

2025 Elie Wiesel Competition

3rd Place Junior Poetry

Mackenzie Hotchkiss, 8th Grade

Cape Henry Collegiate, Leigh Anne Clay

A Diverse Piece of Art

A tapestry is created by weaving different diverse threads of fabric,

Red, green, pink, emerald, vermillion, lavender.

No one piece of thread is the same

Different types, different textures

Whether it be rayon or polyester.

Each strand strengthens the pattern,

unique yet intertwined.

No single thread defines the design,

yet none without a purpose,

Each plays its role.

It's not perfect, none are

Some threads tangle, some lay smooth,

All the frayed edges, and the scattered holes,

Are nothing but imperfections that just make it whole.

No two tapestries are alike,

Some are bold, others muted.

Some may simmer with gold,

Others worn with time.

Each carries its own story, its own past.

A tapestry is not less for its loose ends,

Nor is a person for their scars.

We hold people to their flaws, their imperfections,

We see them as less than.

But no one is perfect.

We must learn to accept, not just tolerate, one another's imperfections

As we build who we are.