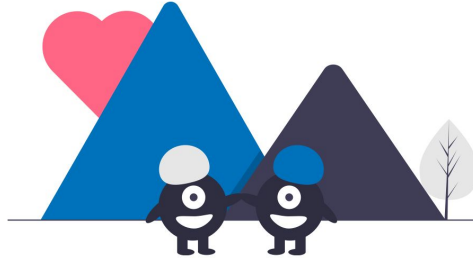


## RESULTS

### UNHCR 2020 YOUTH WITH REFUGEES ART CONTEST



This document introduces the winners of the 2020 Youth with Refugees Art Contest, alongside their artworks and testimonies.

Launched in April 2020 amid the COVID-19 pandemic, the contest encouraged young people aged 12-25 to reflect creatively on the theme: “everyone counts in the fight against the virus, including refugees.”

UNHCR received 2,000 submissions from 100 countries. One in four participants were themselves refugees or asylum-seekers.

UNHCR is awarding seven global winners, whose drawings have been turned into animations, five regional prizes, five prizes for cartoons and 20 special mentions.

The drawings and animations can be downloaded on [Refugees Media](#).

For questions, please contact [youthart@unhcr.org](mailto:youthart@unhcr.org).

 **7 GLOBAL WINNERS**



**GLOBAL WINNER**

**Alfa, 25, Kenya - Congolese refugee**

I'm a Congolese refugee living in Kenya. I wanted to communicate through my painting that solidarity is the best way to protect the lives of everybody in the world from this pandemic including refugees.



**GLOBAL WINNER**

**Faida, 20, Rwanda**

Refugees in a camp are looking forward to receiving a heart which symbolises love. Just for a moment, love is enough to solve their problems and that is love which comes from everywhere that's why it's coming from the sky.



**GLOBAL WINNER**

**Nesime, 16, Greece - Afghan refugee**

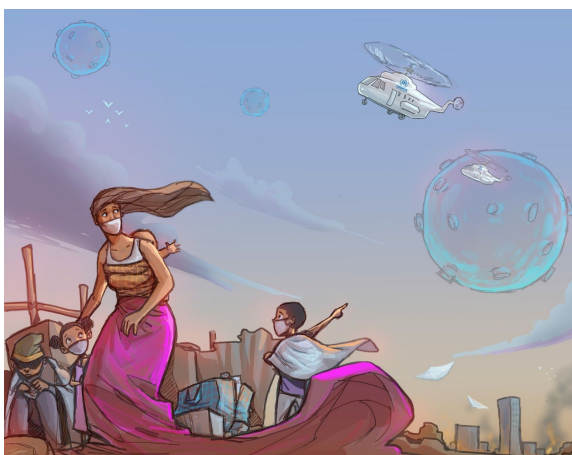
It is true that the coronavirus is now a part of our lives but we should not be worried, we should fight together to defeat the coronavirus. I now live in Greece. People have an image of me in their minds, but I am who I am.



**GLOBAL WINNER**

**Noémie, 16, France**

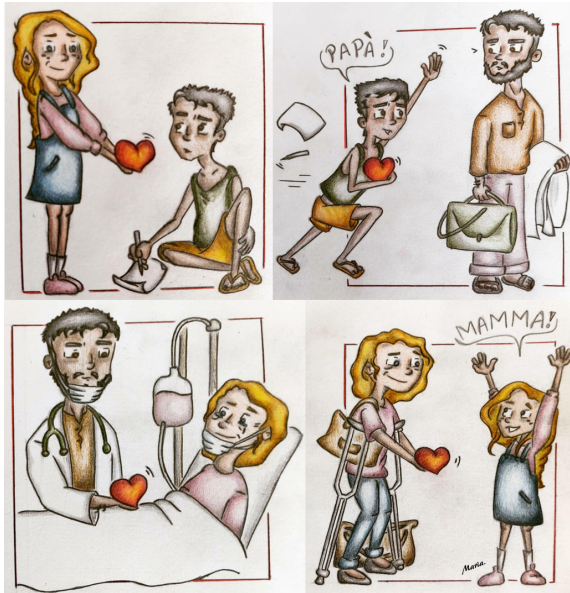
This contest caught my attention for its goal to inspire hope and solidarity and for its ability to raise awareness while staying at home. My superhero is a woman inspired by a Sudanese refugee girl walking under the rain on one of your [Instagram posts](#). My art is not only for this girl but for all refugees, their unique stories, and their courage I admire. My superhero also has a metal leg which at first is an injury but now is her strongest power, as her fears are now strengths.



**GLOBAL WINNER**

**Mukah, 24, Cameroon**

The COVID-19 outbreak and the crisis in my country motivated me to participate. My artwork is entitled "Ray of Hope." A group of refugees on the left depicts those stricken by war. Through the donations of nations and individuals that care, UNHCR is able to help refugees. This comes to them as a ray of hope for a brighter future and shows that they matter to our world.



**GLOBAL WINNER**

**Maria, 23, Cyprus**

The girl in the drawing offers love to the refugee boy. He in turn conveys the love to his father. The father is a doctor and offers his love to a patient suffering from the coronavirus. Finally, the patient, who is now healthy, offers her love to her daughter, who is the girl who appears in the original cartoon.

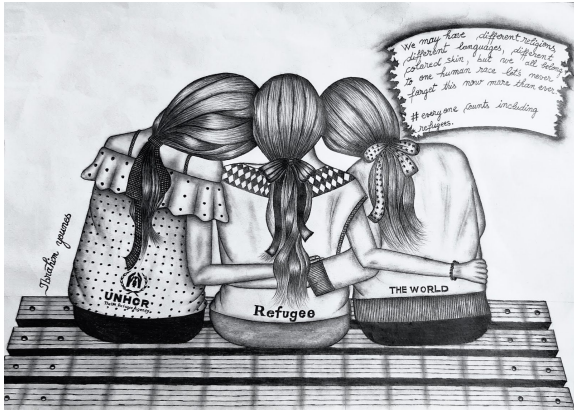


**GLOBAL WINNER**

**Mayu, 16, Japan**

My drawing shows two hands joining each other to protect a refugee boy, inspired by the flag of UNHCR. There is a dark sky full of conflicts and viruses in the back. But people have united to form a cage that blocks them. The boy has a hole in his heart. But the hearts of people all over the world pour down to create a deep blue heart. There are so many he can't hold them. You can also imagine that the boy sends back the love. The potential of a child is immeasurable.

 **5 REGIONAL WINNERS**



**MENA REGIONAL WINNER**

**Ibrahim, 21, Libya - Sudanese refugee**

I ran away from my hometown and lost everything, my freedom, my dreams, my ambition including all my family and my loved ones. But I have not lost the confidence that tomorrow will be better and that the future will be brighter. My drawing talks about the story of a refugee surrounded by two best friends from the left representing the United Nations, from the right representing the entire world. Together, we restore hope to refugees.



**AMERICAS REGIONAL WINNER**

**Ivanna, 16, Peru**

My name is Ivanna and I really like to paint. The truth is that everything I know I learned at school. This quarantine has been a time of reflection. All this has taught me to be more grateful for everything I have. I think many of us complain because we are locked up or because we miss our friends but we don't think about others. There are many people who are going through a very difficult time and struggle every day to bring food to their homes. What I show in my painting is a family that only has a room to survive. Let us remember that we are not the only ones in the world and as people we must support each other.



**AFRICA REGIONAL WINNER**

**Kuena, 23, Uganda - South Sudanese refugee**

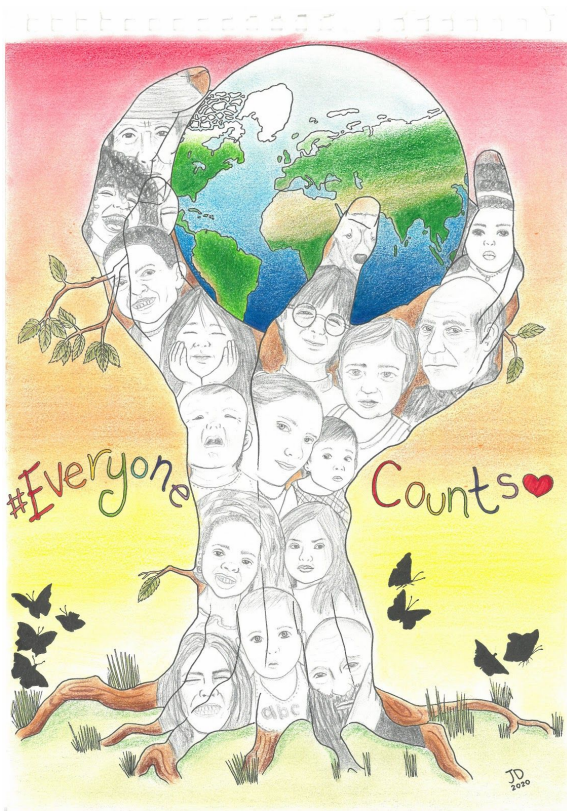
I live in Bidibidi Refugee Settlement (Uganda). After completing my secondary School I had no chance of continuing with University so I started saving money gradually by doing volunteer jobs in the camp with different NGOs and finally I bought a second hand laptop to do graphics designs. I could watch graphics design tutorials on YouTube everyday. After some weeks people started hiring me to design for them posters and logos. And currently I am running a small graphics design company called Jemo Graphics and Screenplays.



**ASIA REGIONAL WINNER**

**Yoon-hye, 22, South Korea**

COVID-19 is a serious problem in my country, too. As the situation gets worse, people blame and doubt each other. BUT People should know that viruses don't distinguish who they target. What refugees need to receive is protection, not discrimination. That's why I participated in this contest. I hope we can overcome this difficult situation together.



**EUROPE REGIONAL WINNER**

**Julio David, 27, Belgium, refugee from El Salvador**

I'm a baker and in my free time I like to draw. It relaxes me, it eases my mind. The drawing shows that everyone regardless of their nationality, skin colour, language or culture should have the same rights. Together we can fight against this virus. The world is in our hands. I did my very best for this competition, I gave it all.

 **5 WINNERS IN THE CARTOON CATEGORY**



**CARTOON WINNER**

**Kayla, 23, Indonesia**

When people lose their job or are obliged to stay at home, it is easy to feel uncertain about the future. Sometimes we feel like we are not able to fight something so dangerous yet invisible to the eye. We may not know what we can do to fight the coronavirus. Most of us are not nurses or doctors, neither are we scientists, most of us are just ordinary people. This is why I want my work to show that whoever we are, how insignificant we may feel, we CAN fight this virus together. Each of us has different roles and every helpful action, no matter what it is, really counts. And most importantly, the refugees.



**CARTOON WINNER**

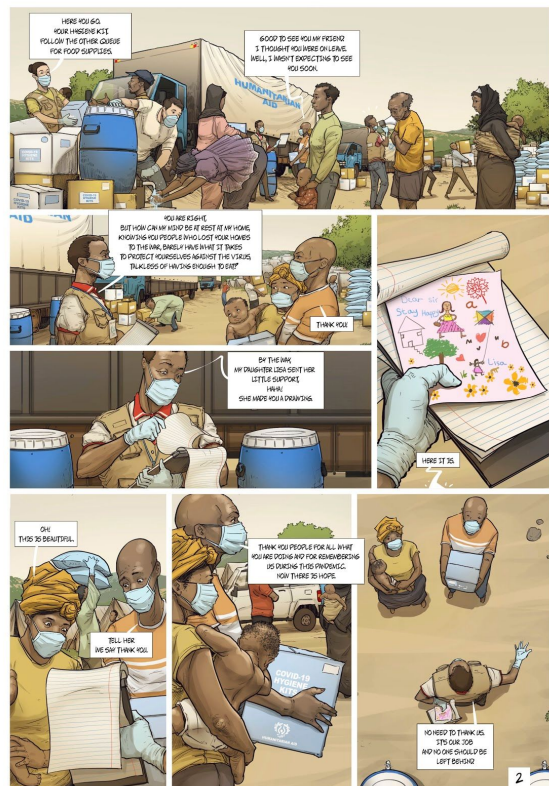
**Nattee, 14, Thailand**

My drawing is entitled “the Refugee Road”. It shows the journey that refugees go through from the darkness of their old home to their new home. We must help them to make their hopes come true. Welcome them warmly like they are part of your family, help them as best as you can and help them avoid COVID-19.

**CARTOON WINNER**

**Toh Bright, 25, Cameroon**

I am a visual artist. My projects are aimed at promoting peace, emphasising human rights, protecting wildlife and human wellbeing, and other philanthropic causes. This comic strip shows that everyone should be protected from the virus and no one should be left behind, especially those who completely lack the means to do so. It also aims to show how far a little act of kindness can go even as we go through such difficult times. It shows that there is light at the end of the dark tunnel. This brings comfort and hope especially to those who have lost it all to a war and going through tough times during the pandemic.







**CARTOON WINNER**

**Rebecca, 20, UK**

My illustration is very much inspired by children's books. I love how illustration can be used to communicate a strong sense of emotion, which I hope that my entry does.

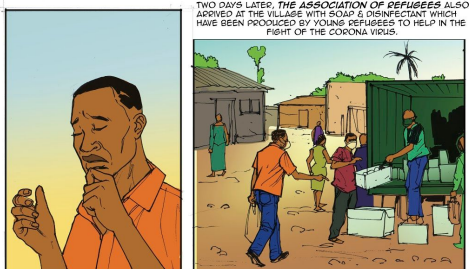
**CARTOON WINNER**

**Fridane, 20, Uganda - Congolese refugee**

This comic strip describes the life of many refugees here in Uganda. It is inspired by my own everyday life, being a refugee from Congo myself. I show that some refugees are misunderstood because of their status. But also that Ugandan citizens can support refugees in different ways.



TWO DAYS LATER, THE ASSOCIATION OF REFUGEES ALSO ARRIVED AT THE VILLAGE WITH SOAP & DISINFECTANT WHICH HAVE BEEN PRODUCED BY YOUNG REFUGEES TO HELP IN THE FIGHT OF THE CORONA VIRUS.



EH...WHAT'S GOING ON HERE? ALL THESE FOREIGNERS CONVERGED HERE...


WAIT, IS THAT MR. MADU RECEIVING...

MISTER...

I'M CURIOUS... THE SOAP & DISINFECTANT... WHERE HAS IT COME FROM?

OH...WE ARE AN ASSOCIATION OF YOUNG REFUGEES WHO MAKE SOAPS & DISINFECTANTS.

AND SINCE THE GOVERNMENT LOCKED UP THE LOCK DOWN, WE BOTH KNOW MANY OF OUR PEOPLE ARE STILL AT RISK OF CATCHING THE DISEASE.



YOUR PEOPLE... THE REFUGEES...

NO...EVERY ONE, EVERY HOME, STEAD WE ARE EVEN DISTRIBUTING OFFICES IN TOWN TOO.

HMM...

(SIGH...) LOOK...I'M SORRY FOR THE WAY I SPOKE. LAST TIME, I DIDN'T KNOW THAT REFUGEES CAN ALSO HELP OTHERS AGAINST THE SPREAD OF THE VIRUS.

I SHOULD NEVER DISCRIMINATE ANYONE BASED ON WHERE THEY COME FROM.

I...I HOPE YOU CAN FIND IT IN YOUR HEART TO FORGIVE ME.

AH...DON'T WORRY SIR. I ALREADY DID. WE JUST HAVE TO JOIN FORCES & FIGHT THE COMMON ENEMY HAVE AT HAND.

COUNT ME IN.

...GONE TO GET THOSE REMAINING MASKS. EXPECT ME HERE TOMORROW FIRST THING IN THE MORNING.

OH! THAT WOULD BE GREAT. SEE YOU THEN.

THE NEXT DAY

GOOD MORNING MR. MADU. LIKE I PROMISED.


HAHAHA...MAGNIFICENT...

AND BY THE WAY, WHEN WERE YOU PLANNING TO TELL ME THAT I WAS TALKING TO THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR ASSOCIATION OF YOUNG REFUGEES?

(CHUCKLES...) WHEN ALL PEOPLE ARE COMPLETELY FREE FROM CORONA VIRUS.

HOW HUMBLE WERE YOU THEN.

PLEASE! DON'T FORGET TO KEEP PRACTISING SOCIAL DISTANCING AS YOU WAIT FOR YOUR TURN.



AM VERY HAPPY TO HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO FIGHT AGAINST THE PANDEMIC. IT'S EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY TO WATCH EACH OTHER'S BACKS & A BID TO ADHERE TO THE GOV'T'S INSTRUCTIONS.

HOW? BY HAVING A GOOD MASK, A DISINFECTANT OR SOAP WE CAN FIGHT CORONA VIRUS TOGETHER.

 **20 SPECIAL MENTIONS**



**SPECIAL MENTION**

**Assia, 18, Algeria**

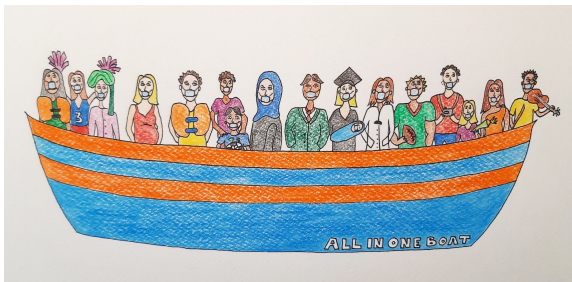
Since the beginning of the pandemic, I always felt grateful for the gift of having a home as I knew that many have to go through these troubling times without one which inspired me to create this piece. Through my work, I wanted to depict how vulnerable refugees are, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. Yet the child is still imagining the life he had or wishes to have which is represented by the childlike colourful drawing of a home and a family. Overall the message I want to send is that everyone should be protected from the virus and to always think about those who are unfortunately not able to be protected.



**SPECIAL MENTION**

**Beatriz, 15, Chile**

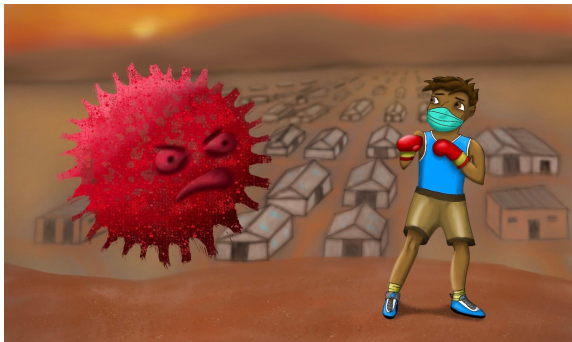
Doctors bring us hope during this pandemic, thanks to their incredible work and passion. Below the doctor we see refugees. Both doctors and refugees have an enormous courage and passion that inspires, especially in these difficult times. The refugees are wearing masks, which shows that we all have a role to play in the fight against the virus. Finally the drawing reflects kindness and diversity.



**SPECIAL MENTION**

**Claire-Marie, 21, Germany**

The drawing "All In One Boat" shows people of different ages, skin colors and backgrounds wearing masks in a boat. I chose a boat, since it is often used by refugees to flee to other places. A boat therefore is a device used by people who share the same fate, the same fears and the same goals. The coronavirus makes us all sit in the same boat. We all share the same fate and fears. But we all have the same goal of overcoming the current challenges, and it takes every single one of us to reach this goal, no matter what age, color or background we may have.



**SPECIAL MENTION**

**Dominik, 21, Germany**

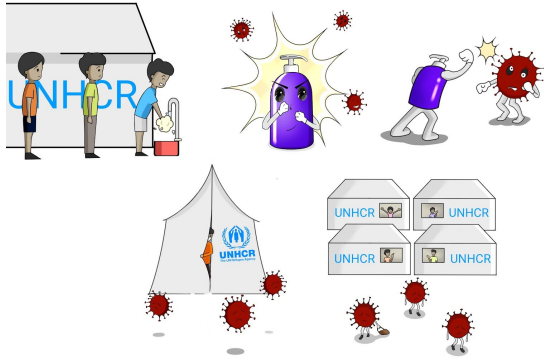
The incredible strong refugees around the world are the main inspiration for my picture. I try to help wherever I can, to provide the best future possible for everybody. This is what keeps me going, this is what drives me being politically active. In my free time, I enjoy drawing. This is my second picture drawn on my tablet.



**SPECIAL MENTION**

**Eleni, 20, Greece**

My drawing pictures a female refugee doctor fighting the coronavirus. I was inspired by your [Instagram post about Saleema's story](#), an Afghan refugee doctor in Pakistan.



**SPECIAL MENTION**

**Fatimah, 22, Ethiopia - refugee from Eritrea**

The drawings are meant to demonstrate in a simple way the benefits of staying home, maintaining social distances and washing our hands to combat the coronavirus.



**SPECIAL MENTION**

**Geórgia, 18, Brazil**

As soon as I heard about the UNHCR Youth with Refugees Art Contest I was delighted. To be able to contribute to a project like yours is the dream of any artist who has time in the midst of this pandemic. I did research on UNHCR before I started my art and I was inspired a lot by the photos published by you. I wanted to portray the real, almost palpable affection and care that can be seen in the photos: protected children, safe environment, cooperation from everyone.



**SPECIAL MENTION**

**Hayat, 22, Iraq - Internally displaced person**

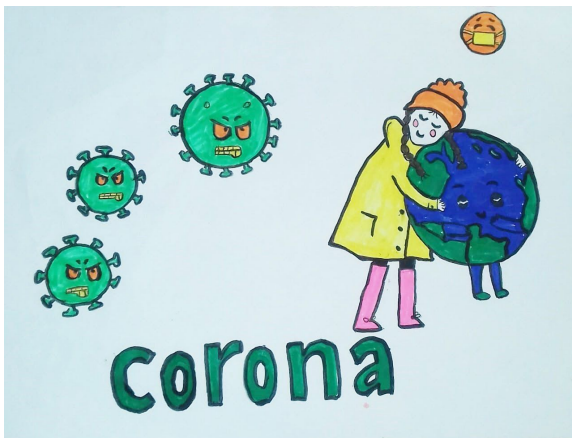
Regardless of the color of our skin, gender, race, religion, and nationality. We are in this together and will get through it together because together we are stronger, and together we can make a difference. I have drawn Bahati, a refugee nurse in Kenya, Nur, a Rohingya refugee, poet and humanitarian worker, and Bushra, a Yazidi refugee working as a nurse in Germany.



#### SPECIAL MENTION

##### **Holya, 17, Netherlands - refugee from Iraq**

The drawing tells the story of an "angel" protecting everyone against the COVID-19 virus. So that the children, like my two younger sisters, can continue to play and be children. And also teenagers, like my other two sisters, can continue to play guitar or have a picnic together. And everyone can be together and be nice to each other. Everyone counts, especially the Youth.



#### SPECIAL MENTION

##### **Izlam, 12, Syria**

I want to share the message that #everyonecounts, including refugees, in the fight against the virus.



#### SPECIAL MENTION

##### **Jamil, 20, Greece - refugee from Afghanistan**

As a refugee living in Greece. I faced a lot of difficulties. Whatever happened, I never lost hope, I was always telling myself: it's not the end there will be a new start. And I was right. At the moment the whole world is suffering from this pandemic and especially the refugees. We should educate children. We should listen to music. We should learn that all human beings are equal. The situation that refugees are in is temporary and will pass. We should always have hope. There is always brightness after the darkness.



**SPECIAL MENTION**

**Janisha, 15, Turkey**

This year I am very happy and proud to be a junior coordinator of a project where we go to a middle- school with both Turkish and Syrian students. This virus cannot be greater than our unity and that is why I wanted the people to be on top of the virus, suppressing the harm day by day with the growth of our unity. For me the most important role is played by the kids. Their future is in our hands.

I really wanted to express my feelings and support to refugees and to the rest of the world. The lockdown has led me to be a person with more empathy.



**SPECIAL MENTION**

**Jia Min, 18, Malaysia**

Last year, I visited a school with refugee kids. The life of a refugee child is tougher than what I expected and their future may seem dark - as if they had lost their way and couldn't find maps to give them directions. They ran away from home with their parents or alone. They risked their lives, leaving everything behind them. I really want to help refugees even though I am just a student without financial support right now. This opportunity comes just in time. I hope all the people in the world can realise that we should not discriminate against refugees, instead we should help them as much as we can.



**SPECIAL MENTION**

**Kaitlyn, 17, USA**

I have always been interested in combining art and activism. Through my drawing, I wanted to convey the message that everyone has a role to play while fighting the virus. For example, I wanted to showcase healthcare workers, essential workers, volunteers who are sewing masks, and ordinary people washing their hands, helping out the elderly, and doing their part to spread awareness that pandemics affect everyone across the world and everyone's actions matter. Basic access to water, soap, health care, and medicine are a necessity, and I wanted to emphasize the importance of caring for and empowering vulnerable populations during this crisis.



**SPECIAL MENTION**

**Kaylynn, 17, Canada**

When I think of every aspect of a great life; food, shelter, entertainment, love, nurture, I cannot reason why any human on this planet should not be entitled to experience a plentiful life. In the midst of COVID-19, we are all scared and worried, many are quick to attack with racist quips which blame specific groups of people for this global pandemic, which is utterly incorrect. I have exhibited on my poster that COVID-19 does not discriminate, it can infect anyone it wishes. #EVERYONECOUNTS in the midst of a global pandemic, and we should be coming together and forgetting any barriers we have put up, because we can only be stronger together.

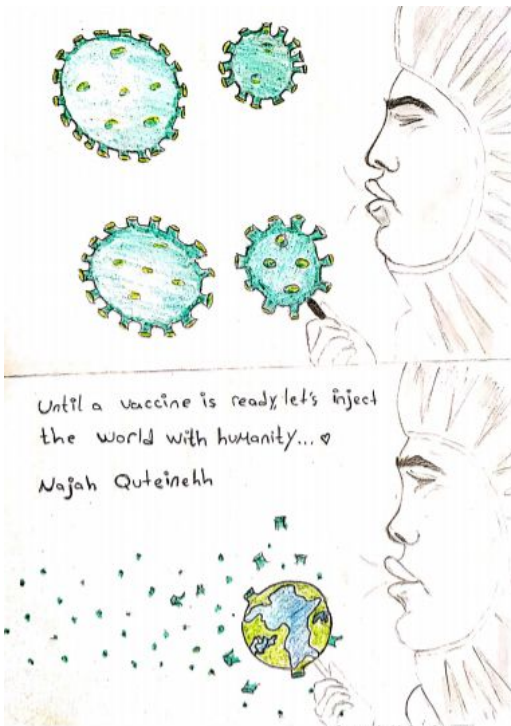




**SPECIAL MENTION**

**Laura, 19, Brazil**

I was really moved by how the refugees are helping in this battle. Here I drew one of them making a mask, to show how everyone is important, everyone matters, no one is a burden, never.



**SPECIAL MENTION**

**Najah 16, Syria**

My biggest dream is to become an artist, a painter. The drawing shows that when people are united, the corona virus is defeated and the world gets better.



**SPECIAL MENTION**

**Shion (中司年音), 23, Japan**

Staying home looks like a simple thing at first glance. However, I realized during this period of self-restraint that not all of us can have a house where we can live in peace.



**SPECIAL MENTION**

**Tumbwe, 21, Rwanda - refugee from Burundi**

This drawing illustrates the habits to be taken to protect us against COVID-19 and demonstrates that refugees are also involved in the fight against the virus. It is our duty to respect barrier gestures.



**SPECIAL MENTION**

**Xinyue, 13, China**

The four hands represent countries around the world with different climates. The people - refugees and others - are inside the countries' protection. As the image is showing, people are playing inside the water ring.