

THE IMAGINE SOCIETY

MAY 27, 2022



SPECIAL ISSUE CELEBRATING *Relationships*
KIDS MAY EDITION VOLUME 33!



"You only have what you give.
It's by spending yourself that you become rich."
- *Isabel Allende*

The Tree of *Relationships*

by Louis A. Craco III

Relationships can change our life. I have had many relationships in the past, and I have many now. I also hope someday to have more relationships in the future. Maturity, responsibility and independence have their own growth, like when we get older and accomplish goals and thrive with others and make our own decisions in adulthood. Relationships can be many types. The types I have now are friendships, sibling relationships, therapeutic relationships, teacher-student relationships, and club/team relationships.

Family relationships are a thriving experience, like how my parents are protective of my gluten-free diet and my health. In your own family make-up, you could be the first born or have siblings. I have a brother and sister. I used to have two sisters, however, my older sister grew up and transgendered to a he. My family will change a little once my brother heads out to College in the Fall. He will make new relationships in college. My sister is two years

celebrating
RELATION-
ships



Inspirational artwork by Audrey (13)!

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older than me and is in high school. She is now fifteen, I am thirteen. I will be going to high school next Fall at **Cooke School and Institute**, located in Manhattan, NY. I will be making new relationships, too. I am very excited to make new friends.

Relationships have the same knowledge. You or I can be treated fairly and equalized. This instruction will help you have time around others. I've learned this knowledge by being successful in chess. My father is helping me and I win sometimes.

Some relationships involve life and death. *Blue Bloods* (tv drama series) has the same name as the NYPD uniform color. Police officers depend on their life because of their relationship. And they also have relationships around other people. Residents and visitors need to be watched by officers and be protected.

Speaking of death, relationships can grow, but when people come to death, their memory can still be loving and brighten up your life. Memories can be painful of remembering them, but they are still alive in our minds and in our hearts.

I remember in my school there was a student named Luke and he moved to another school. One day we had a zoom meeting and communicated with him. On the internet I played Roblox with another friend called Noah. He lives in Pennsylvania and I will visit him soon.

Clubs and teams are made of several people that connect together, especially when it comes to sports. These people create teammate relationships. The people on the team are working together to win against their opponents.

My caregiver Ria takes me every Wednesday to speech therapy after school. My therapist's name is Kelsey. I have been going for ten years and my mouth muscles are stronger. Now I talk like a professional. We have a relationship because of all the work we do. She helps me interact with words and sentences. She also helps me communicate. Listening is a skill of communication. Privacy is important. I share my thoughts with her. In the present we are making ideas for newsletters.

David is my bus driver. We fist bump when I get on the bus. When he sees me wearing a Michael Jordan jersey, he says, "The Chicago Bulls!" He's actually pretty serious. Today, when I got off the bus, he said, "I want to see my name in that story!"

Ria used to meet me at school. Now she waits for me to get off the school bus. She makes food that I totally admire. She cooks bruschetta, lasagna and so much more. Relationships can mean doing things for people, like how she packs my luggage when I go to Connecticut. Before we go to the train, we get a gluten-free chicken pot pie stew on the way. I do like to get there in a car, but taking the Grand Central train is even better because I keep my eyes open for the South Norwalk Station. My Grandmother Marilee is waiting and looking for big smiles. Me and Ria give her a hug. Ria's companionship is important to me. She has her own life. In fact, she does have a job to supervise us. My sister and my brother are also loved by Ria. She loves me and my family like her own family. We love Ria, too. Caring for others is helping them feel proud.

I feel good about my relationship with **The Imagine Society Newsletter**. It is three different relationships: professional, business and volunteer. It is hard work. I am on the Editorial Staff and have to make a deadline. To make a newsletter story you always have to put in the truth. Sometimes you can have a relationship with people you have never met, like with your readers. When you are in a relationship, people feel united. You are not alone.

Louis A. Craco III
8th Grade, Cooke School
Self Advocate for Down Syndrome



Thank you Louis for sharing another truly inspirational essay!



Louis A. Craco III is in 8th grade at Cooke School and also on the Youth Editorial Staff at The Imagine Newsletter!

Ending Gun Violence

By Louis A. Craco III (13)

Guns are not for everyone.

Guns are meant for protection.

Some people like police officers need guns to protect innocent lives.

19 innocent children were shot, and their lives came to end.

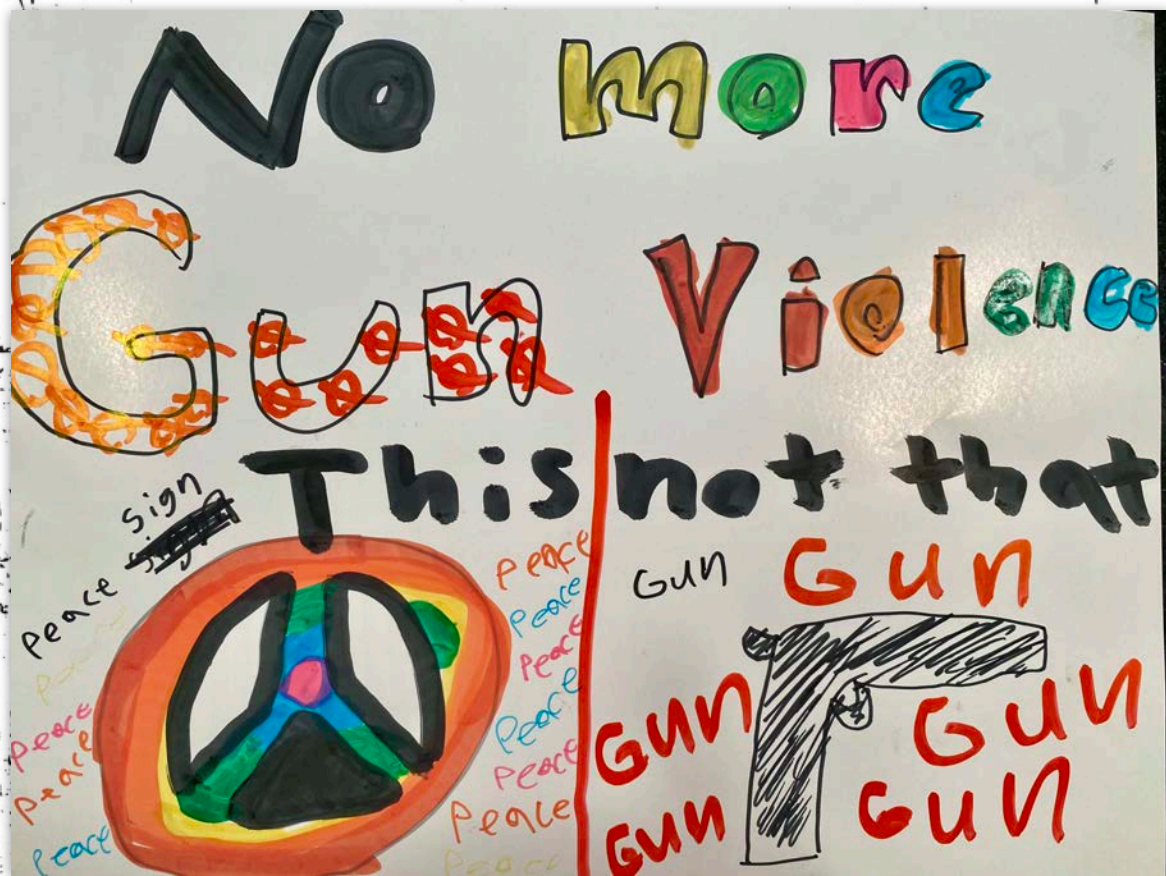
2 teachers from the same school were also murdered.

I'm an 8th grade student graduating next month.

Hearing about gun violence like what happened in Texas is gut wrenching.

** what can we do as the citizens of the United States to end gun violence? **

- Change the rules for who can buy a gun?



Artwork by Dashiell Hall (11)

Congratulations to the Graduating Class of The Imagine Society 2022!

"Working with **The Imagine Society** has been unlike anything I have ever done. Most importantly, it has helped me grow as a student, as a global citizen, as a writer, and as a person overall. Doors of opportunity have been opened for me because of my published work in monthly newsletters, which would not have been possible at all had **The Imagine Society** not reached out to me. From scholarships to lasting friendships, I have been fortunate to gain so much from my time working with the Society, and I hope that my contributions over the past few years have expressed my heartfelt gratitude for it."

- **Sofia Corsico-Sanchez**



"Whether it be through the service projects, the friends I've made, or the lives we've changed, I am so proud of my work in **The Imagine Society** over the past five years, and can't imagine where or who I'd be without this inspirational community. **The Imagine Society** has made me a better person and I will use these skills throughout my life."

- **Marre Gaffigan**

"The Imagine Society really helped me to see how difficult it is for so many in New York City, especially the homeless."

- Joseph Fitzpatrick



"As a leader in **The Imagine Society** for the past 5 years, I have learned the importance and value of giving back to others in the communities that I surround myself with. The honest interactions and conversations that I have had with these individuals have prepared me for a life of service and leadership. I am thankful to have been a part of such a compassionate group of people and will continue to cherish the experiences I had and the bonds that I made."

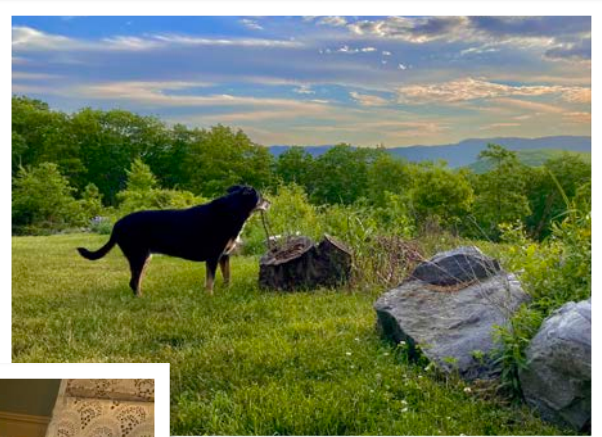
- Sabrina Turner

We are so proud of your contributions to service and leadership!

My Relationship with Josie

By Olympia Hall

*She is a strong survivor
She has been through so many challenges with me
She has been there since I was born and has helped me through the way
She is smart
She is very cuddly
Her eyes gleam in the light
She protects us with all of her strength
She is the most loving of them all
She is my dog.
:)*



Olympia Hall (9) is in the 3rd grade at Convent of the Sacred Heart. She is also on the Youth Editorial Staff of The Imagine Society Newsletter!

Celebrating GiGi's NYC 4th Annual Fashion Show!

On May 3rd, our friends at **GiGi's NYC** hosted their **4th Annual Fashion Show** featuring models of all ages with Down syndrome strutting their stuff down the runway. The event was a huge success, with the **GiGi's NYC** community shining bright like the stars they were born to be. You can watch the amazing event [here!](#) Congratulations to all the superstar models! Check out photos from the event below!



♥ Imagine Babies: ♥

Spotlight on a Very Special Service Project

We are so proud of Imagine Youth Leader **Olympia Hall!** **The Imagine Society** is inspired not only by her commitment to helping her community but also to her enthusiastic building of new relationships through service! Olympia (9) wanted to help rally support for our ongoing **Imagine Babies** service project gathering donations and necessities for the babies at our favorite family shelter. She put together an incredible presentation for fellow classmates in Ms. Yim's 3rd grade class at **Convent of the Sacred Heart**. She put together an absolutely brilliant presentation! Olympia told us, **"When I shared with my class I was nervous but then my friends started bringing things in over the week and I felt more confident. There were a lot of questions at the end of my presentation and we had a big discussion about what babies needed. I'm glad that my friends helped and that the babies will get the baskets!"** Olympia encouraged her classmates to donate baby items and they worked together to collect a unique collection of baby necessities: pacifiers, board books, socks, hats, bibs, rattles, etc. Brava to all the students for supporting this incredibly important cause and teaching us at The Imagine Society that young people of all ages can get involved with service and helping our community!

Check out part of Olympia's presentation!



Congratulations to Olympia (second from left) and all the students from Ms. Yim's class for your amazing efforts to help the babies at our favorite family shelter!



Youth Volunteers on the Move!

at The Ascension Pantry for #FOODFORFAMILIES



When you're volunteering at **The Ascension Food Pantry**, there's always something to do! This past Saturday, **The Imagine Society** and Imagine Youth Volunteers were on the move making this extraordinary day of service a huge success! From breaking down the fresh fruits and vegetables into smaller servings per client, organizing all the foods into the stations ready for distribution, boxing up the assorted grocery items to be delivered to the homebound clients unable to make the trip to the pantry, to serving all the clients at the pantry with respect, dignity and love, these amazing kids did it all. Thank you to the incredible youth volunteers from all over NYC! Thank you also to our friends and partners at **Woolco Foods** for once again making an incredibly generous donation this month of 1500 pounds of potatoes and 100s of boxes of beautiful Twinings assorted teas. When these young people are volunteering, they're not only working hard, they're also helping to change the world for the better. Email us at outreach@theimagesociety.org us for ways that you can your family can help volunteer at or **donate** to the next pantry service!



Follow us on Instagram! @theimagesociety

FUN PAGES

Edited by
Junior Member
Katie Gaffigan
(13)

LIZ AT LARGE

Just know
that I'm here
for you.



© liz climo

lizclimo.tumblr.com

Katie's
Fave
Memes
:)

Lol!

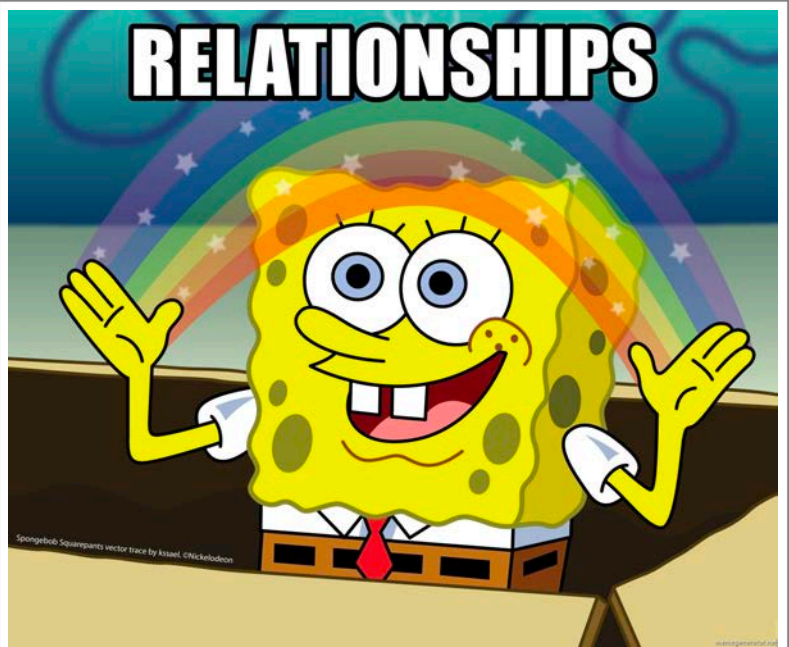
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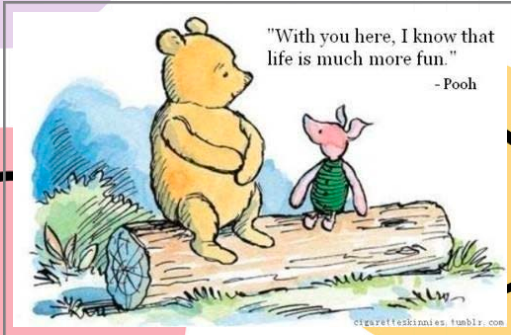
ME WHEN I SEE BABY YODA RELATIONSHIP
MEMES BUT HAVE NO ONE TO SEND THEM TO..



RELATIONSHIPS



WORD PLAY



Edited by
Junior Member
Katie Gaffigan
(13)

Relationship is
the rainbow
between two
hearts sharing seven
colors of feelings,
Love, Sadness,
Happiness, Truth,
Faith, Secret
and
Respect.

Relationship Word Scramble

IAFFTNYI

NIONCENTCO

IANOSIL

ODBN

MCNOYIMUT



ANSWER KEY

Relationship Word Scramble

____ AFFINITY
____ CONNECTION
____ LIAISON
____ BOND
____ COMMUNITY

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