



Capehart Photography

## Barbara and Morton Mandel honored posthumously with the 2020 John C. Randolph Award

*“I seek now to light as many more candles as I can - to help brighten the prospects of those less fortunate in this world.”*

— Morton L. Mandel

The late Morton L. and Barbara A. Mandel were selected to receive the 2020 John C. Randolph Award, the Fellowship’s highest honor presented annually to those who exemplify the mission of the organization. The presentation to the Mandels’ family members on their behalf, originally scheduled to take place at the Annual Dinner in March, was postponed by the cancellation of the event due to the covid-19 pandemic.

The impact the Mandels made in the world through their philanthropy and visionary leadership leaves a lasting legacy in the cultural arts, education, and society at large. The family name graces many buildings and facilities in Palm Beach County and their birthplace, Cleveland, Ohio, and their generous gifts as both individuals and through the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Foundation and the Morton and Barbara Family Foundation have benefitted many vital charitable causes in our community and throughout the world. They were also tireless hands-on volunteers and engaged in civic activities.

Mort passed away on October 16, 2019 at age 98, followed soon after by Barbara on November 21 at the age of 93. The couple was married for 70 years, bound together by their shared passion and desire to make a difference and to contribute to just, inclusive, compassionate, and democratic societies in the United States and Israel, as stated in the Mandel Foundation mission. The Mandels were recipients, both together and individually, of many prestigious awards and honors for their efforts through the years.

An example of Mort’s lifelong zest for life, having dropped out of college after his freshman year to co-found the family business and then enlist in the Army, years later he decided to focus on that “incomplete” piece and received his Bachelor Degree in 2013 at the age of 91.

Mort believed, “...a single individual can change the world. Powerful ideas, driven by outstanding people, represent a sure way to light more candles and help illuminate the world.”

Barbara and Morton Mandel’s values of generosity, respect for others, and integrity will continue to inspire us to “light more candles” for years to come.

**We hope everyone is doing well and staying safe during these challenging times.**

**As we go to press, we have planned exciting “virtual” programs for this season until it is safe enough to meet in large groups again.**

**We look forward to your participation as we try to stay connected with programs and activities of interest and meaning, perhaps more important than ever these days.**

**See inside for a preview and check our website for updates throughout the 2020-2021 season!**

**Membership info is available on the back of this newsletter. Your support is appreciated!**

**Thank you!**

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### Executive Director

Sherri Gilbert



## Chairman's Message *World Menders*

In a recent conversation our executive director, Sherri Gilbert, had with Barbara Brown Taylor, noted theologian, author and lecturer who has been our featured speaker at two of our Annual Dinners, Barbara thanked us, the Fellowship, for being World Menders. I considered this quite a compliment coming from an individual who was honored by TIME Magazine as one of the 100 most influential people in the world. I felt compelled to write Barbara to thank her, to tell her how much I loved the term World Menders and to ask her if I could borrow the term in future writings. She graciously responded that I could, jokingly she added, without charge, since it didn't originate with her, but was her term for the Hebrew phrase, *tikkun olam*. I decided to google that term, one many of you know well and practice, but it is a term with which I, as a Christian, was not familiar.

The first thing I saw when I got on Google, was a video presentation by Rabbi Jonathan Sacks, another of our former speakers, giving specific examples of *tikkun olam*, the term Barbara Brown Taylor, interchanged for world mending. Sacks gave the example of one individual who was instrumental in supplying water to 300,000 desperate people starving and thirsty in Haiti after the great earthquake, and another individual who was instrumental in establishing a youth village for 750 Rwandan orphans who suffered from the plight of the attacks in that nation. He described these acts as exemplifying the Jewish spirit at its best, bringing a little bit of heaven down here to earth.

Google went on to define *tikkun olam* as an "aspiration to behave and act constructively, to bear responsibility not only for our own moral, spiritual and material welfare but also for the welfare of society at large." Translated literally, the term means "repairing the world." I love each of the terms *tikkun olam* and world menders and it is flattering to have someone of Barbara Brown Taylor's stature apply those terms to the work we do in the Fellowship.

There is no better time than today for all of us to be practicing *tikkun olam*, for each of us to consider being world menders. Clearly our world needs mending. Mending from this pandemic which has been a scourge throughout the world; mending from the fires which are destroying forests and homes and claiming lives in the western United States; mending from the ravages of hurricanes; and mending from the injustices we are experiencing throughout the world.

Let us be thankful for the world menders, first responders and those on the front lines of this pandemic, the fires, and the storms, as well as those who are attempting to address injustice and inequality in today's world.

And, that is where we come in, my friends. Read our mission statement. We are attempting, through our work, to promote fellowship and understanding and respect among all religions and cultures, to address issues rooted in intolerance, anti-Semitism and unjust discrimination of all kinds.

So let's keep working together. Let's do all we can to repair the world, to be world menders, to always apply the principals of *tikkun olam* for the benefit of our own lives and the lives of others. It's a tall order, but it is not only worth working for, it is worth fighting for.



# Friends of the Fellowship

(as of September 20, 2020)

**Add your name to this list - Join/renew your membership for the 2020-2021 season!**

## THANK YOU

...to the following donors who express their commitment to our mission through their annual membership gift in support of our programs and activities.

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*Thank You*  
for your  
Support!

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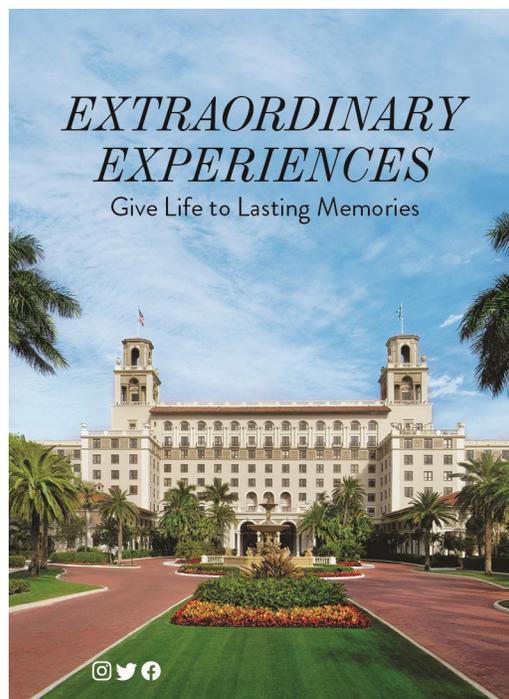
See back page of this newsletter for a membership application. If you have already joined/renewed, please pass on to friends and colleagues! Photocopies accepted.

In memory of our  
longstanding members  
**Morton and Barbara Mandel**  
with gratitude and appreciation  
for their lifetime  
leadership, advocacy and  
support of social justice,  
education and charitable  
endeavors in our  
Jewish community  
and worldwide.



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# Upcoming Programs and Events

## Sunday Series



This popular series brings community members together - via Zoom this season - to share common interests on a wide variety of topics presented by outstanding speakers. All sessions start at 4:00 pm and will last approximately an hour.

**RSVPs required to receive program Zoom link.**  
Write to [info@palmbeachfellowship.net](mailto:info@palmbeachfellowship.net) to request registration info.



**December 6, 2020**  
Princess Alice  
Richard René Silvin



**February 7, 2021**  
Black Widow and Other Adventures  
Leslie Gray Streeter



**March 21, 2021**  
Dalton Trumbo  
Billy David

## pathways, perspectives, ...and pizza

exploring points of view in a troubled world



Pathways Facilitators:  
Rabbi Howard Shapiro  
Thomas G. O'Brien III



HAMPTONS  
PALM BEACH  
(561) 832-8368

Amici Market  
FRESH LOCAL PRODUCE & GROCERIES  
(561) 832-0201

This series returns - via Zoom - with interactive discussions on timely topics, facilitated by Rabbi Howard Shapiro and Thomas G. O'Brien III.  
5:00—6:30 pm

**RSVPs required to receive program Zoom link.**  
Write to [info@palmbeachfellowship.net](mailto:info@palmbeachfellowship.net) to request registration info.

Amici Market and Hamptons Palm Beach Liquors are providing special offers to our program attendees on the session dates. Call early in the day to place your order, using the code word "Fellowship."

**Thursday, November 5, 2020**  
Pathways and Perspectives on...Healing

**Thursday, January 7, 2021**  
Pathways and Perspectives on...Remembering

**Thursday, March 4, 2021**  
Pathways and Perspectives on...Ethics and Morals



## Palm Beach County Middle and High School Students Are Invited to Enter the 2021 Competition for Cash Prizes!

The Palm Beach Fellowship's Education Committee Chair Charles Hagy has announced that the theme for the 2021 Essay and Creative Arts Student Competition is "Advocacy."

All public, private, charter, and home-schooled middle and high school students in Palm Beach County are eligible to submit entries in one of the following categories: essay, poem, video, music, and visual art (including painting, drawing, collage, sculpture, and photography). Cash prizes will be awarded to the top entries, and supervising teachers of the winning students will also receive support for school supplies.

The deadline, submission guidelines, entry form, and other information will be available soon. Visit [www.palmbeachfellowship.net](http://www.palmbeachfellowship.net) or write [info@palmbeachfellowship.net](mailto:info@palmbeachfellowship.net) for details.

See pages 6-11 of this newsletter for the 2020 winning entries (also available on the website).

# Season Kickoff

## 10/20/20

We may not be able to get together as we'd like to, but we can still get together to welcome the new season in a new way! Grab your favorite beverage and snacks and join us via Zoom on Tuesday, October 20 at 5:30 pm for a celebration and season preview. Special guests will provide words of comfort and encouragement, plus uplifting musical entertainment!

**RSVPs required to receive program Zoom link.**  
Write to [info@palmbeachfellowship.net](mailto:info@palmbeachfellowship.net) to request registration info.

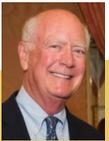
It's the TENTH ANNIVERSARY of Fellowship Friday! The event will look a little different this year, but we hope that, as in years past, you will count your blessings the day after Thanksgiving and help us give back to the community.

We've added a new project partner for 2020, Forgotten Soldiers Outreach, a Lake Worth-based organization founded in 2003 to provide "a little bit of home" for deployed U.S. military. There are two ways you and your family can participate: (1) write letters of support and encouragement that will be included in the "We Care" packages (first names only if you sign, and no return address other than the state), and (2) donate toiletries, hygiene items, snacks, and other goodies for the packages. Visit [www.forgottensoldiers.org](http://www.forgottensoldiers.org) for a list of suggested items. A drop-off box will be located at the Fellowship office on Friday, November 27, for items and letters.

As of press time, we are working on offering a limited number of volunteer spots at past sites, Big Dog Ranch Rescue and a beach cleanup with Friends of Palm Beach. More info on these opportunities will be distributed if/when plans are confirmed.

# Fellowship Friday

PALM BEACH FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIANS & JEWS

Michael Ainslie

## Special Event

In accordance with our mission, the Fellowship will be hosting a panel discussion to explore issues of discrimination and injustice. A diverse group of community leaders will share their experiences and insights during this virtual event in January, moderated by Michael Ainslie. More details to come on this important effort to increase understanding and promote respectful dialogue among people of all backgrounds.



Davidoff Studios

### 2019 Fellowship Friday Junior Committee

Left to right: Parker Pressly, Aiden Conde, Olivia Buhler-Lieberman, Caroline Christu

## 2020-2021 Season Calendar — Clip and Save!



**At this time, all\* activities are scheduled to be virtual. RSVPs are required to receive program Zoom links.** Write to [info@palmbeachfellowship.net](mailto:info@palmbeachfellowship.net) to request registration info for any of the programs you are interested in attending.  
*Note:* This schedule is subject to change, including the addition of extra events. Please check the website periodically for updates.

**Tuesday, October 20, 2020** (5:30 pm)  
*Season Kick-Off*

**Thursday, November 5, 2020** (5:00 pm)  
*Pathways and Perspectives on...Healing*

**Friday, November 27, 2020**  
*Fellowship Friday*

**Sunday, December 6, 2020** (4:00 pm)  
*Sunday Series*  
**Richard René Silvin** | *Princess Alice*

**Thursday, January 7, 2021** (5:00 pm)  
*Pathways and Perspectives on...Remembering*

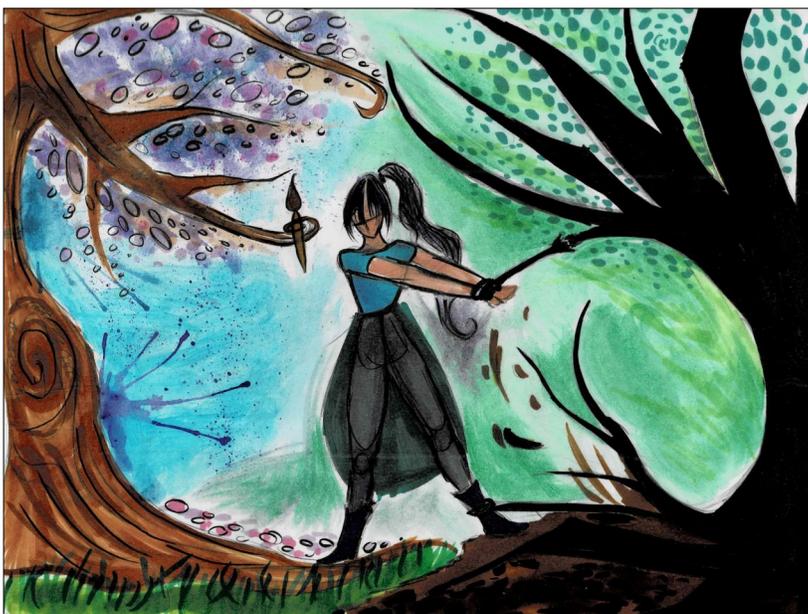
**Sunday, February 7, 2021** (4:00 pm)  
*Sunday Series*  
**Leslie Gray Streeter** | *Black Widow and Other Adventures*

**Thursday, March 4, 2021** (5:00 pm)  
*Pathways and Perspectives on...Ethics and Morals*

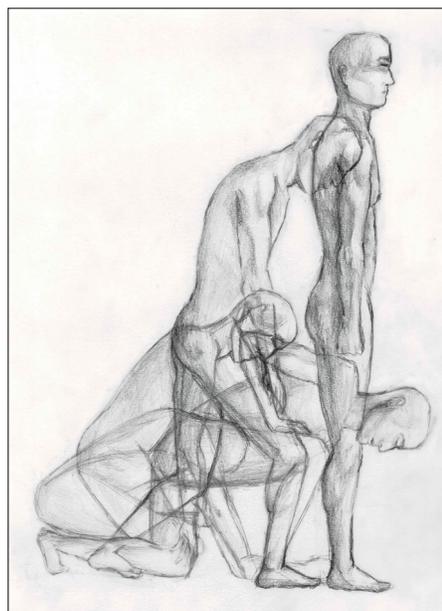
**Sunday, March 21, 2021** (4:00 pm)  
*Sunday Series*  
**Billy David** | *Dalton Trumbo*

\*There might be a couple in-person, socially distanced volunteer activities added for Fellowship Friday; check for updates.

# Essay & Creative Arts Competition Winners 2020



**Art—Painting**  
**Roshni Padala**  
Woodlands Middle School (Grade 7)



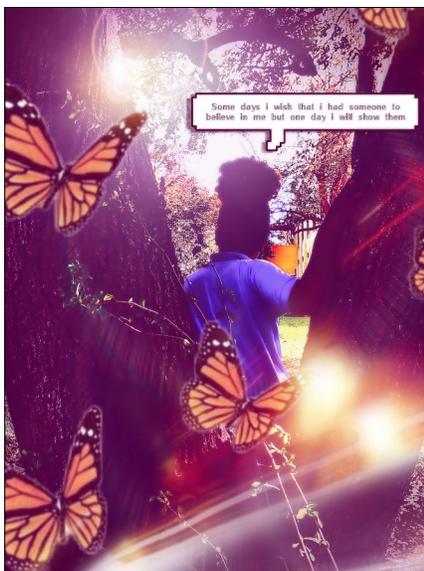
**Art—Drawing**  
**Isabella Lobo**  
Dreyfoos School of the Arts (Grade 9)



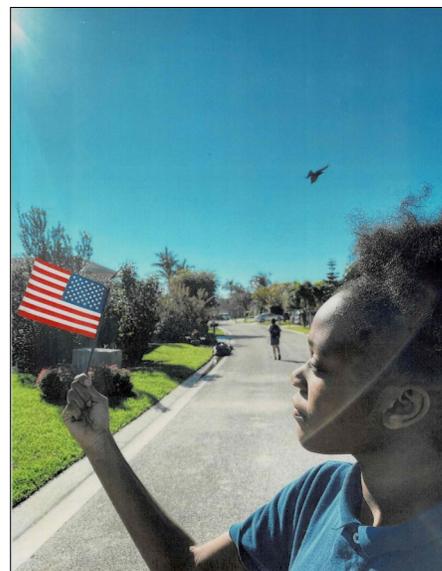
**Art—Painting**  
**Ava Lindner**  
Western Pines



**Art—3-Dimensional**  
**Taylor Tolson**  
Western Pines Middle School (Grade 7)



**Photography**  
**Zaina Staton**  
South Tech Middle School (Grade 6)



**Photography**  
**Sarah Thapa**  
Western Pines Middle School (Grade 8)



**Art—**  
**Jona**  
Wood

## SUPERVISING TEACHERS OF WINING STUDENTS

**Robert Bayless**  
*The Benjamin School*  
**Mary Cooney**  
*St. Ann's Catholic School*  
**Chrissie Ferguson**  
*The Benjamin School*

**Anne Franzen**  
*The Benjamin School*  
**Megan Gilmore**  
*St. Mark's Episcopal School*  
**Steve Gordon**  
*Western Pines Middle School*

**Leanne Pietrangolare**  
*Woodlands Middle School*  
**Martha Warwick**  
*Dreyfoos School of the Arts*  
**Melissa Williams**  
*South Tech Middle School*

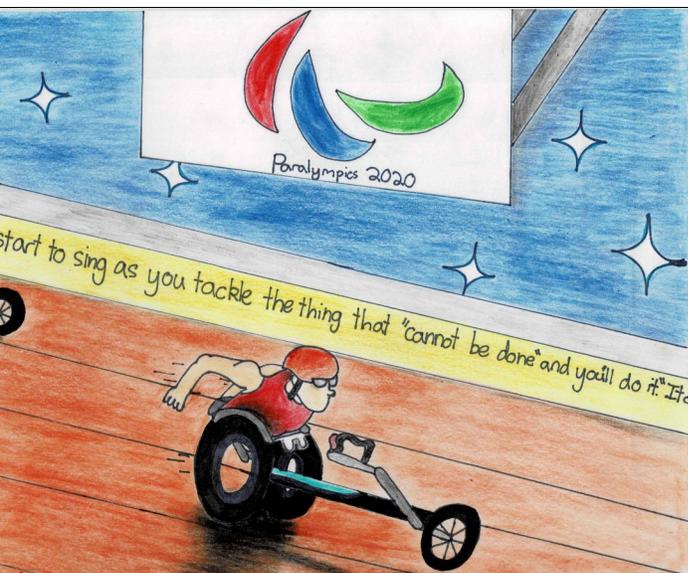
**SEE PAGE 10 FOR THE TEXT OF THE EDGAR A. GUEST POEM, "IT COULDN'T BE DONE," WHICH SERVED AS THE INSPIRATION FOR THE THEME OF THE 2020 COMPETITION.**



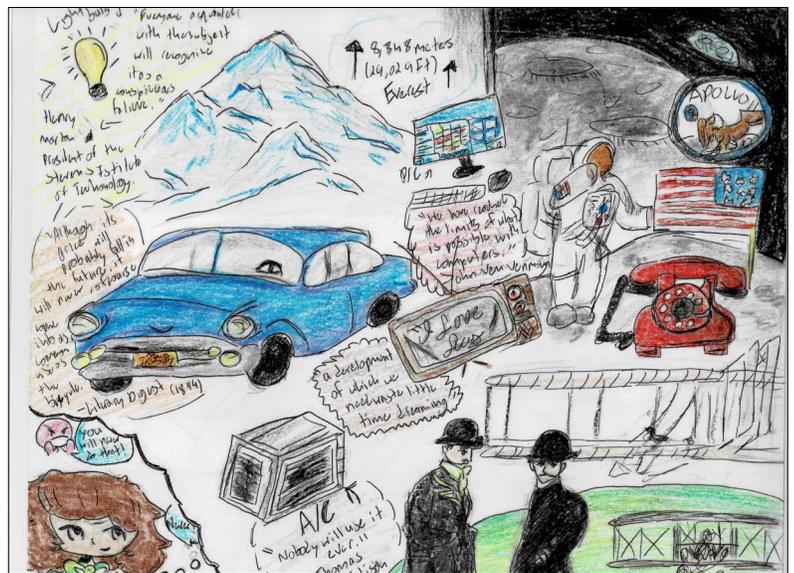
**g**  
Middle School (Grade 7)



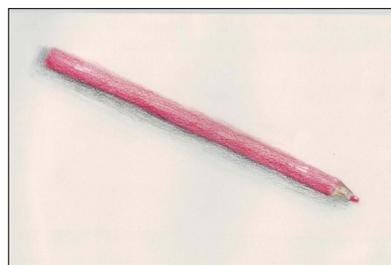
**Art—Painting**  
**Sage Sorenson**  
The Benjamin School (Grade 7)



**Poster**  
**than Roberts**  
lands Middle School (Grade 7)



**Art—Poster**  
**Jessica Alspach**  
Woodlands Middle School (Grade 7)



**Art—Drawing**  
**Olivia Karo**  
The Benjamin School (Grade 6)

The listed schools and grade levels of the winning students are what they were at the time of the contest entry submission during the 2019-2020 school year.

# Essay & Creative Arts Competition Winners 2020 (continued)

## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Essay

**Nyssa Cesar**

Western Pines Community Middle School

As Mr. Guest said, “There are thousands to tell you it cannot be done, there are thousands to prophesy failure.” This statement shows the pessimistic ideas of society. Everyone seems so quick to knock the other down. To be negative. But not all were like this. There are a select few that showed optimism in times of dark times. One of them being President Lincoln. As 16<sup>th</sup> president of the United States, he had the task to keep the union together when a deep divide keeps them apart.

President Lincoln grew up in a log cabin in his youth in a backwater town in the middle of nowhere. He grew up not knowing how to read or write but his parents always taught him the value of being kind. Later in life, he became a lawyer and kept up his ideal of kindness. As he ran for Senate, a good handful of people said this man with no history, a bachelor’s in law, and no government history cannot and should not run for any political office. But, as Guest would say, “He took off his coat and took off his hat, and the first thing we knew he begun it. With a lift of his chin and a bit of a grin, he started to sing as he tackled the thing that could not be done and he did it.”

President Lincoln ran for president and before he knew it, he was sitting in the White House. But the nation was on the brink of war. The industrial North opposed the agricultural South’s idea of slavery. The North thought all people, no matter of skin color, should be able to work, vote, and act like normal citizens. But the South’s economy would plummet if slaves were removed. Thus, the South seceded and the Civil War began. However, Lincoln buckled in with a bit of a grin and tackled the thing that could not be done and he did it. He led an army into the fiercest war America has witnessed and freed an entire race from the shackles of involuntary servitude. He set down the railways for the train of racial equality to run. However, even now, that train isn’t finished. It hasn’t even left the station. However, we must buckle in with a bit of a grin and go at it.

In closing, President Lincoln best demonstrates Mr. Guest’s poem of optimism due to his perseverance in a time of crisis. He led a country through the trials and tribulations of captivity and slavery supporters. And even after his unfortunate death, his legacy lives on in our Civil War Amendments, statues, and museums.

## 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Essay

**Brooke Schofield**

Western Pines Middle School

How do we react when people say, “it is impossible” or “you can’t do it”? Do you get discouraged or motivated? Do you strive to prove them wrong or fall under the pressure and give up? Edgar Guest wrote a poem that states anything can be done if we “buckle in” and try. Guest’s poem is filled with optimism and encouragement to never give up, even through hard times.

It seems our human default when something seems difficult is to turn to the negative and give up. I think it is important to turn off this natural tendency and remain positive when someone suggests to be pessimistic. Especially when that pessimism comes from inside. Seven years ago I started karate telling myself that this was an all-boys sport and I would never become a black belt. Inside I scoffed: “oh you’ll never do that,” but I rose to the challenge and now I am a 2<sup>nd</sup> degree black belt. One of the greatest joys of this struggle is the group of best friends that I made along the way. Guest suggests in a few lines the idea of singing as you go. As I reflect on the more challenging tasks in life, I often find myself singing a song that motivates, or speaks to my heart as I press on.

One person that I keep in mind along my journey is Helen Keller. When I think of the perseverance described in Guest’s poem I cannot help but think of all that she accomplished. At a young age Keller was struck with a disease that left her blind and deaf. Many believed she would never be able to communicate again, but when she saw through the struggle of her lessons she surprised everyone. Not only did Keller overcome her own communication barriers, but she became an author and speaker as well as an inspiration to others like herself. These people may have found it preferable to be pessimistic at first, but by turning towards her “grin and do it” attitude they pressed on.

In Guest’s poem he states “There are thousands to tell you it cannot be done” - only your voice matters when deciding what you can accomplish. I am so glad I decided to silence the doubting voices that tried to turn me away from completing my goals. I’m also thankful for people like Helen Keller who never gave up and set a positive mindset for us all to admire. The next time someone says “It can’t be done” look them in the eye and do it.

## 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Essay

**Allison Zetwick**

St. Ann Catholic School

It couldn’t be done is a phrase used by Edgar Guest to show that a positive outlook can shape your whole reality. The poem relates to an experience my grandfather, Harry Musikas, had in the late 1930s and early 1940s. He was stuck in a communist country and wanted better for his life. His father grew up in Estonia which was part of the Soviet Union at the time, and during World War II, he moved to China to become a captain in the Merchant Marines. During his childhood, my grandfather would stand on the rooftops in Shanghai, China and watch the Japanese bomb his city, hoping that he would just survive. As the war was ending, China became a communist country and his family had to flee.

They bravely boarded a ship and left with no country to call home. Harry, his sister, mother, and father sailed along the South China coast for many years without a home. He was self-taught and read books during the day while also working on the ship. His father tried desperately to get a visa to the United States, but because they were of Chinese and Russian citizenship, they “couldn’t.”

His story somehow was received by a local aristocrat in New York City who had heard about the situation. The aristocrat had heard the ship was making a trip to New York City Harbor, and he wanted to meet them. Afterward, the gentleman generously sponsored them to become citizens of the United States. So, finally, they acquired a home in New York. However, since my grandfather had no formal education, his future was limited.

Moreover, Harry desired to live the “American Dream” and needed to attend college; he “tackled the thing” and met with the dean of Georgetown University. The university told him that if the test was passed, he might be accepted. Harry attended the School of Foreign Service. After we graduated, he, fortunately, became an executive with Exxon Mobil Corporation. My grandfather is a story of someone who had all the odds stacked against him, overcame everything, and he is now retired spending his summers in Connecticut and winters in Florida.

All in all, the phrase in Guest’s poem: “There are thousands to tell you it cannot be done, there are thousands to prophesy failure...” shows the true perseverance that it takes to try something that they all say “couldn’t be done.”

## 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Essay

**Maggie Ulman**

St. Mark's Episcopal School

Has there ever been a time in your life when you felt lonely because you thought you would never fit in? Edgar Guest's inspirational poem, "It Couldn't Be Done," emphasizes that "There are thousands to tell you it cannot be done/There are thousands to prophesy failure." In other words, there are people in the world who will try to hurt and discourage others. However, optimism, or staying positive, and perseverance or persistence, both affect the outlook in challenging situations. Remaining optimistic at summer camp helped me when it was hard fitting in and finding friends.

To begin with, summer camp during the summer of 2019 was challenging because the other campers made me feel unwelcome. For instance, upon arrival, finding a bunk was hard; everyone wanted to be next to their friends from the previous summer. All of the girls already knew each other and did not want a new friend. For example, on the second day, there was a break where our counselor permitted hanging out with another friend. I was heading to a girl named Olivia's bunk, but another girl, Eva, shoved me, saying that *she* was hanging out with Olivia. This was difficult for me because I felt so alone, and camp is supposed to be about fun with friends. However, at summer camp, finding friends was difficult because I felt left out.

During this difficult task, remaining optimistic encouraged me to keep trying to make friends. First, writing to my parents was very soothing. Explaining in detail "camp life" aided me to see the bright side. Writing also helped me to see the people who accepted me. Furthermore, realizing that not everyone will accept me also helped. Finally, what motivated me the most to keep trying to make friends was learning about God. Everyone gathered and listened to people's testimonies, and the bible. This experience really showed me God's strength, and I knew he would support me. One of the most important ideas that aided me in my tough situation was remaining optimistic with God's help and learning to be accepting.

Moreover, staying positive in tough situations helps individuals to see the bright side in strenuous times and makes challenging situations easier. Mine taught me that making friends is easy if one puts oneself out there. The situation also taught me how optimism actually affects the community. It helps individuals see the bright side in difficult circumstances. It also taught me to find strength and that leaning on others is acceptable. Optimism helps in situations like mine because it makes the situation seem less daunting.

In summary, when I felt unwelcome at sleepaway camp, it was beneficial to have a positive attitude. The situation when first arriving at camp was tough because everyone knew each other. Through God, overcoming my situation was easy, as well as finding strength in my friends, and parents. Optimistic attitudes can uplift people to do challenges they never would have dreamed of without others encouragement.

## Poetry

**Yellaine Aguilar**

Dreyfoos School of the Arts  
(Grade 9)

Optimism.

What comes to other people's minds  
When the word is brought up to them?

Do they even think about  
The people in the world who are less fortunate  
Who strive to keep it  
In the dark and pessimistic times?

I wouldn't know.  
I'm not them.

I'm abnormal.  
*Unique* is what others have called me.

I'm too weird for the normal.  
Too normal for the weird.

People don't understand me.  
I'm just left here in fear.

How can I be optimistic  
When I'm so incredibly petty and self-centered?  
I try

I try not to whine and cry about my life  
I know there's people going through far worse  
than I am.

Thus, I must do what I can

## 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Essay

**Dorian Preston**

The Benjamin School

The poem by Edgar Guest is a poem about believing in yourself. It tells the reader that you should never give up trying to do what you set out to do. The part I liked most about the program is that he did it all with a good attitude and a grin.

After reading Edgar Guest's poem, "It Couldn't Be Done," I was inspired to tell the story of my great-grandmother Maude Newkirk.

Immigrating to America was something that she felt she had to do. My great-great-grandmother was brought to the island of Eleuthera, Bahamas on one of the last slave ships to the island. When my great-grandma, Maude Newkirk, was born her mother was about 19 years old. Their life in the Bahamas had never been easy. The island was very small and there was not much money to make. My great-great-grandmother was a seamstress and my great-great-grandpa was a local fisherman. When my great-great-grandma became pregnant with her first child she dreamed of making a better life for themselves and their child. America is where dreams come true. They left the little island in the Bahamas for a chance at a better life for their children.

Once my great-great-grandparents had made up their minds to come to the United States their perseverance was amazing. They first had to leave all of their family and friends. They had to decide which of their belongings to take and which to leave behind since they would only be able to take one suitcase each. Imagine having to put your whole life in one suitcase.

Since my great-great-grandpa was a fisherman one of his friends that was a captain offered to take them across and even let them stay with him in Florida until they were able to make their own way. The distance between Eleuthera, Bahamas, and Jupiter, Florida is 279 miles. It took them about four hours to get there. They prayed the seas would be calm for their journey. They were scared and excited all at the same time.

Once they were settled into their new life my great-great-grandma started working right away and my great-grandma was born.

Maude Newkirk grew up in Florida and if it's one thing that her parents taught her it was perseverance. My great-great-grandma taught her how to sew. After school, she would make herself and her friends clothes to wear. She became very good at it. She decided to start a little business making and selling clothing. Even though some of her teachers told her not to do it, because it would interfere with her schoolwork, she did it anyway. By the time my great-grandma was 21 she owned a tailor store in Hobe Sound, Florida and was able to provide for her whole family for her entire life. I was three days old when I met her. She was 103. She died at the age of 108. Because she persevered I got to meet her.

To get over the problems that began  
This phase of my self-loathing.

I must get over this  
Even though I believe it cannot be done.

I tell myself  
The worst has already passed.  
Already left me  
But it still haunts me.

I tell myself  
I'm just being strong  
Whenever I lock myself up  
And try to restore the frail wall that surrounds me.

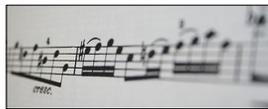
(continued on page 11)

# Essay & Creative Arts Competition Winners 2020 (continued)

## It Couldn't Be Done

by Edgar A. Guest (1881-1959)

Somebody said that it couldn't be done,  
 But he with a chuckle replied  
 That "maybe it couldn't," but he would be one  
 Who wouldn't say so till he'd tried.  
 So he buckled right in with the trace of a grin  
 On his face. If he worried he hid it.  
 He started to sing as he tackled the thing  
 That couldn't be done, and he did it.  
 Somebody scoffed: "Oh, you'll never do that;  
 At least no one ever has done it";  
 But he took off his coat and he took off his hat,  
 And the first thing we knew he'd begun it.  
 With a lift of his chin and a bit of a grin,  
 Without any doubting or quiddit,  
 He started to sing as he tackled the thing  
 That couldn't be done, and he did it.  
 There are thousands to tell you it cannot be done,  
 There are thousands to prophesy failure;  
 There are thousands to point out to you one by one,  
 The dangers that wait to assail you.  
 But just buckle in with a bit of a grin,  
 Just take off your coat and go to it;  
 Just start in to sing as you tackle the thing  
 That "cannot be done," and you'll do it.



### Music

**Jad Joucedi**

Western Pines Middle School  
 (Grade 8)



### Dance

**Brooke Meixner**

Dreyfoos School of the Arts (Grade 9)



### Video

**Gavin Venoff**

The Benjamin School  
 (Grade 6)

### Poetry

**Alexandra Blount**

The Benjamin School (Grade 8)

That morning the rain came down slow then fast  
 They raced to be the first drop down the pane  
 I knew that the rain would not have to last  
 But watching the ran made me numb to pain

But then I saw it as it landed near me  
 A small butterfly that only had one wing  
 He fluttered away to the willow tree  
 I went out to see and sat on the swing

I noticed that the butterfly was blue  
 He fluttered over to me and the rain stopped  
 After it stopped we both knew what to do  
 From that day forward the rain never dropped

The small little butterfly changed my view  
 The small rose flower of my future grew

### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Essay

**Charlotte Kimmerling**

St. Ann Catholic School

In the fifties – a time where women weren't a big part of Hispanic Society – three brave young women, who were sisters, defied standards and the repressive government. The Maribol sisters Patria, Maria Teresa, and Minerva lived in the Dominican Republic during a time of great turmoil. The dictator Rafael Leonidas Trujillo Molina established the most totalitarian reign in the country's history. Anyone who had spoken against him would disappear. The sisters soon realized they were unwilling to live under his control. They became avid supporters of the underground *Movimiento Revolucionario 14 de Junio* (MR14J); they operated under the code name "Las Mariposas." They played huge parts in bringing down his corrupt regime, subsequently, were constantly jailed for their participation in protest and riots.

Next, the sisters were driving home from jail, when suddenly they were strangled and brutally clubbed to death. The government claimed it was a car crash. The death of Las Mariposas stunned the country, and anger arose. These heroines have become a symbol of activism among women and freedom for all in Hispanic culture. The day of their death marks International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women. They did something incredible, and something that seemed impossible at the time, especially for women. Women had, as previously stated, a small role in society, and in addition to that, many people lived in fear of Trujillo because of the many disappearances that occurred. He led a reign of terror, and people didn't want to get hurt or have their families targeted. These three sisters understood that in order for change to happen, they would have to make a stand. It was certainly a feat that seemed like "it couldn't be done." They put hope in the country and changed the course of the revolution.

In addition to them sparking the flames of revolution, the eldest, Patria, got her law degree handed to her by Trujillo himself as well as his promise of never letting her practice the law. Trujillo took a particular interest in her. He had invited the sisters to a ball and immediately noticed her. He had made advances towards her that she did not acquiesce. Trujillo kept pestering her. He even invited Patria to a soirée; then his beach house, where she finally had enough and yelled at him in front of guests. Trujillo then interrogated her for weeks and jailed her father. This led to the families unified hatred for the leader. The sisters also married important revolutionary figures; this further stirred their involvement in the revolution.

Edgar Guest writes in his poem:

"Somebody said that it couldn't be done,  
 and he with a chuckle replied,  
 that maybe it couldn't  
 But he wouldn't be one  
 who wouldn't say so till he'd tried."

This attitude of fierce determination is what the Maribol sisters had. Guest also writes, "There are thousands to prophesy failure; there are thousands to point out to you one by one, the dangers that wait to assail you." There were thousands that told the sisters to give up, that it was too dangerous for a man, let alone a woman. The sisters persisted and "with a lift of their chins and a bit of a grin," they fought together against the standards and against the repressive government. If they hadn't stood up for what they believed in, the horror of the times would've lasted forever.

## Poetry

**Yellaine Aguilar**

*(continued from page 9)*

I have blessings  
A roof over my head  
Eat three plates of food a day.

Why do I still despise my life,  
And most of all  
Sometimes,  
Myself?

Is it because  
My life isn't the remnant of what it used to be?  
So much has changed

And I want to get over it.  
It seems like it cannot be done!  
I simply want to run  
From my inner conflicts.  
But instead I must restrict  
Myself.  
To face my fears.

I just keep thinking about how  
He died.  
She died.  
He's sick.  
She's sick.

We've moved to a new place to start our lives over but  
yet I can't move on from everything I left  
Over there.

I fall into the same endless trap  
My sadness continues to relapse.

Optimism  
Such a beautiful and bright word.

But you wouldn't truly understand the meaning if it  
Unless it was challenged inside you.  
And you almost or did succumb to the darkness of  
pessimism.

Optimism  
Too much is never good  
But none will definitely hurt you.

Optimism  
It's such a great thing  
But do I have it?  
Do I want it?  
Do I need it?

In my life, through the heartbreaks and difficulties,  
I managed to keep looking up to the bright side.  
I managed to keep on dreaming  
The unrealistic things.

I was childish.  
It was childish.

Yet,  
I still can't help but looking onto the happier side of life  
and wondering

What if it gets better?

What if...getting over this...can be done?

Being happy  
Isn't impossible.

Optimism  
Isn't childish.

And nor is hope.

Nothing is impossible,  
It can be done.

**“Without a sense  
of caring, there  
can be no sense  
of community.”**

*- Anthony J. D'Angelo*

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Anita Belmar  
Richard Keats  
Cynn timer List  
Barbara and Morton Mandel  
Allen Mason

Loretta Neff  
Robert Remis  
Richard Shugarman  
Cynthia Van Buren  
Philip Whitacre



SEE PAGE 10 FOR THE TEXT OF THE EDGAR A. GUEST POEM,

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