The Journal of the IYNA

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TOP 8 GRAPHIC DESIGN SUBMISSIONS

“Unconditional Love”
- Veda Dayananda

“Embrace Through Connection”
- Ashley Nguyen

“When Neurotechnology Joins the Family”
- Jenna Mackenroth

“Connected Through Innovation”
- Bijaya Manandhar

“Reaching Out”
- Maria Grothe

“Farther Yet Closer”
- Sai Sudharshan

“Neuron Forest”
- Shreya Dhanala

“A Universal Bond”
- Megan Hilliard

2021 RIGHT BRAIN GRAPHIC DESIGN CONTEST

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH NEUROSCIENCE ASSOCIATION
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1st Place  “When Neurotechnology Joins the Family”  Jenna Mackenroth  page 5

Connections are ever-evolving. As our technology surrounding neuroscience grows, the prospect of neuroenhancement presents itself. Inevitably, it will affect our interpersonal relationships as well as our relationships with information.

2nd Place  “Embrace Through Connection”  Ashley Nguyen  page 6

We embrace connecting with ourselves and with others by creating and innovating. Our unlimited learning opportunities and unfettered creativity encourage us to discover how far our capabilities can bring us in life. We can internally connect with our minds by listening to music and expressing our emotions through color, and we can externally connect with society by showcasing our creativity through dance and the performance arts. In any form of connection, we connect to radiate emotions and express our many moods.

3rd Place  “Unconditional Love”  Veda Dayananda  page 7

This work of art seeks to encapsulate the unconditional love and extraordinary connection between the depicted mother and her child, who has Down Syndrome, an inherited condition caused by an extra copy of the 21st chromosome (trisomy 21).

4th Place  “Farther Yet Closer”  Sai Sudharshan  page 8

Human beings have always been regarded as social animals. It is in our nature to connect with others and form meaningful relationships. Technology has proven to bridge the physical gap between human beings, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. Here, we can see two different types of connections blend together: a WiFi connection enables human beings to establish and maintain various levels of emotional connections amongst themselves.

5th Place  “Reaching Out”  Maria Grothe  page 9

We are only able to form meaningful connections with each other because of our ability to form memories through long-term potentiation. The various faces depicted represent the
neurotransmitters that help us create these positive memories of and strong connections with others.

6th Place

“Neuron Forest”  Shreya Dhanala

In an adult brain, there are around 100 billion nerve cells, or neurons, that meet at over 100 trillion junctions, or synapses. This “neuron forest,” aptly named for the thick, branching nature of the neuronal system, is depicted.

7th Place

“A Universal Bond”  Megan Hilliard

Holding hands symbolizes the physical and emotional connection between two individuals. Below the skin, nerves function as the link between the brain and the body. On the chemical level, serotonin and dopamine travel across synapses, generating the rewarding emotional response associated with a positive relationship between individuals.

8th Place

“Connected Through Innovation”  Bijaya Manandhar

The depicted house is purposely shaped like the right side of the brain and filled with color and liveliness, exemplifying how the right side of our brain is known for originating our creativity, innovative skills, and awareness. The many pathways leading to the house and the handwritten countries of the world solidify how no matter where our origins are, we are all connected through “the right brain house,” or specifically, our innovation, intuition, and creativity.

CONTRIBUTORS PAGE
Letter From the Editors
Journal Leadership

Dear Readers,

Welcome to the second installment of the fourth season of the IYNA Journal! While the COVID-19 pandemic remains a global issue, we thank you for taking the time to read our special February edition of the IYNA Journal. You will notice that in this issue, there are no articles; just art! After receiving many amazing submissions to the 2021 Right Brain Graphic Design Contest, our panel of judges narrowed it down to eight awe-inspiring works of art.

We would like to give special thanks to Christine Zhou, Nick Young, Emily Zhang, and Grace Zhao, who graciously set aside time in their busy schedules to be a part of our judging panel. They carefully reviewed each entry and chose the designs that we will be showcasing in this issue. We hope that viewing these beautiful designs will offer a source of excitement and inspiration to anyone who might be quarantined at home or feeling down amidst these tumultuous times.

In light of the disconnect this pandemic has ushered in, our theme for this contest was “Connections.” From synapses to social media, the wide variety of art we received pleasantly reminded us of the sheer talent and creativity found among our youth today. Combining the best of both worlds—art and neuroscience—isn’t easy, so we thank all submitting artists, even the ones who weren’t able to get their art showcased in this issue, for daring to experiment and think outside the box. After viewing this brief, yet splendidly comprehensive, collection of graphic designs, we hope you will be inspired to seek out the color amidst the current dullness as the light at the end of the tunnel draws nearer each day.

As always, we would like to recognize and extend our gratitude to all of our staff for helping us make this issue the success that it is. You can see their names and positions on our Contributors page. If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions for us, please feel free to contact the Editor-in-Chief at swagle@youthneuro.org. We hope you enjoy reading this issue as much as we enjoyed compiling it!

Best Regards,
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