

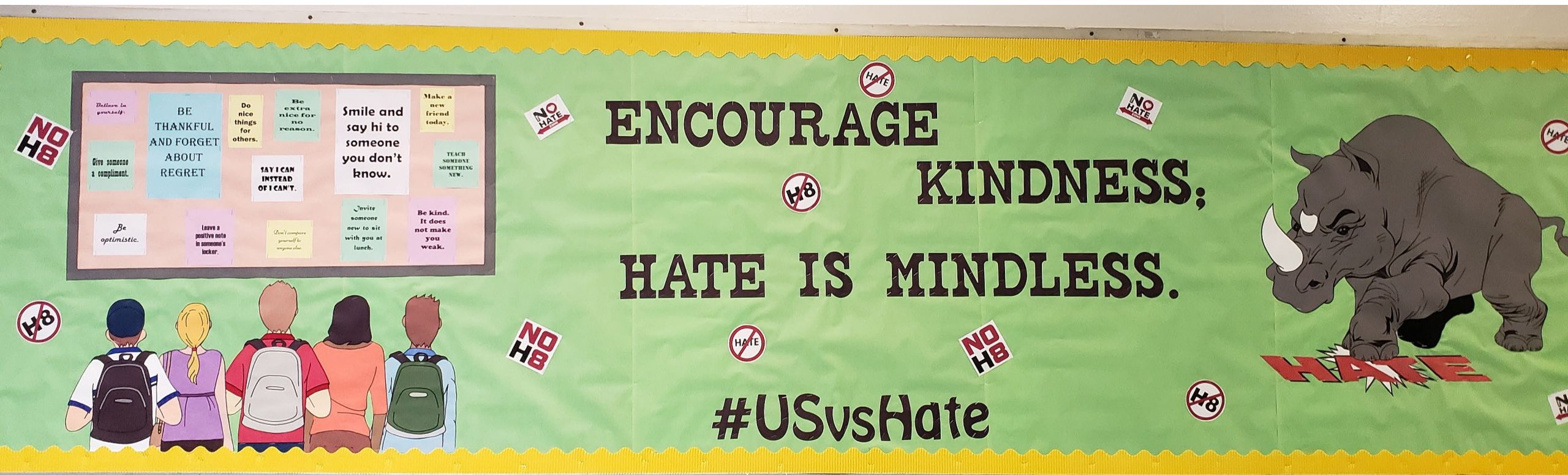
A close-up, low-angle shot of the Statue of Liberty's head and crown, set against a dark, muted background. The statue's face is in profile, looking slightly upwards and to the left. The crown's spikes are visible behind her head. The lighting is soft, highlighting the texture of the copper patina.

#USvsHate

Hate never made
America great.

I first learned about the #USvsHate initiative in January, 2020 from Learning for Justice, formerly Teaching Tolerance. #USvsHate is about embracing inclusion and justice in our schools and society. Students are invited to create anti-hate messages in any media and the national challenge then amplifies student voices to a nationwide audience.

After learning about this initiative, the Lewis F. Cole Middle School Student Ambassadors and I created a message on a 12 foot bulletin board to help promote our school's character education program and support the #USvsHate initiative. The Ambassadors are a select group of students dedicated to preventing disharmony and bias behavior while helping to maintain cooperation and unity within the middle school student body. The main goal of this group is to promote a positive school climate while making sure all students feel safe, included, and welcome in our building.



The initiative was so successful that I changed a graphic design component in the art curriculum to include the #USvsHate campaign each marking period. Originally shared with our Student Ambassadors, I felt it was important to share these messages with all my classes. Students are proud to promote their ideas which will be made into posters, printed, and will be displayed among the district's school buildings as well as in the Fort Lee Public Library in April.

Fort Lee was recognized as a 2020 national winner for the bulletin board our Ambassadors created, and current 8th grade student, Seowon Jeong, was named a national winner in the Winter 2020 contest for this design.



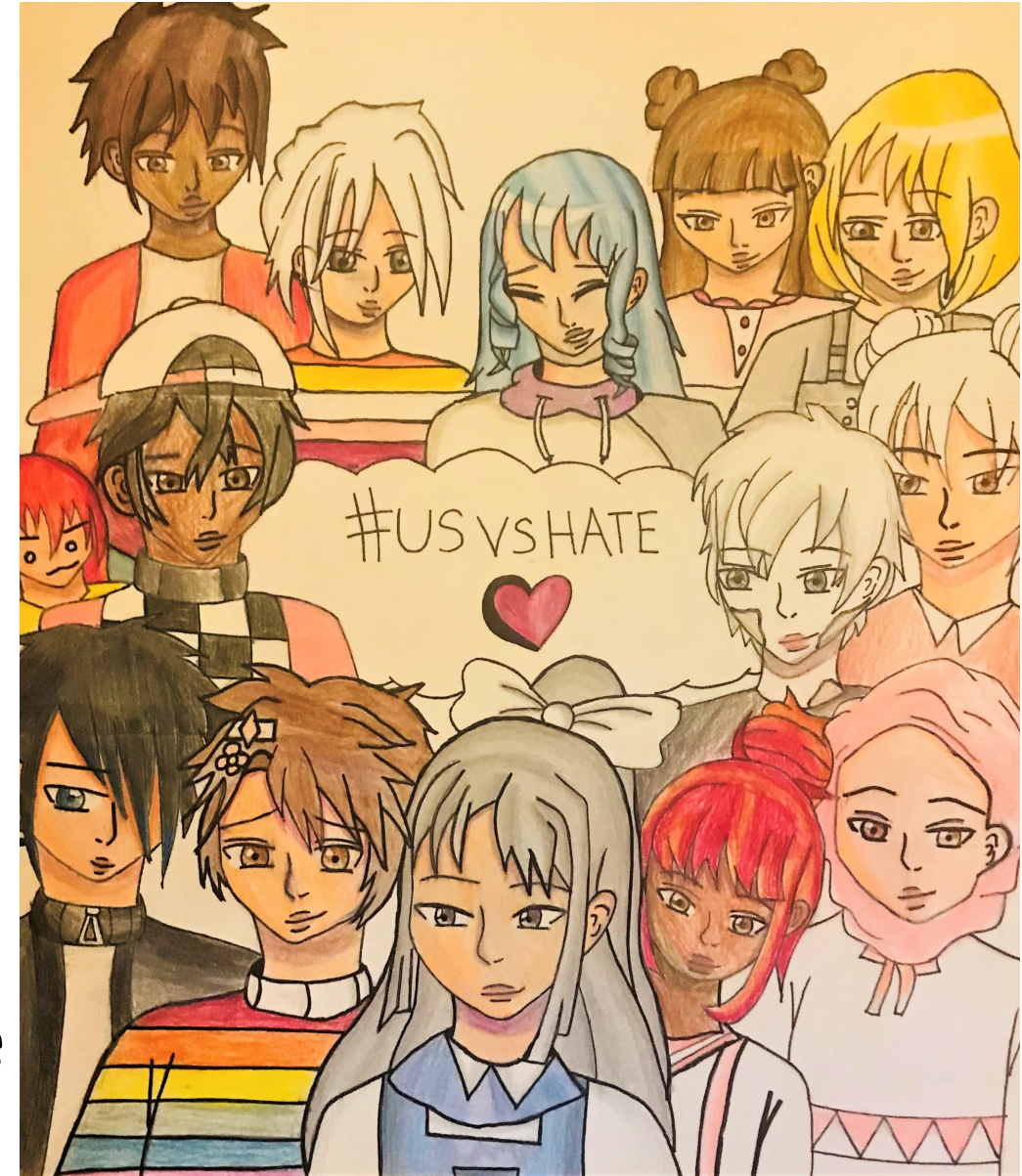
SEOWON JEONG - WINTER 2020 NATIONAL WINNER

Students are tasked to create a design with a message that will do one or more of the following:

- address and refuse racism, xenophobia, homophobia, Islamophobia, anti-Semitism, sexism, or other forms of hate, bias and injustice in schools and society;



Ariana Li
Winter 2020 Finalist



Cherryn Lee
Winter 2020 Finalist

- communicate that people across lines of difference contribute to our communities, region, and nation, are equally valuable, and deserve access to opportunity and well-being;

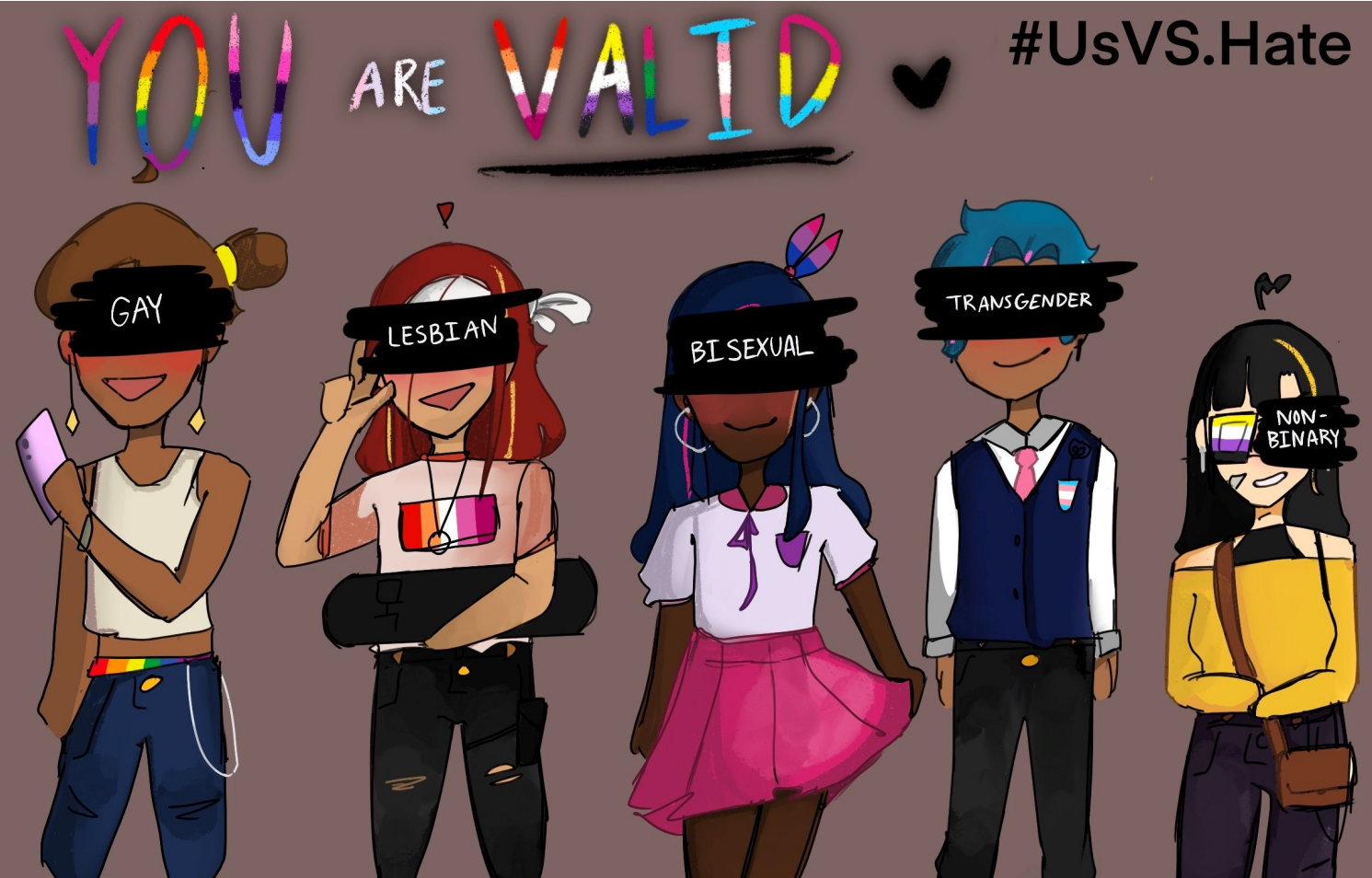


Michelle Kim
Winter 2020 Finalist

Andrea Lee
Spring 2021 Finalist



· bust a myth or challenge a stereotype about a “type of” kid too often misrepresented;
and/or



Sophia Han
Winter 2020 Finalist

Dana Kim
Spring 2021 Finalist



ask people to treat each other kindly, fairly and respectfully, so schools stay safe for learning and society includes us all.



Jaquelin Kim

Spring 2021 Finalist

Angela Lee

Spring 2021 Finalist

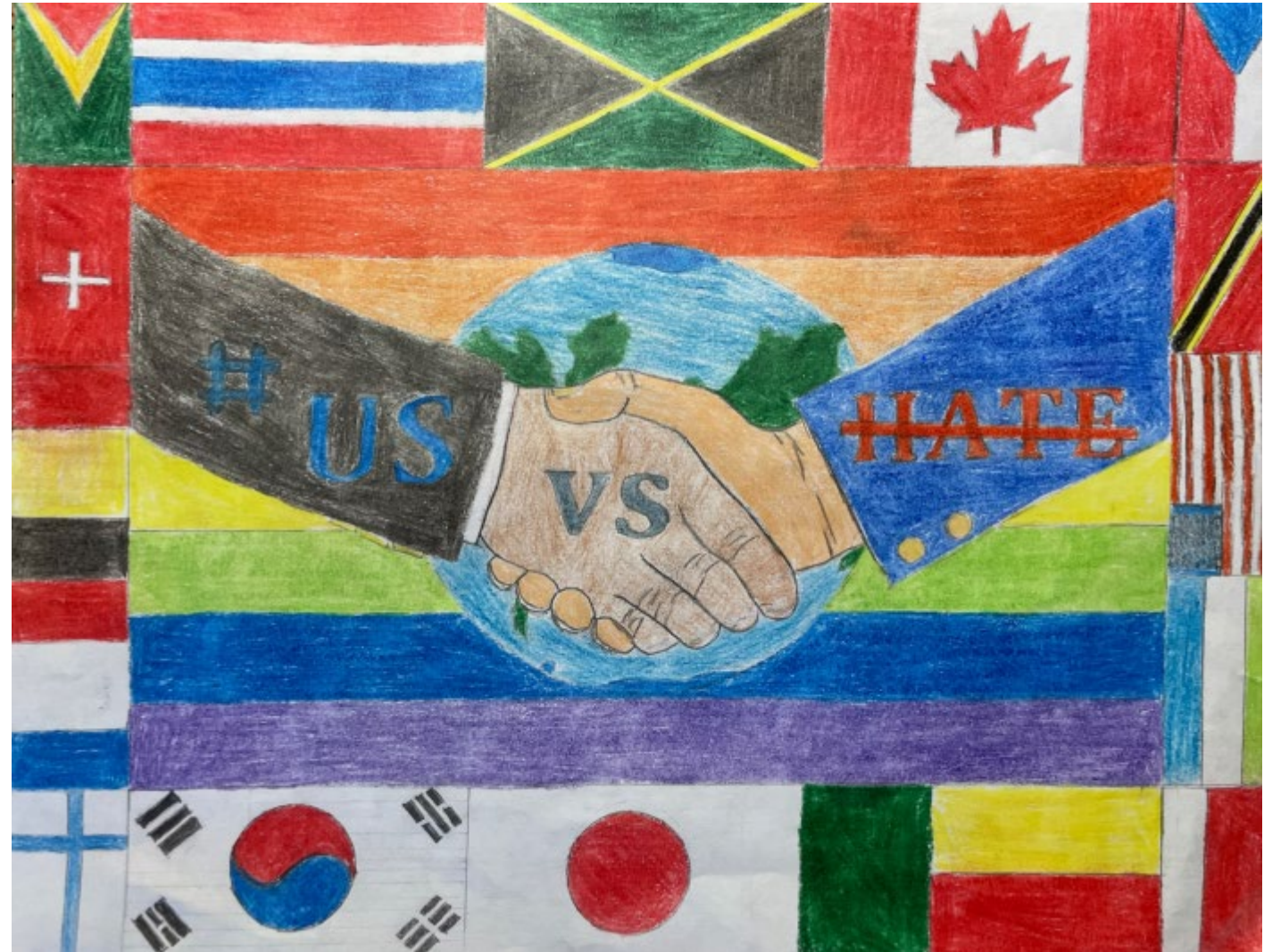


The messages can be made in any media and must include the hashtag: #USvsHate. No message submitted should be harmful or hateful to others!



Eduardo Feliz
Spring 2021 Finalist

Joseph Kim
Spring 2021 Finalist



#UsvsHate



Abigail Lee
Spring 2021 Finalist



Emily Konstantinova
Spring 2021 Finalist