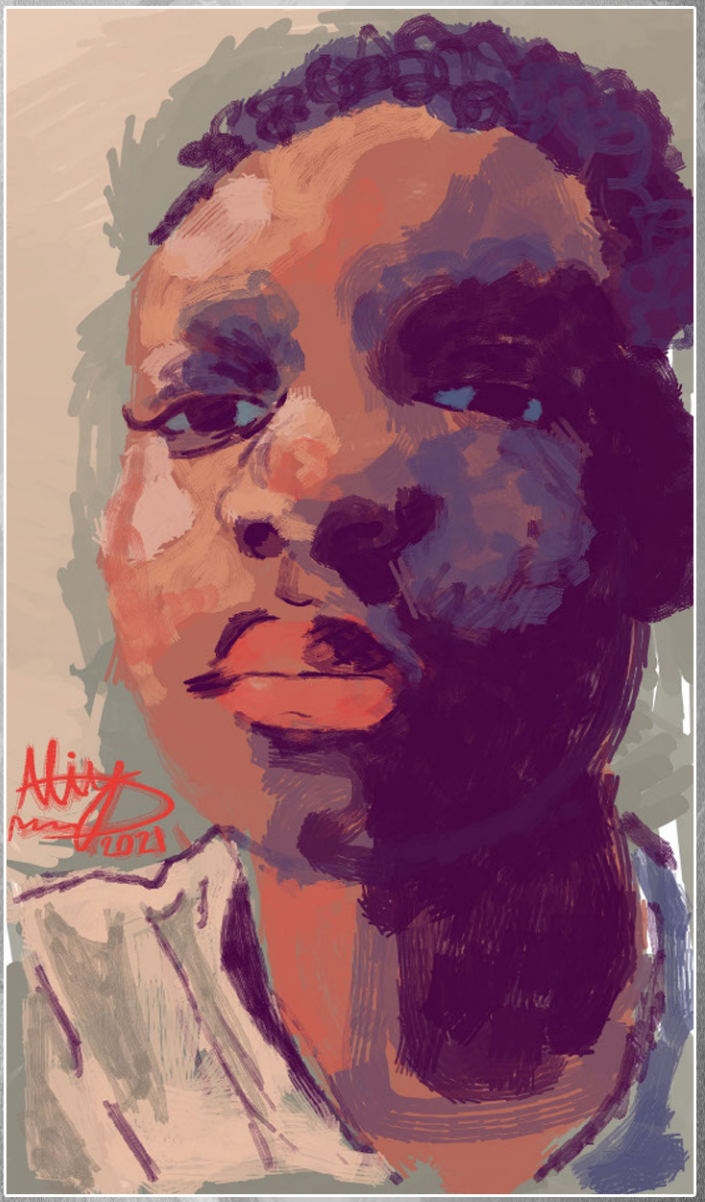

Let my skin be heard

Art: Aliyrah Walker, Grade 8, Sudbrook Magnet Middle School

let my skin be heard
chaos in the world blaring
let my culture tame

Angel Bekee, Grade: 8
Northwest Academy of Health Sciences
Teacher: Pamela Bass

School, sports, masks, movements.
The world we know is changing.
Together we stand.

Katherine Schutzman, Grade: 9
Dulaney High School
Teacher: Ashlynn Campbell

We say we want change
Ask, 'Have I contributed...
for the solution?'

Saundarya Poudel, Grade: 9
Western School of Technology
Teacher: Lisa Williams

Sundown Sun up stay
age of hunger none today
fight for all not lay

Emmit Torok, Grade: 4
Sparks Elementary School
Teacher: Courtney Sheckells

Runs in like race cars.
Blinded by the present tense.
Not a thing the same.

Diana Bobokulova, Grade: 6
Pikeville Middle School
Teacher: Diana Lane

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maybe if we changed,
we'd find the key to the world,
the key word "maybe"

Rebekka Reyes, Grade: 9
Franklin High School
Teacher: Julie Patrick

Racism is pain
People, please stop doing it!
We are all equal.

Jaiden Goodwin, Grade: 5
Owings Mills Elementary School
Teacher: Rob Kesler

What brings about change?
Will you wait for it to come,
or will you start it?

Luna Miranda, Grade: 9
Dulaney High School
Teacher: Ashlynn Campbell

With our plight came dawn
Solitude swept with justice
Our revolution

Sabrina Thaler, Grade: 9
Eastern Technical High School
Teacher: Jacqueline Luciano

I will always ask
If a decision I made
Changed your life and death

Justin Oler, Grade: 6
Hereford Middle School
Teacher: Sara Mcshane

We use to be slaves
We scream but y'all don't hear us
Why do they fear us

Kaden Crandell, Grade: 11
Parkville High School
Teacher: Virginia Richard

Revolution and
new beginnings. History,
please be on my side.

Camilla Chakir, Grade: 10
George Washington Carver Center for Arts and Technology
Teacher: Rebecca Mlinek

“You can’t change, never.”
Those lies tremble in my ears
“I will change.” I said

Winkie Lin, Grade: 5
Lutherville Laboratory
Teacher: Jamie Nicholson

This is injustice
Murdered. For what? Their beauty.
Together, for change

Stella Smith, Grade: 5
Mays Chapel Elementary School
Teacher: Lauren Caplan

When people rise up
we have opportunities
to make a fresh start

Chukwunyere Oguh, Grade: 7
Deep Creek Middle School
Teacher: Lisa Bell

Two planes, two buildings
Fire, smoke, screaming and panic
Change starts this second

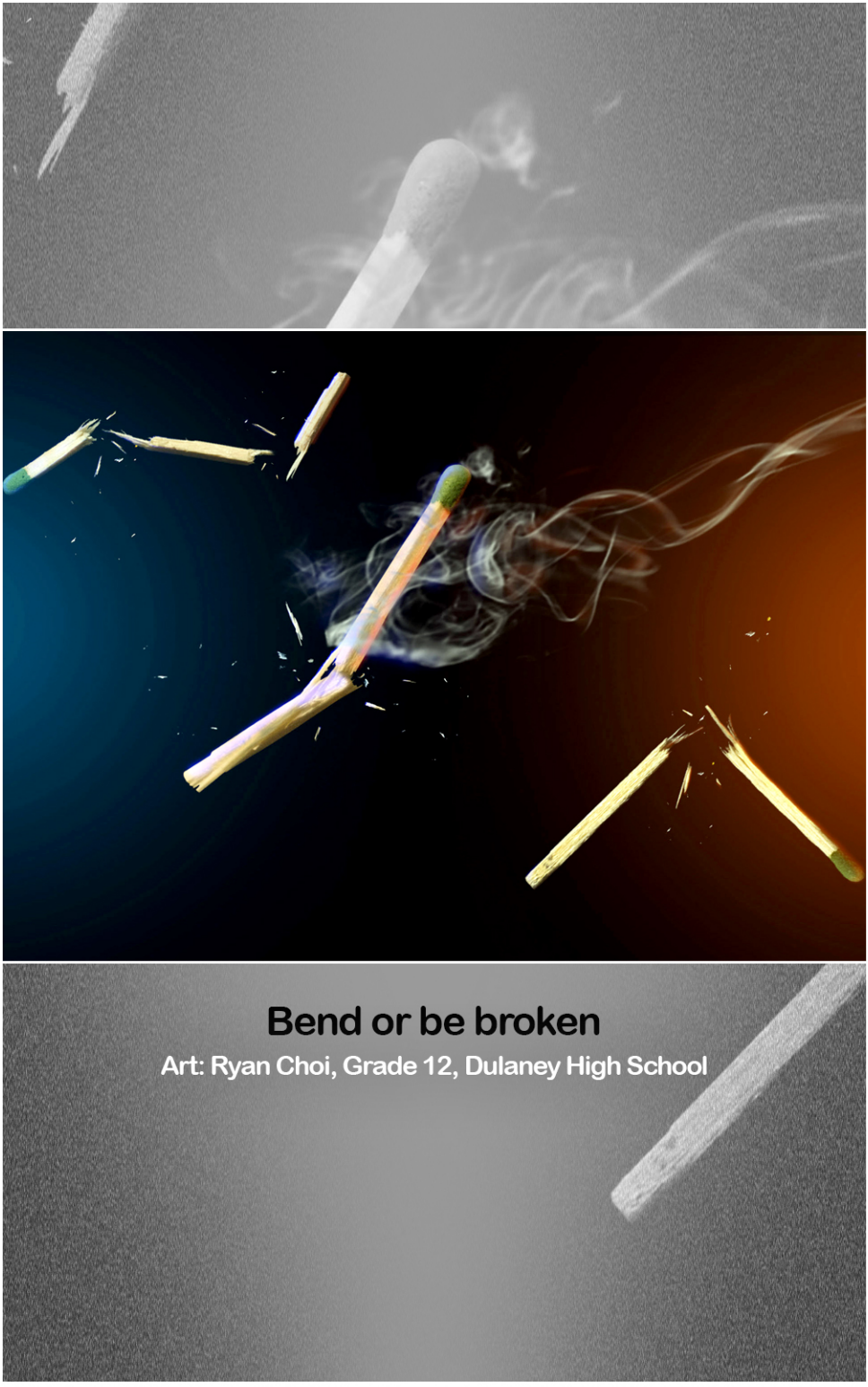
Cora Galassi, Grade: 4
Pot Spring Elementary School
Teacher: Kyla Lanchak

People should be nice
Equal rights for everyone
Kids can make a change

Noah Bloom, Grade: 1
Pinewood Elementary School
Teacher: Lorraine Shirk

The world demands change.
Now let the darkness withdraw,
time to find the light.

`Zainb Jamshaid, Grade: 10
Parkville High School
Teacher: Jennifer Madrid



Bend or be broken

Art: Ryan Choi, Grade 12, Dulaney High School

Bend or be broken
Buds bloom, yet life perishes
Ever so ancient

Azalfa Noor, Grade: 7
Dumbarton Middle School
Teacher: Kristy Knuppel

If it's good or bad
Change will turn it's own pages
So give it a chance

Madeline Sprouls, Grade: 5
West Towson Elementary School
Teacher: Alice March

Life is a canvas
Change is your color pallet.
And we are the brush.

Victor Sanda, Grade: 5
Riderwood Elementary School
Teacher: Jennifer Buchman

from lizzard to bird
walking on ground into sky
a roar to a tweet

Maelee Althouse, Grade: 3
Westchester Elementary School
Teacher: Kristine Weber

Change is sometimes good
It can also be scary
It's all your view point

Olivia Poissant, Grade: 5
Franklin Elementary School
Teacher: Bethany Ray

My life is changing
I don't know how to stop it
it is how it is

Stephen Ra, Grade: 4
Pinewood Elementary School
Teacher: Theresa Flaspohler

Familiar, yet new
Eroding like stones below
Shifting with the tide

Connor Meyer, Grade: 11
Patapsco High School and Center for the Arts
Teacher: Kelly Schmal

Never expected.
It Comes with a big entrance.
and It flips the page.

Anna Onawumi, Grade: 7
Dumbarton Middle School
Teacher: Kristina Knuppel

Change is beautiful
But there's no life with no change
So have fun with it

Natalie Lisitsa, Grade: 11
Franklin High School
Teacher: Timothy Showalter

Time remains flowing
Humans change, yet they do not
Inevitable

Sandy Xu, Grade: 8
Ridgely Middle School
Teacher: Lorraine Bartlett

We yearn for control
Where the one thing for certain
Is eternal change

Caroline Horn, Grade: 12
Dulaney High School
Teacher: Meekah Hopkins

A break in pattern
disturbed, we're vulnerable
fall back to routine

Dessa Haavik, Grade: 7
Dumbarton Middle School
Teacher: Kristy Knuppel

change starts small. rain falls
drop by drop, light shifts in hours.
blink. see a new world.

Avery Yoder-Wells, Grade: 9
George Washington Carver Center for Arts and Technology
Teacher: Deirdre Mcallister

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change, unstoppable
alas, inevitable
it will be okay

Isabella Goldsmith, Grade: 4
Sparks Elementary School
Teacher: Katie Hughes

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change is like the wind -
it swaps between a zephyr
and a great cyclone.

Tyler Boyd, Grade: 12
Woodlawn High School
Teacher: Jessica Beyer

This altering world

The stars watch it all unfold

Not speaking a word

Maggie Kurtz, Grade: 7

Hereford Middle School

Teacher: Lindsay Klug

Hello distant friend

Art: Danica Harrer, Grade 7, Ridgely Middle School

hello distant friend,
the sun has risen, wake up.
there's a sense of hope.

Kyle Cassell, Grade: 12
Parkville High School
Teacher: Virginia Richard

Fear should be embraced
let it push you towards growth
and great acts of change

Avery Burton, Grade: 5
Martin Boulevard Elementary School
Teacher: Emilia Krulock

I moved to Kabul
We came to America
I love my teachers

Mahdi Yaqubi, Grade: 4
Padonia International Elementary School
Teacher: Jaime Harpster

All new becomes old.
Waves of diversity come,
so do new chances.

Charity Holley, Grade: 5
Joppa View Elementary School
Teacher: Cliff Coulter

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change, always coming
but it can only be good
when we work as one

Oskar Parks, Grade: 5
West Towson Elementary School
Teacher: Alice March

Without a shepherd,
I would have been lost, before
You came to save me

Claire Han, Grade: 6
Ridgely Middle School
Teacher: Veronica Pessaro

It's never to late

To find a new direction

Your paths are endless

Rayna Yetter, Grade: 4
Jacksonville Elementary School
Teacher: Hannah Douglass

Ninety years from now.

People will live in a world.

Of great and true peace.

Eishi Matsushita, Grade: 5
West Towson Elementary School
Teacher: Alice March

The greatness of change

Is not fighting the old times

But building the new

Nethra Baalamurugan, Grade: 5
Mays Chapel Elementary School
Teacher: Emily Weis

Everyday becomes
an opportunity to
make your life better

Annika Bulag, Grade: 5
Joppa View Elementary School
Teacher: Cliff Coulter

Volunteer your time
Tell a joke, smile at someone
Make the world better!

Melaina Grothe, Grade: 6
Hereford Middle School
Teacher: Adrienne Sutton

Seasons are changing
Change brings opportunity
There's wind in your sails.

Madelyn Sakers, Grade: 5
Franklin Elementary School
Teacher: Bethany Ray

We need to adapt
To the big and small changes
But never give up

Mara Forman, Grade: 4
Summit Park Elementary School
Teacher: Sherry Holmes

Change is all around,
though it is hard, ask yourself,
what good came from it?

Nevaeh Robinson, Grade: 5
Franklin Elementary School
Teacher: Bethany Ray

Even with distance,
The world feels completely closed.
But hope turns the page.

Andrew Sober, Grade: 5
Jacksonville Elementary School
Teacher: Jennifer Ryan

Progression is key
the unseen is beautiful
like fear into will

Shreyaan Thapa, Grade: 5
Chatsworth School
Teacher: Morgan Yoder

I can help with change
I can spread kindness and love
The world is now nice

Griffin Kucharsky, Grade: 2
Rodgers Forge Elementary School
Teacher: Elizabeth Siuta

Change may seem hard but,
view the opportunities.
A new destiny.

Brahnan Greben, Grade: 8
Franklin Middle School
Teacher: Luchana Sumpter

A world without change,
Is a car without gas. No
Change, we go nowhere.

Ryan Johnson, Grade: 6
Ridgely Middle School
Teacher: Gordon Amato

Change, scary at first.
Comfort merges over time.
Change moves like the wind.

Audrey Dabb, Grade: 4
Hampton Elementary School
Teacher: Melissa Patek

Change is sometimes rough
And we all need a moment
We can persevere

Alexandra Oseghale, Grade: 8
Arbutus Middle School
Teacher: Rebecca Bowers

Change is like a crab.
Changing its shells for comfort.
Now find your comfort.

Robert Bateman, Grade: 5
Mays Chapel Elementary School
Teacher: Stephanie Stefanik

Struggles become life,
When you learn from those struggles,
Change for the better

Kylie Forringer, Grade: 5
Pinewood Elementary School
Teacher: Crystal Westerberg

I log in and sit

Art: Anna Rusins, Grade 12, Hereford High School

I log in and sit
There is nothing I can change
I wish this will end

Brett Owenson, Grade: 4
Pine Grove Elementary School
Teacher: Kendra Sullivan

House full school empty
Blue masks face shields fun over
shot wanted stay home

Emma McNeill, Grade: 5
Jacksonville Elementary School
Teacher: Kelly Stewart

We can't see friends much
we have to stay at home now
but I can adapt

Jacob Treuhaft, Grade: 4
Summit Park Elementary School
Teacher: Hope Blumenthal

I can't see your smile
Like I used to in the past
Covered by a mask

Norah Buckingham, Grade: 5
Jacksonville Elementary School
Teacher: Kelly Stewart

Lonely at home, bored
Dark stormy skies, now rainbow
Going back to school

James Wentzel, Grade: 5
Franklin Elementary School
Teacher: Bethany Ray

March twenty twenty
My last bus ride for a year
Can we please go back

Jack Van Droof, Grade: 6
Hereford Middle School
Teacher: Tracy Mcguigan

A new schedule came.
It'll take time to adjust,
I am so nervous.

Laura Colorado, Grade: 6
Arbutus Middle School
Teacher: Gail Gast

New house and new school
Challenging making new friends
In virtual school

Darond Anderson, Grade: 5
Martin Boulevard Elementary School
Teacher: Kristin Kraus

The past seems fleeting
We sit in front of bright screens
Our new shared routine

Kai Smith, Grade: 12
Dulaney High School
Teacher: Meekah Hopkin

in person is close
the d-day is on April
Can't wait any more

Bryan Jo, Grade: 5
Pinewood Elementary School
Teacher: Patricia abbott

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new stressful schedule
it started 3 weeks ago
super annoying

Michael Shine, Grade: 4
Summit Park Elementary School
Teacher: Jacklyn Tighue

We have to stay home
I miss my grandpa's warm hugs
We can't see faces

Isabella Taylor, Grade: 5
Martin Boulevard Elementary School
Teacher: Kristin Kraus

Schools closed, children home
running, screaming, crying loud.
Not them, I meant me.

Sommer Yeager, Grade: 9
Franklin High School
Teacher: Julie Patrick

We can't go nowhere
No more schools around, no friends
Eyes hurting from screens

Ryan Simbana-J, Grade: 4
Timonium Elementary School
Teacher: Jaime Oakley

COVID it came like
a falcon, and is fleeing
as a sluggish snail.

Sophie Cosper, Grade: 6
Hereford Middle School
Teacher: Adrienne Sutton

Masks, six feet apart
Schools shutting down all around
Kids bored, I am one.

Ryan Duckett, Grade: 5
Mays Chapel Elementary School
Teacher: Lauren Caplan

It happened so fast
Everyone ran and hid, now
we're stuck in our house

Dominic Manna, Grade: 6
Hereford Middle School
Teacher: Adrienne Sutton

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friends are there for you
then the pandemic swooped in
Life is different

Nehemiah Covington, Grade: 9
Franklin High School
Teacher: Julie Patrick

My brothers are mad.
I'm trying to avoid them.
I think this house srunk!

Charlie Mindel, Grade: 6
Hereford Middle School
Teacher: Adrienne Sutton

I'm frozen in time
A monotonous routine
Is this my new norm?

Matthew Ensign, Grade: 12
Towson High School
Teacher: Jackie Flynn

Moon and stars wonder
Where have all the people gone
alone in hiding

Evelyn Cometa, Grade: 2
Hillcrest Elementary School
Teacher: Kate Jaudon

We were happy, free
We took it all for granted
And just like that, gone

Madeline Nerney, Grade: 6
Hereford Middle School
Teacher: Adrienne Sutton

Zoom, meets, online class.
Enter the code. Click! Click! Click!
Don't get distracted!

Emily Guo, Grade: 5
Sparks Elementary School
Teacher: Coralea Tarlton

Coronavirus
Is the worst I can't even
Go to my grandma.

Jameson Wohlgemuth, Grade: 4
Pine Grove Elementary School
Teacher: Kendra Sullivan

Could not celebrate
Holidays were much smaller
but love was still there

Tyler Lopez, Grade: 4
Sparks Elementary School
Teacher: Courtney Sheckells

Love is like seasons

Art: Kyra Harrow, Grade 10, Parkville High School

Love is like seasons.

It is never gone for good,

But changing always.

Ella Morrison, Grade: 5
Westchester Elementary School
Teacher: Vicki Charikofsky

His foul sinful self

Her sparkling pure innocence

Just who will change who?

Anaya Shakeel, Grade: 8
Middle River Middle School
Teacher: Dana Jackson

Demons I do hear,

Ringing, shouting in my ear,

But this time I fight.

Leah Cirrincione, Grade: 9
George Washington Carver Center for Arts and Technology
Teacher: Tricia Lakovich

I'm feeling blue, you?
Ring, ring. Now some catchy tune.
The nostalgic hits.

Moustahinath Harys, Grade: 4
Scotts Branch Elementary School
Teacher: Kristen Sadler

Unknown surroundings
New rush, nervous sweat, head spin
But, I'll be just fine

Julia Raymond, Grade: 8
Hereford Middle School
Teacher: Timothy Thomas

My teacher will ask
If I could change one thing, what?
I'd change the question.

Gabrielle Snyder, Grade: 5
Mays Chapel Elementary School
Teacher: Emily Weis

Vibrant and green-eyed
Curls as wild as the ocean
Why change what's perfect?

Nathan Tracy, Grade: 7
Dumbarton Middle School
Teacher: Brian Bauer

Happiness now shared
Others, sad but suddenly
They smile when I'm here

Ellie Hoppe, Grade: 5
Mays Chapel Elementary School
Teacher: Tyler Baker

Now that I have grown

Art: Lucy Haffner, Grade 11, Dulaney High School

Now that I have grown
I have learned that people lie
to save their own life

Khamiyah Alukwu, Grade: 7
Deep Creek Middle School
Teacher: Casey Lane

Dialing my past
Told them I know I've grown but
can we keep in touch?

Joaquin Abesamis, Grade: 8
Golden Ring Middle School
Teacher: Ruby Whisman

I don't want a job
What happened to my Legos
Where did it all go?

Benjamin Rike, Grade: 11
Franklin High School
Teacher: Timothy Showalter

their voices deepen
our hips widen, chest rises
judged around the world

Meonna Acree, Grade: 7
Deep Creek Middle School
Teacher: Casey Lane

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small baby girl born
learns to crawl walk feed grow up
Makes the world her own

DaMya Jackson, Grade: 5
Vincent Farm Elementary School
Teacher: Catie Symalla

Dad's washed-up princess
lost to age, my future's a
nomadic castle.

Kayla Yup, Grade: 12
Towson High School
Teacher: William Alford

They want you to change
They say that its best for you
But do you want to?

Tosanmi Ogunbayo, Grade: 9
Milford Mill Academy
Teacher: Elizabeth Einsporn

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old cleats do not fit
guess I have to go shopping
nice, I got new kicks!

Elena Heyl, Grade: 4
Sparks Elementary School
Teacher: Courtney Sheckells

You call me "adult"?
I had to ask to go to
The bathroom last year.

Austin Morris, Grade: 12
Dulaney High School
Teacher: Meekah Hopkins

I am filled with joy
what a magical moment
I'll be a big sis

Ana Laura Tosi, Grade: 4
Sparks Elementary School
Teacher: Katie Hughes

She is out of time
Lost her memories of us
She is gone but here

Megan Trageser, Grade: 12
Dulaney High School
Teacher: Meekah Hopkins

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do you even lift
bro, why don't you even lift
I'm getting huge here

Christopher Westra, Grade: 6
Hereford Middle School
Teacher: Sara McShane

Remember the time
Dandelions and box forts
Can't go back there now.

Annabelle Kroart, Grade: 5
Sparks Elementary School
Teacher: Coralea Tarlton

Baby on the way
Already love him so much
Big sister again

Chloe Fridman, Grade: 4
Summit Park Elementary School
Teacher: Jacklyn Tighue

A place that is lost,
It fades as time passes by,
I cannot find it.

Gavriel Suskin, Grade: 11
Towson High School
Teacher: Jackie Flynn

Skin breaks out in pink
Our voices crack in laughter
Ducklings becomes swans

A'sma' Toor, Grade: 8
Southwest Academy
Teacher: Tina Hurst

My hair was brunette.
But now, half of it is blonde.
Mom doesn't like it.

Anonymous, Grade: 11
Towson High School
Teacher: Jackie Flynn

We meet again, my
Sweet old version of me. You're
Encased memories.

Carly Gutierrez-Moulton, Grade: 12
Dulaney High School
Teacher: Meekah Hopkins

On a vacant street
The world I once knew is gone
We learn to adapt

Alice Li, Grade: 8
Ridgely Middle School
Teacher: Lorianne Bartlett

My birthday is near
I will be 11 soon
Time is going fast.

Za'Niya Simmons, Grade: 4
Pine Grove Elementary School
Teacher: Kendra Sullivan

Pages turn slowly
new chapters awaiting us
where did the time go?

Sophie Vijayan, Grade: 7
Dumbarton Middle School
Teacher: Kristy Knuppel

The closing of doors

Art: Emily Penaranda, Grade 10, Parkville High School

The closing of doors
The zipping of a suitcase
Change strikes, goodbye dear

Ella Skidmore, Grade: 10
George Washington Carver Center for Arts and Technology
Teacher: Rebecca Mlinek

She's cute and fluffy,
But it's time for her to go,
To the after life.

Meadow Baxley, Grade: 7
Deep Creek Middle School
Teacher: Casey Lane

We miss her so much,
its hard to get through the death,
its time to move on.

Avi VanHoose, Grade: 4
Summit Park Elementary School
Teacher: Sherry Holmes

Ilo my old cat

Recently passed Now she's gone

Now we're down to two

Hayden Meloy, Grade: 5
Chatsworth School
Teacher: Morgan Yoder

I got out quickly

But I never will forget

That my house is gone

Kendall Raley, Grade: 4
Pot Spring Elementary School
Teacher: Susan Brown

He was my best friend

But God needed an angel

I miss him so much

Charles Taylor, Grade: 4
Sparks Elementary School
Teacher: Katie Hughes

I dreamt, you were there
I woke up crying, knowing
You're gone, but love's here

Honey Roscoe, Grade: 7
Deep Creek Middle School
Teacher: Casey Lane

Disturbing movement,
Very unpredictable;
Fast but somehow slow.

Isaac Fertig, Grade: 4
Summit Park Elementary School
Teacher: Sherry Holmes

Pizza, noodles, toast
Used to be my favorites
Now am gluten-free

Dylan Hebbel, Grade: 5
Pinewood Elementary School
Teacher: Patricia Abbott

loss of grandparents
remember their happy face
I will make them proud

Paige Carnrick, Grade: 4
Sparks Elementary School
Teacher: Courtney Sheckells

Winter fights to stay

Art: Samantha High, Grade 11, Chesapeake High School

Winter fights to stay.
Sweet Spring always wins her way.
Flowers bloomed today!

Grace Adebayo, Grade: 4
Chatsworth School
Teacher: Leanna Middlekamp

From a seed to sprout
Grass bends the way the wind blows
Everything changes

Andrew Tracy, Grade: 4
Stoneleigh Elementary School
Teacher: Kristine Morris

Look up at the sky,
the clouds drift by and by and
never stay the same

Annabel Vetock, Grade: 10
George Washington Carver Center for Arts and Technology
Teacher: Rebecca Mlinek

Bursts...from the cocoon
Flies off into the distance
With colorful wings

Emmett Graham, Grade: 4
Rodgers Forge Elementary School
Teacher: Sara Lee

Bare leaves get colors
Cold snow to warm gold sunshine
Hard ground to soft grass

Emma Schwanke, Grade: 5
West Towson Elementary School
Teacher: Alice March

I change like the Earth
The Earth changes just like me
I change just like it

Pola Kulikowicz, Grade: 2
Chesapeake Terrace Elementary School
Teacher: Amanda Amrhine

Birds used to fly here
but now they have moved away
wait what do I see?

Julian Ovalle, Grade: 5
Chatsworth School
Teacher: Morgan Yoder

Warm breeze and sunshine
The bright sun fades to darkness
Its time for a Coat!

Sophia Miller, Grade: 3
Chesapeake Terrace Elementary School
Teacher: Amanda Amrhine

Straw spinning to gold
Spider silk becomes a meal
Food changes to fuel

Aliza Neulander, Grade: 2
Pinewood Elementary School
Teacher: Angela Walter

Climate change is real
The sky can't be colored teal
We really must heal

Connor Garrett, Grade: 4
Pinewood Elementary School
Teacher: Theresa flaspohler

Gold treasure comes up
Making the earth shine like stars
Exhausted sun sleeps

Logan Donald, Grade: 5
Owings Mills Elementary School
Teacher: Joseph Lipo

As the day gets dark
Going again to sleep, tired.
The fun wore me out.

Miles TerBeek, Grade: 2
Riderwood Elementary School
Teacher: Stephanie Gisriel

Like a butterfly
Coming out of its silk shell
Flapping its blue wings

Kevin Wiggins, Grade: 5
Pinewood Elementary School
Teacher: Patricia Abbott

When skies move around
The new birds are shouting out
Flowers start blooming

Tiber Kaywork, Grade: 7
Deep Creek Middle
Teacher: Casey Lane

Pearlescent snow here,
Flowers on the other side,
The snow melts, spring comes.

Celia Finn, Grade: 5
Sparks Elementary School
Teacher: Coralea Tarlton

Soft waves roll ashore,
Sand will shift, life blooms and dies,
What is life but change?

Joseph Zhang, Grade: 5
Pinewood Elementary School
Teacher: Crystal Westerberg

Bright petals unfurl
Eager shoots poke through cold ground
I see a friend smile

Ella Navari, Grade: 5
Prettyboy Elementary School
Teacher: Deborah Porter

A beautiful moth
Does the same as butterflies,
Yet is liked far less

Jarianelys Padilla, Grade: 10
Franklin High School
Teacher: Timothy Showalter

The frost melts away.
Flower heads sprout from the ground.
Winter has gone home.

Olivia Reinartz, Grade: 5
Sparks Elementary School
Teacher: Coralea Tarlton

The crisp fades away
The blossoms sprout into life
Spring has sprung have fun

Misha Turner, Grade: 6
Hereford Middle School
Teacher: Adrienne Sutton

The crescent glows pale
Becomes a bright white circle
Then fades at months end

Ava Wintermeyer, Grade: 3
Westchester Elementary School
Teacher: Victoria Bertovich

Marred in sorrow's grasp
Birds once pristine without sins
Turn to bloody crows

Naomi Franzblau, Grade: 9
Dulaney High School
Teacher: Ashlynn Campbell

The winter winds cease
Animals emerge from dens
Into the warm spring.

Andrew Hooks, Grade: 10
Franklin High School
Teacher: Timothy Showalter

Our house gained 8 legs
Feeding, walking and playing
furry, fun changes

JJ WINCHESTER, Grade: 5
Martin Boulevard Elementary School
Teacher: kristen kraus

Seed now, not for long
A bud, but it grows and grows
In time, a flower

Sadie Zerivitz, Grade: 3
Fort Garrison Elementary School
Teacher: Caren Thompson

Rainy day to school
Cold rain turns into hot sun
Christmas turns to love

Glory Uwakwe, Grade: 5
Winand Elementary School
Teacher: Jessica Price

Icebergs melting down.
polar bears losing their home.
sea levels rising.

Lydia Borja, Grade: 4
Sparks Elementary School
Teacher: Courtney Sheckells

The snow is gone now
Turtles wake from muddy naps
Flowers are blooming

Amelia Everson, Grade: 3
Carroll Manor Elementary School
Teacher: Heather Sferlazza

Erupting from Earth
Cicadas sing from the trees
Crunchy carcasses

Clover Burchell, Grade: 8
Arbutus Middle School
Teacher: Alice Buckner

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water flowing down
hits the petals and the ground
all the flowers bloom

Katarina Laufer, Grade: 6
Hereford Middle School
Teacher: Adrienne Sutton

Sky high buildings stand
Where there once were rolling fields
Now there's none in sight

Luke Depew, Grade: 6
Ridgely Middle School
Teacher: Veronica Pessaro

As the seasons change
Summer falls autumn rises
Leaves sway to the ground

Benjamin Vohrer, Grade: 4
Carroll Manor Elementary School
Teacher: Sandra Boyle

Flowers bloom, trees bud
Green leaves burst from the branches
Hope returns to Earth

Zachary Francis, Grade: 4
Fullerton Elementary School
Teacher: Holly Gilmore

Clear and fresh rain falls
Bright flowers like the rainbow
Small buds grow on trees.

Emily Thai, Grade: 3
Carroll Manor Elementary School
Teacher: Heather Sferlazza

Frost climbs up the trees.
Blinding white replaces leaves.
Fall was lost with ease.

Leah Hoddie, Grade: 7
Dumbarton Middle School
Teacher: Kristy Knuppel

Once cocooned, sheltered,
A rebel that burst out, free
I, a butterfly

Nandika Mahesh, Grade: 12
Dulaney High School
Teacher: Meekah Hopkins

Fragile roses start,
once on the throne, can't reverse,
the incoming death.

Amber Zhang, Grade: 5
Mays Chapel Elementary School
Teacher: Lauren Caplan

Gloves, scarves, pants, and coats.
Earth, spins around 90 times.
Shorts, shirt, and rain coats.

Dylan Strong, Grade: 6
Hereford Middle School
Teacher: Sara Mcshane

The glaciers melt down
The water rises up shore
The world is changing

Joshua Hart, Grade: 7
Deep Creek Middle School
Teacher: Casey Lane

Colorful flowers
Now blooming in the sunshine
After the long cold

Ellie Kass, Grade: 4
Summit Park Elementary School
Teacher: Jacklyn Tighue

The ocean waves rise.
As birds go near the ocean.
The sun shines from far.

Annika Guerrero, Grade: 2
Hampton Elementary School
Teacher: Amber Francis

Pollution is real
Ruining the atmosphere
Trapping hot air in

Selena Fink, Grade: 8
General John Stricker Middle School
Teacher: Jason Kuppler

A paradise, clean
and beautiful, ‘til greed steps
in and ruins it.

Sarah Bishow, Grade: 4
Chatsworth School
Teacher: Leanna Middlekamp

The wind blows softly ,
Moving the flowers and grass
Shifting the tall trees.

Cheyanna Boone, Grade: 11
Kenwood High School
Teacher: Joan Cooper

I like the river
It soothes my confident soul
The river is home

Ayodeji Israel, Grade: 3
Scotts Branch Elementary School
Teacher: Megan Derr

A Caterpillar

Born to be a butterfly

Crawls across the leaf

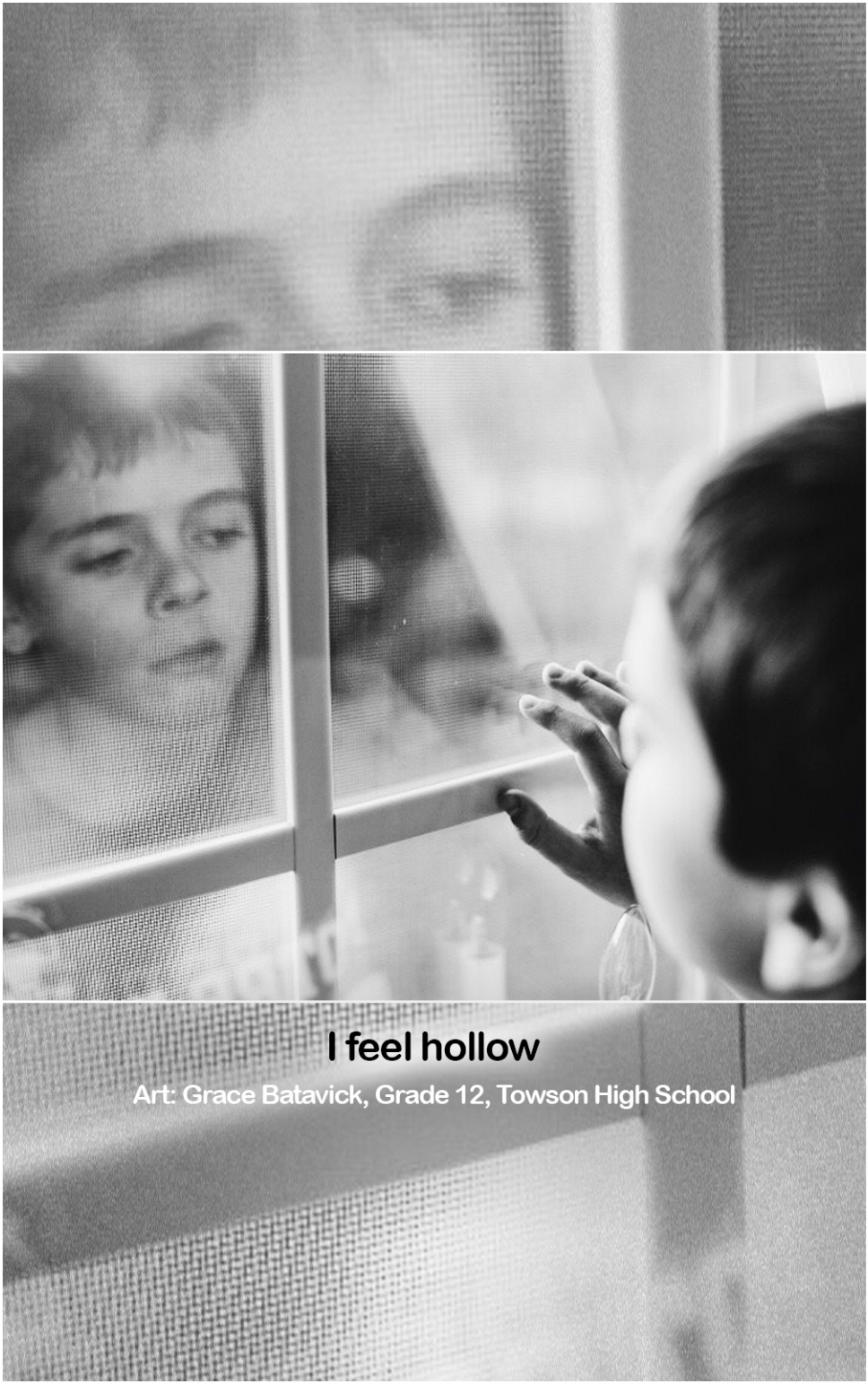
Petra Rouhana, Grade: 4
Carroll Manor Elementary School
Teacher: Sandra Boyle

Cloudy skies depart

Three deep breaths and open eyes

A lovely sunrise

Jana Abouelseoud, Grade: 7
Deep Creek Middle School
Teacher: Casey Lane



I feel hollow

Art: Grace Batavick, Grade 12, Towson High School

I feel hollow now,
Life's metamorphosis tugs,
Feel its current wave

Allyana Underwood, Grade: 5
Perry Hall Elementary School
Teacher: Susanne Rising

Lost is your kind words
Now skies weep and your sun hides
I'll wait for your warmth

Kylie Leeks, Grade: 9
Franklin High School
Teacher: Julie Patrick

Friendships covid changed
We try to have fun but can't
But we keep trying.

Dallas Green, Grade: 4
Pine Grove Elementary School
Teacher: Kendra Sullivan

rebuilding is rough.
blank slates can be easier,
but all change needs work.

Prithak Subedi, Grade: 4
Perry Hall Elementary School
Teacher: Corrine Matthews

Nothing stays the same
Most things around are shifting
Can't fight back the change

Lauren Robinson, Grade: 9
Franklin High School
Teacher: Julie Patrick

I don't like much change
Moving schools can be so hard
But I'm used to it

Kara Mack, Grade: 4
Pine Grove Elementary School
Teacher: Kendra Sullivan

A divorce is hard
but its for the very best
so be strong ok

Carly Burhorst, Grade: 5
Martin Boulevard Elementary School
Teacher: Emilia Krulock

What it means to change
Is letting go of people
that cannot serve you

Daniel Soyege, Grade: 5
Owings Mills Elementary School
Teacher: Erica Gibson

Change is difficult
Whether it's moving or loss,
Always know your loved.

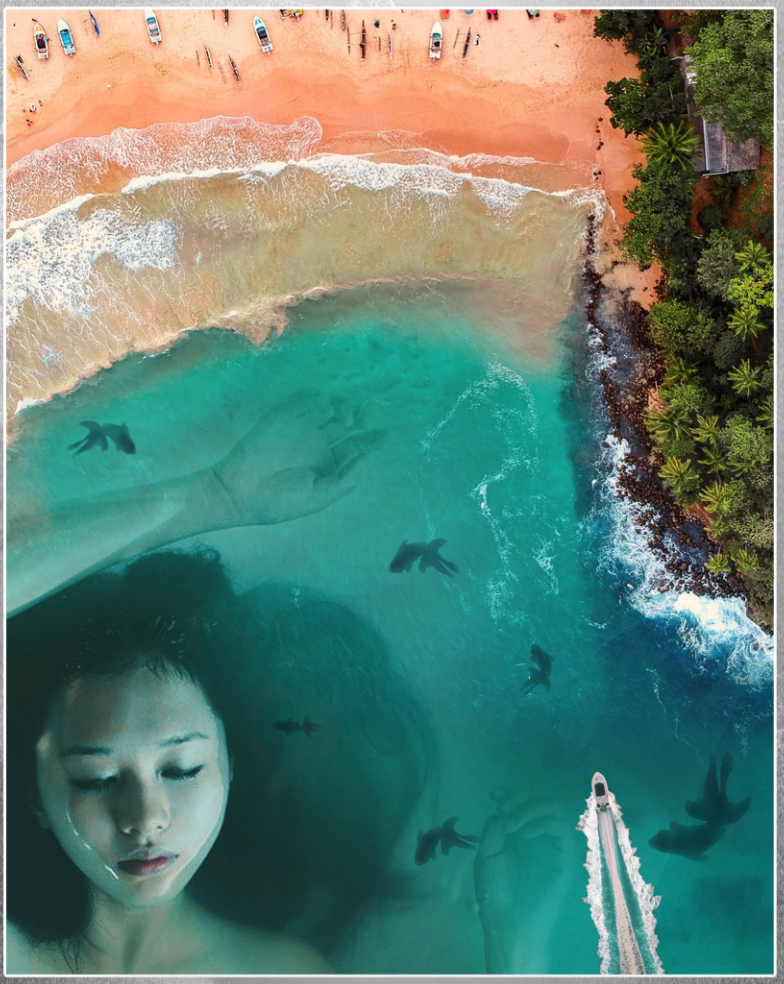
Penelope Kowal, Grade: 4
Pine Grove Elementary School
Teacher: Kendra Sullivan

once the best of friend;
then college spilt us apart.
we no longer talk

Jade Rogers, Grade: 9
Franklin High School
Teacher: Julie Patrick

My parents split up
I have three moms and one dad
This is my new life.

Gavin Greiner, Grade: 4
Pine Grove Elementary School
Teacher: Kendra Sullivan



Gone from broken molds

Art: Jaden Collins, Grade 10, Parkville High School

Gone from broken molds
Metamorphosis unleashed
Soar, flight, air, wind-borne

Willow Mehan, Grade: 3
Grange Elementary School
Teacher: Samantha Ulick

Change in my pocket
Change in mind and point of view
Change in perspective

Jacob Bayliff, Grade: 5
Franklin Elementary School
Teacher: Bethany Ray

I dance in the clouds
Until suddenly, they're gray
Now I understand.

Yiyun Li, Grade: 11
Towson High School
Teacher: Jackie Flynn

Summertime burning
Mint chocolate chip ice cream
Melting down my arm

Jason Carberry, Grade: 5
Warren Elementary School
Teacher: Erin Hays

I sat down and stared
My fingers slammed the hardwood
Melody came out

Yulia Arshavskiy, Grade: 4
Summit Park Elementary School
Teacher: Jacklyn Tighue

We blow into it
The balloon is bigger now
But then it goes "POP"

Ava Dembeck, Grade: 6
Arbutus Middle School
Teacher: Amber Ary

Snow is very cold
It can make you really sick
Snow can make ice cream

Demi Jackson, Grade: 3
Halethorpe Elementary School
Teacher: Jessica Landel

Me and tea love peace
When mad, I drink tea calmly
Me and tea are friends.

London Basden, Grade: 5
Owings Mills Elementary School
Teacher: Joseph Lipo

A piece of clay sits
veiled, unseen. A change in shape,
brings adoring eyes.

Carissa Barnes, Grade: 12
Dulaney High School
Teacher: Meekah Hopkins

A pencil is dull
It goes in the sharpener
It comes out real sharp

Carson Miller, Grade: 4
Chatsworth School
Teacher: Leanna Middlekamp

Lives transformed, a storm
Lives unraveling, sorrow
Lives upended, change

Marcus Neulander, Grade: 5
Pinewood Elementary School
Teacher: Crystal Westerberg

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2021 Haiku poetry contest

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