

Tenaflly Public Schools
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Tenaflly High School Students Face their Masked Selves Head On

Students Use Art to Create Personal Connections with Themselves and Each Other

For Immediate Release

Tenaflly, NJ – February 23, 2021 – Students at Tenaflly High School (THS) found a new way to turn wearing masks into a positive experience; they turned them into art. Part of a larger unit on *Who are you behind the mask?* organized by THS art teacher Lisa Allen, the students combined results from Adobe Create’s Creative Types quiz with images of their masked selves, creating digital and hand-drawn self-portraits of their masked faces, representing their determined creative type.

“Drawing is a way of thinking and knowing,” said Allen. “Asking students to face their masked portraits head on, creates that essential time they need to process and reflect on this new normal way of life.”

Each student used the results of the quiz to construct an image, using a selfie of their masked face embellished with artistic clip art to represent their creative personality. Then, each student used their selfie image to either draw or paint themselves.

Added Allen, “Today’s high school students will always remember that masks were a big part of their daily life as a teen. As the late great artist Robert Bechtle said, “There’s something that’s very intense about the experience of sitting down and having to look at something in the way that you do in order to make a drawing or a painting of it. By the time you’ve done that, you feel that you’ve really understood what you were looking at...and somehow it becomes a method of possessing the experience in a unique way.”

For more information on Adobe Create’s Creativity Type quiz, visit www.mycreativetype.com.

For more information on the Tenaflly Public School District, please visit the district website at www.tenaflyschools.org.

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