

Advocacy Capstone Project

Academy of Art University, School of Art Education

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The Impact of COVID-19

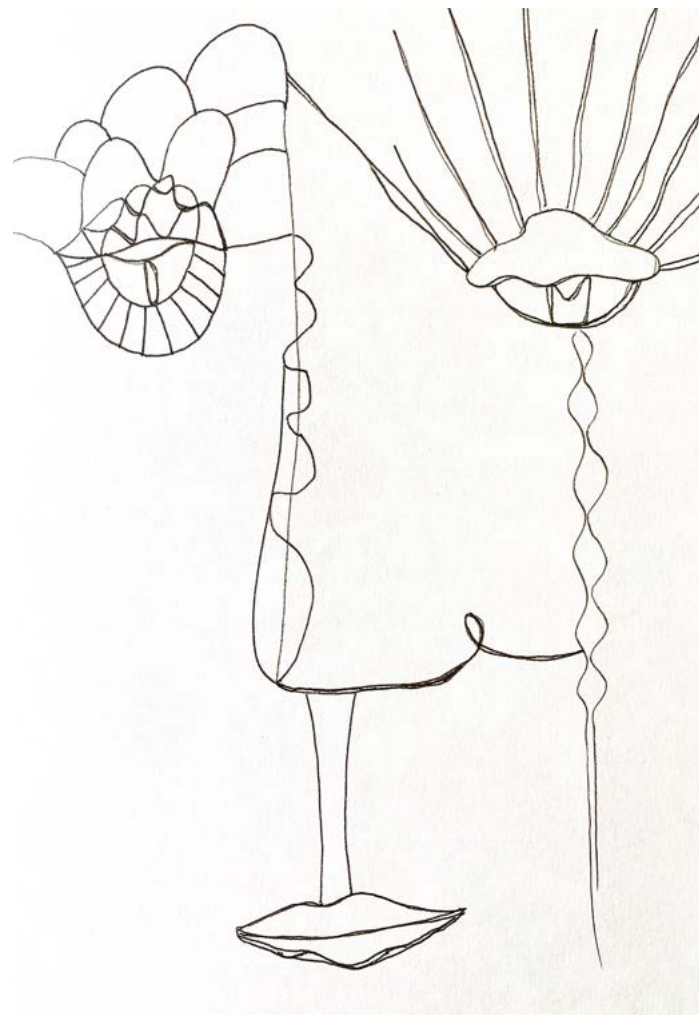
"Honestly, this virus has taken away our ability to see the light at the end of the tunnel, therefore, making us lose hope for the future. It's the unsureness of every day ahead of us that perhaps it won't get better and even if it does there is so much that this virus will and has taken away from us that we won't get back." — 19-year-old, Idaho

"I'm scared that people don't care or prefer to be ignorant towards the scientific facts. Many people think this is part of a political game, but it's lives at risk of being infected and death. I'm concerned for the well being of all." — 15-year-old, Florida

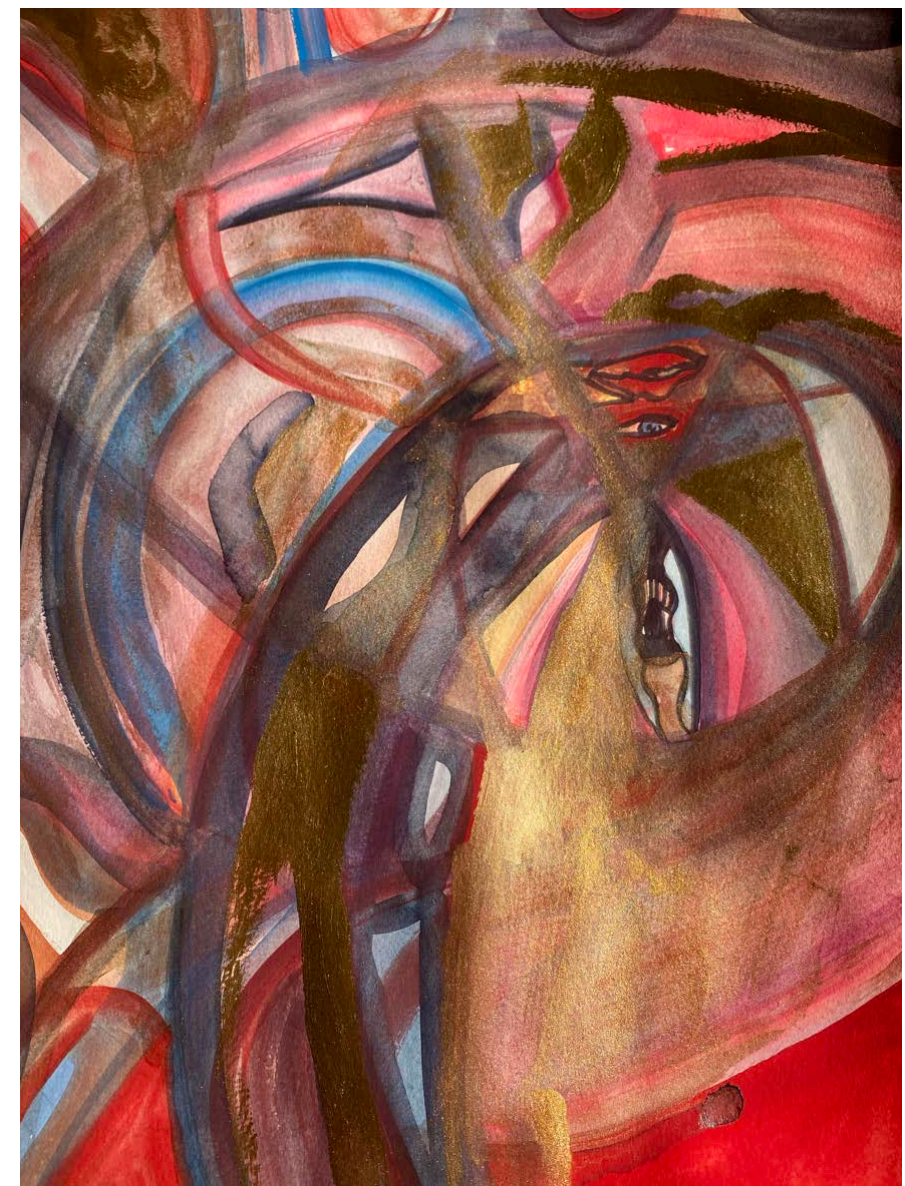
be taken away

Advocacy Statement: Now that students are being mandated to social distance and/or self-isolate; art education and creative expression are more essential than ever-before. The everlasting emotional effects of this time will require teenagers to develop personal coping skills through their creativity and inventing new ways to see the world.

Creative Expression:



externalizing thoughts and emotions



This Is Not a Normal Mental-Health Crisis

If SARS is any lesson, the psychological effects of the novel coronavirus will long outlast the pandemic itself.



Emotional Effects:

*apathy, cynicism, aggression,
anxiety, loneliness*

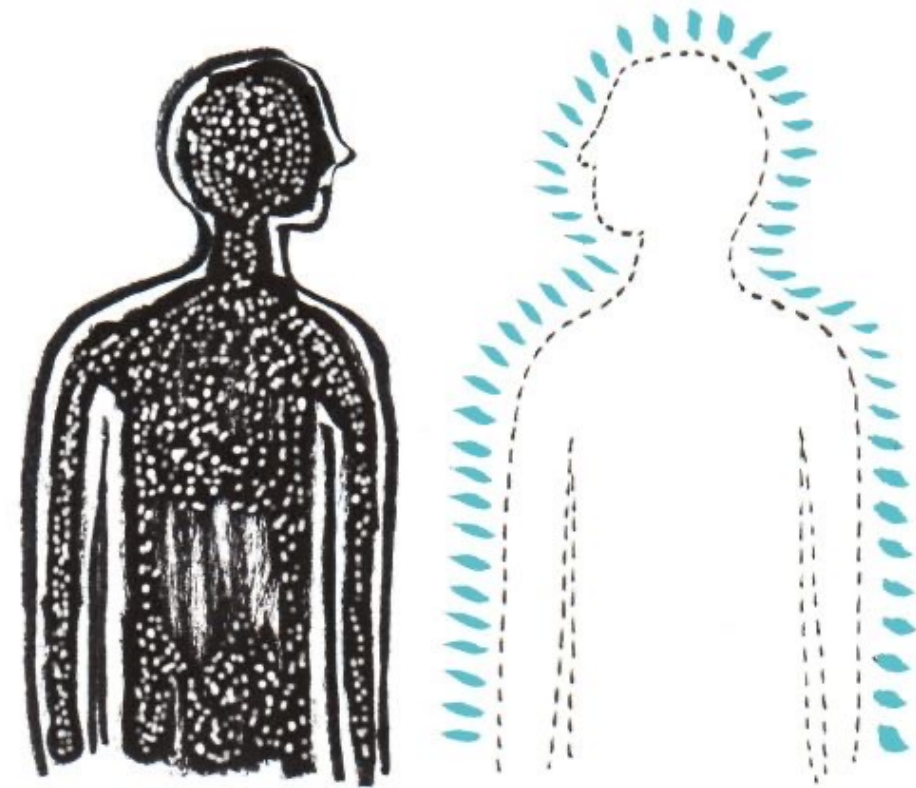


Yumi Sakugawa

The Impact on Adolescent Development

As Psychology Today writer Christine L. Carter notes:

“Teenagers and college students have amplified innate, developmental motivations that make them hard to isolate at home. The hormonal changes that come with puberty conspire with adolescent social dynamics to make them highly attuned to social status and peer group.”



Yumi Sakugawa

*In Mid July **66%** of Gen Z report feeling frustrated over COVID-19, 3 points higher than the peak we saw the first week of April (63%). Meanwhile, only **20%** now report feeling hopeful — the lowest we’ve seen since we began asking in mid-March.*

***80%** say they are worried about the pandemic, with **29%** saying they are extremely worried.*

Empathy

How are students effected by the stress present during the pandemic?

How does the changing classroom environment effect their learning?



Yumi Sakugawa



Beneath every behavior is a feeling.
And beneath every feeling is a need.
And when we meet that need rather
than focus on the behavior, we begin
to deal with the cause not the symptom.

Ashleigh Warner

Processing Grief Through Art



Expressive Collage Lesson

Students utilize materials they have at home to create their collage

"ONE THING THAT IS REALLY IMPORTANT FOR ADULTS IS TO REMEMBER TO ALLOW THEIR KIDS TO GRIEVE OVER THEIR LOSSES. ... THEIR GRIEF OVER WHAT THEY ARE EXPERIENCING—OR NOT GETTING TO EXPERIENCE—IS REAL AND PARENTS NEED TO GIVE THEM TIME TO PROCESS IT."

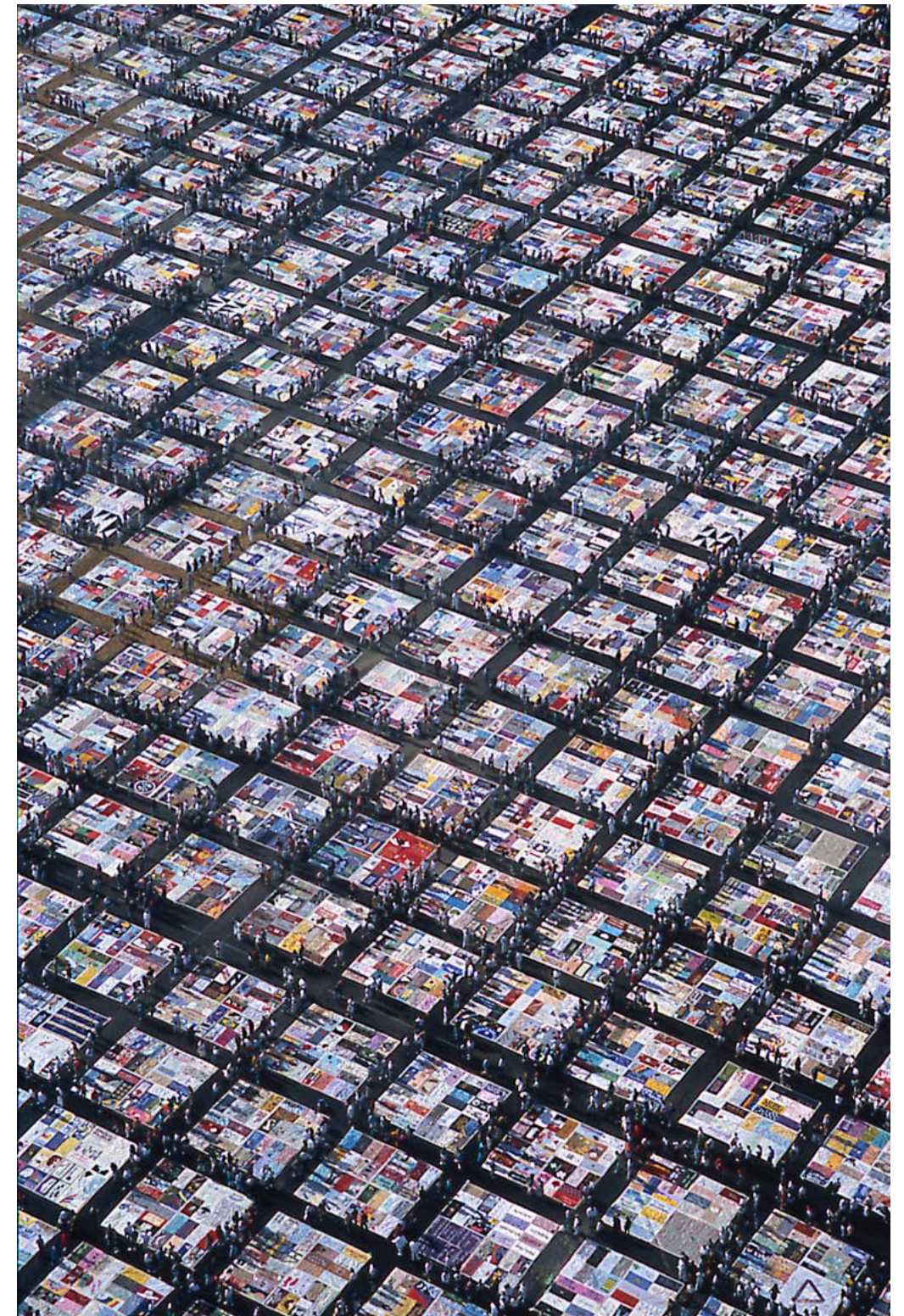
—Beth Marshall
Associate director, Johns Hopkins Center for
Adolescent Health

Looking to History: The AIDS Memorial Quilt

The NAMES Project's AIDS Memorial Quilt consists of 48,000 3' x 6' panels and 94,000 names of individuals who died from the autoimmune disease; it is the largest community art project in the world.



Picture of the AIDS quilt in front of the Washington Monument



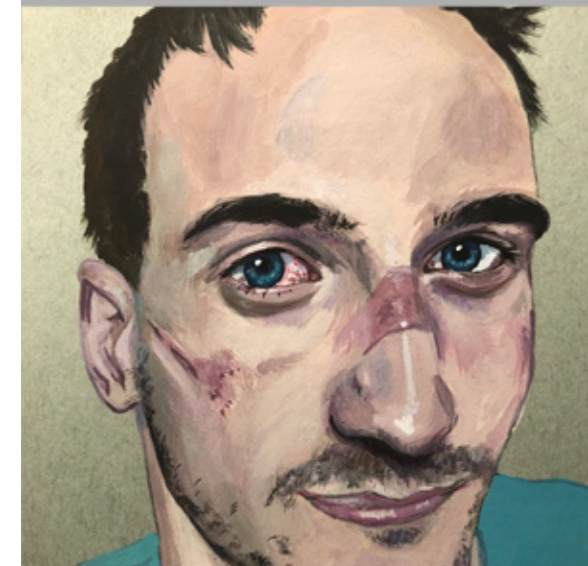
Resiliency

“Art shows how the difficulty can contain its cure if channeled into life-affirming expression.”

-Shaun McNiff



HEALING: PORTRAITS OF THE PANDEMIC



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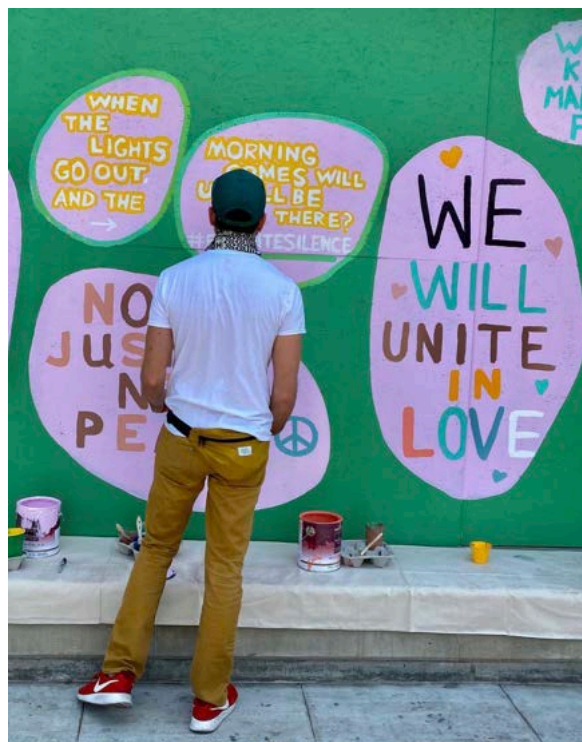
Resilience is the capacity of a system, be it an individual, a forest, a city or an economy, to deal with change and continue to develop. It is about how humans and nature can use shocks and disturbances like a financial crisis or climate change to spur renewal and innovative thinking.

Mindfulness & Positive Reappraisal

Coping Skills: *self-awareness, mindfulness,
transformation*



HOPE



Call to Action:

Within The Heals Act (Health, Economic Assistance, Liability Protection and Schools Act) Congress projects an estimate of 70 billion specifically for K-12 schools, which breaks down to about \$1,200 per student.

I ask that you allocate 15% of this upcoming budget to Art Education. This will be essential for our students as they return to school and have to deal with the overwhelming impact that COVID-19 has had on their lives.

