



## Understanding Habits of Heart and Mind through Our Community

*Kim Tsai, Second Grade  
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Second graders investigated the question, “How do Members of Our Community Show Care and Perseverance?”

Throughout this project, students engaged in fieldwork to show care and perseverance within their community. To begin, we brainstormed people who showed our Habits of Heart and Mind: care and perseverance. Next, we asked various experts to visit us to teach us about these traits and how they show this in their personal life and in their job. During the process of speaking with experts, students generated interview questions, took notes, and debriefed about what they learned.

Finally, the students selected one member of their community who inspired them and taught them about our Habits of Heart and Mind. Students wrote creative biographies and created Norman Rockwell style artwork, developed through multiple drafts. These pieces of work were exhibited at a local non-profit art center in San Marcos called Charity Wings.

### Teacher Reflection

I was inspired and amazed at the efforts the students made to help their community. It was tremendously rewarding to see the outcome of our fieldwork as well as how accomplished the students felt. I hope that this project will be an inspiration for students to continue to help others outside of their school and persevere to make a difference in their community.”

### Student Reflections

My highlight of the project was going to the beach because we got to pick up trash. —Grant

My highlight of the project was getting to help the community. —Matteo

*To learn more visit: [mskimtsai.wix.com/htesecondgrade](http://mskimtsai.wix.com/htesecondgrade)*

