Hussian Alsaadi has been a food enthusiast since birth. In 2013 he went to a Halloween party which was serving hand-shaped pizzas that people were grossed out about. This triggered his interest in how food presentation affects taste. He has also watched many shows that focus on food and its presentation like *Hell's Kitchen*, *Kitchen Nightmares*, and *The Great British Bake Off*. Although food service is very interesting, Hussian plans to study medicine at Howard University next year.

Matthew Berman grew up playing almost every sport that exists. Whenever he was not at practice, he would spend his time watching games on television. Matthew loves attending as many high school sports games as possible to cheer for his friends. He realized, particularly in lacrosse, that some sports had different rules for different genders. In his project, *Gender Stereotypes in Sports*, Matthew dives deeper into the reasons behind gender stereotyping in sports. In the future, Matthew plans to attend the University of Maryland as an engineering major.

Claire Chung has experienced abnormal sleeping patterns and various sleep disorders since childhood. Along with her interest in human biology and psychology, she began to explore the negative effects of desynchronizing one’s internal biological clocks. Through her project, *Disturbances to the Circadian Cycle*, Claire discusses the correlation between both intrinsic and extrinsic disruptions to the circadian cycle. Claire plans to continue pursuing a biology major with a minor in psychology at the University of Richmond, with hopes of becoming a certified nurse anesthetist.
Erica Detlefs and her sister Madison grew up having the same zodiac sign: Pisces. However, the two sisters are opposites and Erica feels as though she acts nothing like a Pisces should. Wondering why, she decided to research astrology as a whole as well as how astrology corresponds to personality. In *I’m Nothing Like My Sign*, she uncovers the complexities of astrology in regards to personality and exactly why her and her sister are so different. In the future, Erica plans to attend University of South Florida with a double major in English and Creative Writing.

Gabby Fano has always been interested in travelling and experiencing different cultures around the world. One day she stumbled upon a video about the happiest countries in the world, and what they had done to make their citizens so happy. Curious, she investigated the subject more, and found *The World Happiness Report*, an annual report that ranked countries based on their citizens’ happiness and the factors that influence it. She then decided to complete her senior project, *The Happiness Scale: A Study on Subjective Well Being*. Next year, Gabby will be attending the University of Maryland to study animal science.

William Flaig has always had an interest in film. Since attending the Humanities program at Roberto Clemente Middle School, he has enjoyed spending time writing, creating, and editing videos. He decided to make Hollywood movies, specifically the real life impact that film can have on individuals, the basis for his project, *Hollywood’s Influential Power: A Study of the Movie’s Ability to Change People’s Minds*. He investigates how impactful Hollywood movies can be and the implications they can have on both the viewer and the viewer’s life. In the future, he will be attending either Purdue or UMD and hopes to become a mechanical engineer.

Benjamin Frick has been involved in the Boy Scouts since the first grade, first in Cub Scouts earning the Arrow of Light and then Boy Scouts achieving the rank of Eagle Scout. Scouting has helped shaped Ben from a young age teaching him life skills such as first aid, knot tying and fire building. Through his project, *The Truth of The Boy Scouts of America*, Ben hopes to spread the word about what the Scouts actually do and all of the good that can come from Scouting. Ben has yet to decide where he will be attending college but knows that he will study history and pursue a career in the Navy through an NROTC unit.
**Cameron Garland** has always been fascinated by technology and its impact on the world around it. Throughout middle school, he didn't have a smartphone and was jealous of everyone who had one. After finally receiving his first smartphone at the end of 8th grade, he became curious to know how this late introduction to a smartphone would impact his future. This experience led him to his project, *The Impact of Smartphones and Social Media*, which explores the lifelong effects of today’s technology on younger children. Next year, Cameron plans to attend The University of Maryland or Georgia Tech and major in chemical engineering.

**Timothy Hermanto** has always been fascinated by soccer. It is, by far, his favorite sport, and although the rest of the world follows soccer the same way he does, the United States doesn’t seem to. His project, *The Growth and Development of Soccer in the US*, highlights the history of soccer here in the States, and whether or not the world’s most popular sport has a future here. Tim plans to attend Purdue University next year.

**Tess Kasunic** has grown up with an older sister that has special needs for her whole life. After experiencing all the different positive and negative effects that come along with having a sibling with intellectual disabilities, Tess became interested to see if others who have a sibling with a disability experienced the same effects that she has. This inspired her senior project, *The Effects of Having a Sibling With Special Needs*. Tess is excited be attending Gettysburg College next year where she plans to major in psychology or special education.

**Kaylan King** has always been interested in kidney disease but since her transplant in 2015, she has become especially interested in the effects of the immunosuppressive medications that she takes. Through her project, *A Study of Immunosuppressive Medications and Their Effect on the Body*, Kaylan discusses how kidney disease has affected her and how these medicines will increase the lifespan of a transplanted kidney. Kaylan will be majoring in Forensic and Investigative Science at West Virginia University in the fall.
Cory Knopp has been involved in tennis since the fourth grade. He has been on the Varsity Boys Tennis Team all four years of his high school career. He has since continued to play and has earned himself a spot in the Top 10, playing in the Doubles 1 and Doubles 2 positions last year, as well as this year. Through the season, he witnessed many players sustain various injuries. These common occurrences intrigued him, and led him to his project, *Tennis, Anyone? A Study of Tennis Court Surfaces and Injuries*. He hopes to inform many tennis players of the impact that various court surfaces will have on the likelihood of injuries. Next year, Cory will study Computer Engineering at West Virginia University.

Kwame Koduah has always wanted to learn more about the addictive qualities of social media and why one can spend hours scrolling through Instagram or Twitter. Through his project, *Study of The Effects of Social Media on Teens*, Kwame depicts the various addictive behaviors and mental health issues occur due to social media, the way it modifies public opinion, and provide further evidence behind why social media is so addicting to teens in particular. Kwame plans on studying marketing at Penn State over the next four years.

Zack Leibovitch has forever been intrigued by the world of botany and plants. From a young age, he found pleasure exploring the arboretum in Washington, DC, cultivating carnivorous plants, and planning and constructing a four-season garden in his backyard. After so many years interfacing positively with plants, he began to wonder if their beneficial effects presented themselves in the lives of others, leading to his project, *Planting New Solutions: A Study of Horticultural Therapy*. In the year to come, Zack is ecstatic to be studying harpsichord and historical performance practice at the Peabody Institute of Johns Hopkins University.
Jessica Lou has recently become interested in implementing more positivity into her life and has found gratitude to be a great way to encourage this. She believes that it is possible for people to live happier lives by enabling themselves to think through the lens of positivity and gratitude. In her project, *Being Thankful Beyond Thanksgiving: The Benefit of Gratitude on Well-Being*, she discovers the different kinds of benefits that practicing gratitude can have on people’s lives. After high school, she will be attending University of Maryland, College Park and will be majoring in Marketing.

Erin Lynch has always loved shopping. However, when the Rana Plaza factory collapsed in 2013, killing over one thousand people, she realized that much of the clothing sold in the United States has been made in sweatshops by underpaid and overworked employees. This led to her project, *The Ethics of Sweatshops*, which studies the ethical impact of sweatshops and how consumerism contributes to this. Next year, she plans on attending college to study anthropology and biology.

Cara McClure grew up surrounded by dogs. When she was young, her dad wouldn’t let them adopt a dog she fell in love with because it was part Pit Bull. Her love for the breed only grew more with age, and led to her project, *The Pit Bull Problem: A Study of Stereotypes and Misconceptions in Pit Bulls*. Through her research, she hopes to prove the accuracy of common generalizations about the breed, and change the general public’s opinion about pit bulls. She also hopes to see a shift in how the breed is portrayed in the media. Next year, Cara will continue her passion for researching through her biology major at the University of Virginia.

Darin McFadden loves music. His first encounter with a musical instrument was when his dad bought him a guitar for his fourth birthday. Despite not learning how to play the guitar until he was eight, Darin found himself playing the piano around the age of five. After a few years, Darin decided it was time to learn more instruments. Darin now plays many instruments including the guitar, bass, piano, and drums. He also enjoys producing his own music. His passion for music inspired his project, *Get Music Into Your Life: A Study of Music Therapy*. Next year, Darin will be attending Prairie View A&M University to study Mechanical Engineering, but do not worry, you will be sure to hear his music very soon.
Eva Sanchez has always loved to explore new places and experience different cultures. This love of world travel increased her interest in environmental conservation so that future generations will be able to travel and the natural world. This inspired her senior project, *How Many is Too Many? A Study of Overpopulation*. Eva hopes to spread awareness of the potential threats of overpopulation and inform those who had not previously been exposed to the issue. She plans to attend the University of Maryland, College Park to study to become an environmental economist.

Dora Song grew up in a home where Chinese was always spoken, and English was rare. She would often hear of her academic grades being associated with her race, and she began to wonder how it affected others when their hard work was explained by an extraneous factor such as race or ethnicity. Thus came a great curiosity on the model minority stereotype, and though she still sees signs of it today, she hopes to shed light on the situation in her project, *Made in Asia: The Model Minority Stereotype and Mental Well-Being*. In the future, she intends to major in biochemistry and have a career in medicine or chemistry.

Sahil Vashee has played sports since before he can remember. He has been playing competitive soccer for twelve years now, and has noticed the existence of racially stereotyping athletes both on and off the field. Sahil’s experiences led to his project, *Racial Stereotypes in Sports*, so that he could understand why this problem exists and how it continues to be a major concern in the high school sports community. Sahil will be attending the University of Maryland next year as a business major.
Eesha Vasist was diagnosed with a type of Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD) last year. Although she had enormous support from family and close friends, she experienced ignorance and misassumptions about her disease from other people. Through her project, *The Emotional Impact of Outside Forces on Patients with Inflammatory Bowel Disease*, Eesha hopes to target the reasons patients struggle emotionally and how to combat these emotional issues. Next year, she will attend University of Maryland Baltimore County in order to study biological sciences with a minor in sociology in hopes of becoming a pediatric gastroenterologist specializing in IBD. Most importantly, she looks forward to living a happy, healthy life while continuing to create awareness for IBD.

Maddie Zapor has been interested in art for as long as she can remember. During her own experiences in freshman year dealing with identity issues, she learned about art therapy. This led to Maddie’s interest in finding a connection between art therapy and sexual orientation and identity. This interest eventually led to her project, *All the Colors of the Rainbow: A Study on the Effects of Art Therapy on the LGBT Community*. Maddie’s project researches the effects that art therapy can have on the mental and physical health of LGBT clients, as well as how it can be more beneficial than other practices. In the future, Maddie hopes to study psychology and art at Oberlin College.

Julia Zhiteneva has always wanted to know what’s going on, whether it be politically, internationally, or socially. Growing up, her parents often made current events the subject of dinner time conversation. She makes sure to read the news every day to catch up on current events. Julia became interested in how the media chooses what to report on when she saw the same stories in circulation for a long time. This led to the creation of her project, *Who Cares? A Study of Media Selection*. Julia plans to study bioengineering at the University of Maryland in the fall and continue to stay up to date with the news.