For Polina Van Hulsen, art is a passion where she can express both herself and her messages.

aintbrush strokes form smooth lines dancing across the canvas, creating more than just a photo, but a story with a powerful message.

For artist Polina Van Hulsen, art is an outlet for self expression, as well as a method for advocating for change.

Van Hulsen, like many young artists, likes to dabble in different mediums and experiment with her personal style, adapting and evolving with every piece.

"I try to do realistic or a bit more cartoonish style, which is the most fun for me," Van Hulsen said.

She likes to incorporate real-world problems and phenomena, along with the emotions to create her art. She often draws from social and cultural issues that she is passionate about.

"[I like] trying to get a message out there about stuff that I think is important," Van Hulsen said. "Some of the pieces I've used, as inspiration, would be climate change and other important messages which I think are pretty inspiring."

Van Hulsen creates art daily, both because she loves art and because she likes to I draw every single day start new pieces often. because I don't think I

"For me it is just something I have to do," Van Hulsen said. "I POLINA VAN HULSEN draw every single day, because l don't think I could live without it."

> Additionally, for people who consider themselves to be reserved or introverted, art is a good way for them to feel heard.

could live without it."

"Personally, I'm not a very loud person so, I can give my message through my art and [use it] as an outlet to express who I am," Van Hulsen said.





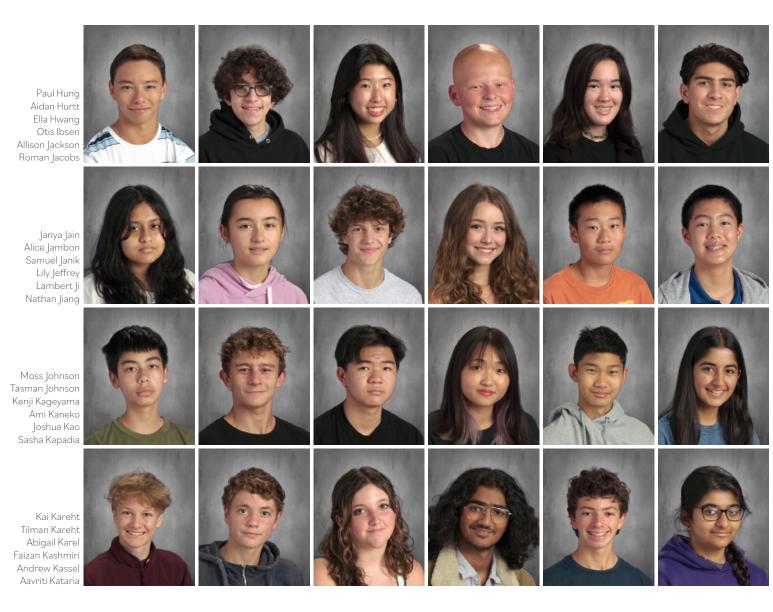




far top left) MUTED AND PLUM-TONED, this painting by Polina van Hulsen is titled "Behind the Curtain" for its behindne-scenes view of the theater. Van Hulsen expertly uses shadows and point-of-view to keep the painted audience darkened nd homogenous, while the foreground, complete with props and a classic theatrical mask, is highlighted as the focus. far bottom left) **ON THE EASEL,** Polina van Hulsen paints a dark, somber painting with of her father relaxing on a leather ouch. Complete with personal elements like warm slippers and Adidas trackpants, van Hulsen humanizes her father and

left) **THIS DIGITALLY DRAWN** artwork titled Cloud Gazing aims to spread Polina van Hulsen's message about the tive and increasingly prevalent impacts of pollution and global warming. Much of van Hulsen's art intends to spread ortant messages about our contemporary world and its problems.

op center) **THE BLACK CAT** sits alert and regal in a canvas painting by Polina van Hulsen. The painting contradicts its title Sunbathing" with its darker, cooler tones, rather than the brighter colors usually associated with warmth and the sun. top right) ON THE HAMMOCK, Polina van Hulsen works on digital artwork with her iPad and stylo. Van Hulsen enjoys menting with various artistic mediums, from tangible materials like paint to digital software.





134 people sophomores