

Korean 1&2
Grade 12
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Hangeul and Ohana Reflective Writing

In this project we learned about the local issues in Hawaii, the wildfires, and we researched and thought about ways we can help make a positive impact on the people in the community. To do this we came up with the idea of creating postcards and selling them along with Korean food, hotteok, to be able to raise money and awareness we can donate to Maui. The research helped me notice the different struggles going on in Hawaii and opened my eyes to the different disasters that have happened recently such as the fires. This brought my awareness to how to help these communities and I learned more about how to help as well as what I can do to support and raise awareness. I also took value in connecting Hangeul and Korean culture into the idea of helping and doing this project as well. It is important to preserve cultural heritage to keep people's family and history known. It is important to celebrate your people and your past for Korean immigrants and all people. I have learned a lot about the history of Hangeul as well as how and why it was created. I think learning about the way Hangeul was created, in an effort to bring together Korean people and have a language everyone can learn and speak, really shows the importance of connecting to your community and being able to communicate and help each other.

Another big part of the project was coming up with and creating our individual postcards and poems. At first it was difficult to get a good idea of what I wanted my poem to express, but I know I wanted to express my connection to my family and my ohana and the

importance of that bond. In creating my poem I got to reflect on what I've learned about the local issues and my community as well as reflect on the impact and importance of family or ohana. This helped me connect to my community and bring out empathy for the broader community. Sharing and reading others poems also helped me to connect with them and see their thoughts and opinions which I enjoyed and learned from and I hope we had the same impact on the people who got our postcards as well. Poetry helps to express the feelings of the writers, it is a form of art and takes the most important and significant words to form lines that represent the emotions of the writer and express themselves. Poetry helps people to explain their emotions through symbolic writing and connecting to people's emotions through writing or art can really help grow a community where people can be open in their emotions. In the context of Hawaii I think everyone is very close like a big family so expressing feelings to each other is very important.

After I had my writing done for the poem I could begin to design the postcard off of the poem. I was excited to include a visual element to my poem. The integration of art as the images and colors helped to express the mood I was trying to convey with my poem as well as the impact I am trying to have on those who read it. These match the themes of community and reaching out as I was trying to spread awareness. I wanted to make my postcard colorful to catch the eyes of the viewers but also strike emotion in the hug and crying of the girl. I chose a hug because it shows a good embrace which is what I want to be able to do with the people of the community, I hope to be able to connect to and embrace others who are struggling. These choices help portray my want to be able to help others and raise awareness for others to also reach out and connect to others who need it.

By being a part of this project and being able to see the big picture of it I realized the fun of being able to create things with others, but I also realized the difficulty of organizing

something of big scale like a fundraiser where you are involving others and money and a lot of time. I realized the many different rules needed in order to have entrepreneurship and to be able to connect to the community, it is not an easy job and I have a lot of appreciation for people who do so. Overall, this project's impact on me was very positive. I enjoyed being able to see people who buy it happy with their purchase and knowing their purchase is going to a good cause. I also enjoy knowing that all the money we raise will be going to help others in need so each little moment and purchase counts. This contributes to the project's goals and my own growth because we are successfully reaching our goal of being able to connect with the community and make an impact.