



**the warhol:**

**THE  
GEN-Z  
TIME  
CAPSULE  
ZINE**

**Edited By  
Nicole Dezelon  
and  
John Schlimm**

**"The idea is not to live forever; it is to create something that will."**

**—Andy Warhol**

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# Introduction

Generation Z—born between 1997 and 2012—is poised to become the most influential and impactful generation in history. Yet little is truly known about these extraordinary young people, who live in the dichotomy between unprecedented courage and openness unlike the world has ever seen *versus* the shadows of unyielding stress, pressures, and judgment.

Similar to Andy Warhol, who would have likely found kinship among these compelling individuals already forging dynamic pathways in their teens and twenties, Gen-Zers exist and persevere amidst a tug-of-war between public personas and private truths. They traverse a uniquely 21st Century tightrope, navigating authentically imperfect lives while being objectified as stereotypes and commodities.

In the iconic spirit of Warhol's own enthusiasm for exploring popular culture and collecting, most notably his 610 *Time Capsules*, the ultimate goal of *The Gen-Z Time Capsule* has been to further answer one of the most pressing questions of right now: *Who exactly is Generation Z?*

*The Gen-Z Time Capsule* project was originally envisioned in early 2020 as a collection of physical objects from a small group of western Pennsylvania schools in partnership with The Warhol. Then the pandemic hit, and *The Gen-Z Time Capsule* turned digital. It spread through school districts, across social media, through peer referrals, giving voice to young people who felt silenced. We reached out to Gen-Zers—directly and via teachers, librarians, parents, employers, and media—from across the country and beyond. We asked them to send us photos and videos depicting the people, places, things, activities, and thoughts that were most impactful and important to them. Our mission was to source the largest and most revealing collection to date of Gen-Z artifacts ever amassed directly from the members of this pivotal generation. And in the process, to shed light on the multi-layered existence of these young people.

Ninety percent of the digital submissions were from the United States, while ten percent came from Ecuador, Canada, Korea, and other parts of the world. This first-of-its-kind endeavor collectively forms a pop cultural, sociological, and psychological portrait of Generation Z. As a result, *The Gen-Z Time Capsule* has opened a captivating window to numerous audiences across the globe, including fellow Gen-Zers; those living and working with them; folks of all ages who are interested in better understanding Gen-Z and their own generation; Arts and Humanities enthusiasts; researchers; and the media.

*The Gen-Z Time Capsule* pays homage to Warhol's fascination and immortalization of everyday objects and ephemera—from his famed silkscreens of Campbell's Soup cans and newspaper headlines to his vast collections of toys, dishes, perfumes, women's shoes, and more. And, most pertinent here, it now lives amongst the tableau of his groundbreaking 610 *Time Capsules* that he filled with just about everything and anything: source materials for his own artwork, invitations, packages of sweets, business records, audiotapes, silver wigs, autographed celebrity headshots, toenail clippings, canceled postage stamps, documentary photographs, a mummified foot, an ashtray, a "Do Not Disturb" sign, junk mail, fan letters, and a lump of concrete, among hundreds of thousands of other artifacts.

Likewise, the artifacts collected for *The Gen-Z Time Capsule* span a range of artwork, social media, politics and current events, music, fashion, mental health, photos and selfies, animals and pets, and innovation and technology. These items include photos of such things as x-rays, a fidget spinner, protest signs, a favorite truck, a Pog set, an iPhone, Snapchat Spectacles, Webkinz, quarantine thoughts, a mini printing press, trophies, gender neutral clothes, Silly Bandz, pet photos, tributes to Lorde, Mac Miller, Machine Gun Kelly, Taylor Swift, and Avicii, gaming consoles, a t-shirt from a student-athlete-led mental health club, and even porcupine quills.

*The Gen-Z Time Capsule's* images and videos were categorized and archived by The Warhol Museum's education staff and made available to the public via warhol.org beginning in Spring 2021. While the submission process closed in Fall 2022, the online exhibition of *The Gen-Z Time Capsule* will remain open as a retrospective of the who, what, when, where, why, and how of these young people during this unprecedented moment in time.

From this foundation of source material, *The Gen-Z Time Capsule* provides numerous new opportunities for reflection, research, understanding, and connection. We hope these points of revelation and creative expression by Gen-Zers will translate into related artistic exploration; lectures and forums at schools, museums, professional settings, and other venues; and curriculum-based discussions and activities for teachers, librarians, parents, and the many unique and insightful ways that national and global audiences are now finding to use the material.

*The Gen-Z Time Capsule Zine*—designed by Gen-Z artist McKay Martin—is one more creative channel for this mission of discovery to reach audiences and ripple onward as a legacy. Like with *The Gen-Z Time Capsule* itself, you can start here at the beginning and proceed straight ahead or you can explore these pages at random, pausing when something catches your eye and sparks a moment of curiosity or introspection.

For the two of us as educators, advocates, and artists, our journey through conceptualizing and facilitating *The Gen-Z Time Capsule* has been both a creative passion project and a unique opportunity to learn. And while we have gotten a little closer to answering *Who is Generation Z?* it is especially satisfying to know that in the process we also got to turn Gen-Zers into a bona fide work of Pop Art!

Nicole Dezelon  
Director of Learning & Public Engagement  
The Andy Warhol Museum

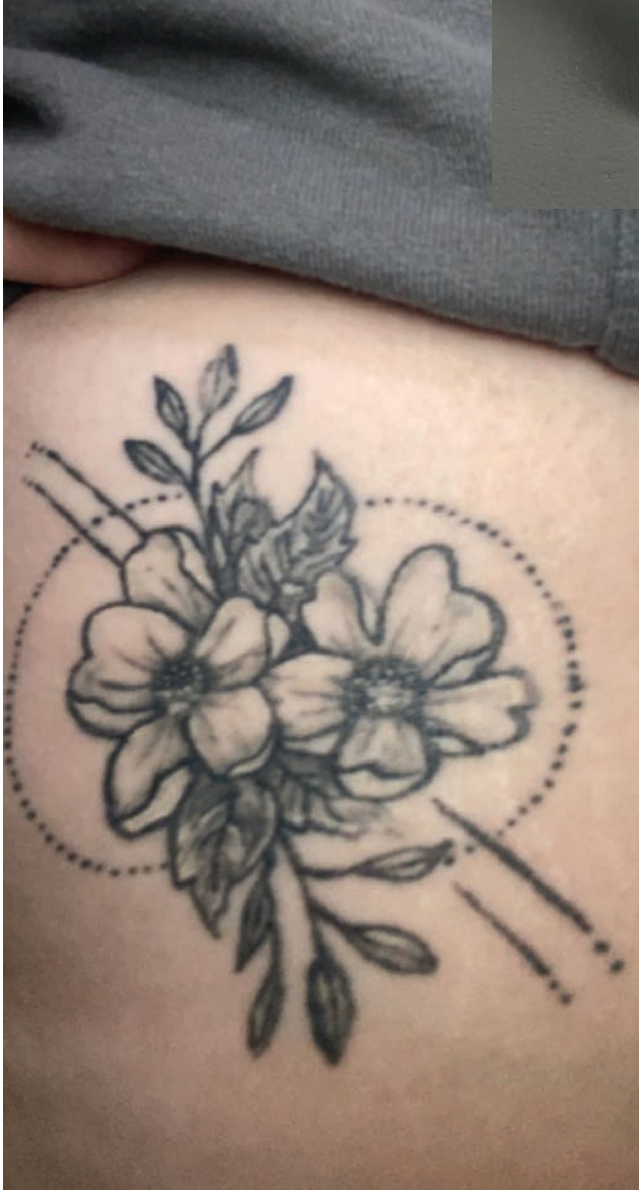
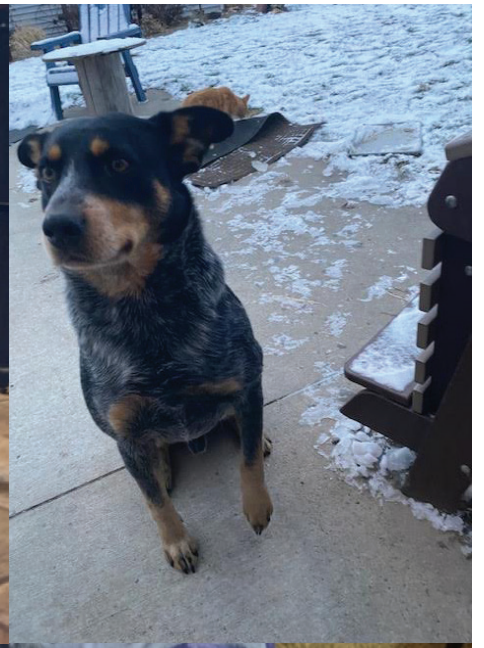
John Schlimm  
Artist, Educator, Advocate, and  
Author of *What Would Gen-Z Do?: Everything You Don't Know About Gen-Z But Should*



# PETS

Gen-Z's openness in sharing their emotions extends to their deep affection for their pets and other animals.





**This tattoo is a tribute to my dogs that passed away, these flowers are what grew on top of the grave of my two dogs.**

**Macy Lambert**





**These porcupine quills were given to me after my grandpa died.**

**Soiyer Smith**





**My dog is the best  
dog I've ever had,  
she usually plays  
with me and she  
is funny.**

**Serenity Wilbanks**



# THE FUNDAMENTALS OF MY JOY



Gen-Zers express powerful, playful, and poignant messages through their creative output in a variety of mediums, ranging from traditional to highly unconventional.

ENHANCED BY THE GIFTS OF MY  
**GENERATION**



**(Above) This image is a watercolor painting that I created from a still life I organized including my own personal objects that kept me sane during the initial Covid-19 lockdown and the following months.**

**Christine Troll**



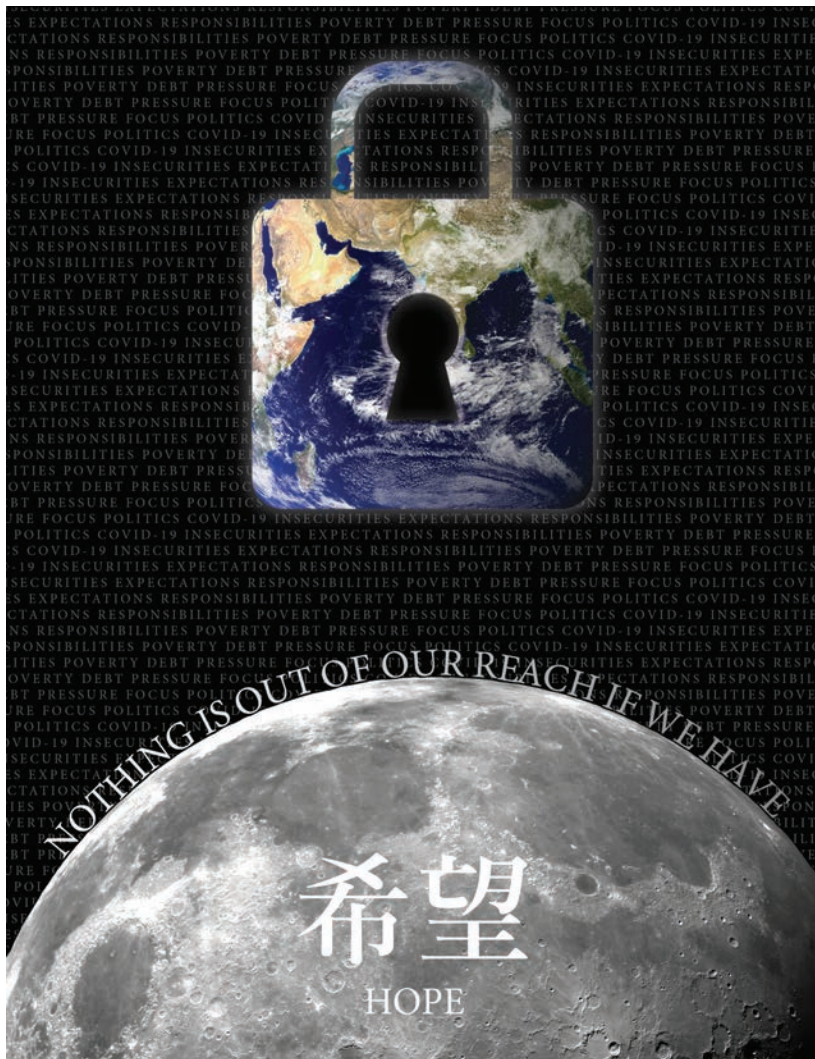


**THE FUNDAMENTALS OF MY JOY**

**ENHANCED BY THE GIFTS OF MY GENERATION**

**GENERATION**

The graphic features two hands holding each other. The left hand's fingers are labeled: FRIENDS, FAMILY, LOVE, LAUGHTER, HUMOR, EMPATHY. The left hand's palm is labeled: RELATIONSHIPS, CARING, EDUCATION, KINDNESS, FRIENDS, LAUGHTER, HUMOR, EMPATHY. The right hand's fingers are labeled: HULU, TWITTER, APPLE, PLAYSTATION, INSTAGRAM, TRENDS, NETFLIX, MICROSOFT, YOUTUBE, DISNEY+, SPOTIFY, VINE, TIKTOK, POP CULTURE, MEMES, ITUNES, CLOUTIER, ESTABLISHED, REBORN. The right hand's palm is labeled: SERVICE, HONESTY, PEACE, HEALTH.



I think is common in not just Gen-Z but in all generations to look back with nostalgia at the things we used to do as kids. My piece tries to bring that enjoyment back, since as a generation we've been more accepting of people in their adulthood playing games, watching cartoons, collecting toys.

Marianyelis Jimenez



LONG-DISTANCE-RELATIONSHIP-STAYING-INSIDE  
UNEMPLOYED-GETTING-A-JOB-HATE-ANXIETY  
FAMILY-PROBLEMS-RACISM-MURDER-BEES-NO-TIME-RUN-  
NING-TO-SWEDEN-NEED-TO-MOVE-TO-SWEDEN  
NO-TRAVEL-INTERNSHIPS-DEADLINES-  
FUTURE-SUCCESS-DO-SOMETHING-WITH-YOUR-LIFE

All

~~NO~~ STRESS

ALL VIBES



I WANT TO SEE HIM



ABISDID WAGNER - RAYSHARD BROOKS - PRISCILLA SLATER - ROBERT FORBES - KAMAL FLOWERS - JAMEL FLOYD - DAVID MCATEE - JAMES SCURLOCK

ZZEE - DAMIAN DANIELS - ANTHONY MCCLEIN - JULIAN LEWIS - MAURICE

JUSTICE FOR BREONNA TAYLOR

AMAU...  
ARBER...

Say Their Names  
#BlackLivesMatter

MARVIN SCOTT III - JENOAH DONALD - PATRICK WARREN - XAVIER HILL



BENNIE EDWARDS - CASEY GOODSON JR. - AIDEN ELLISON - QUAMAN CHARLES - WALTER WALLACE JR. - JONATHAN PRICE - KURT REINHOLD - DJON KI



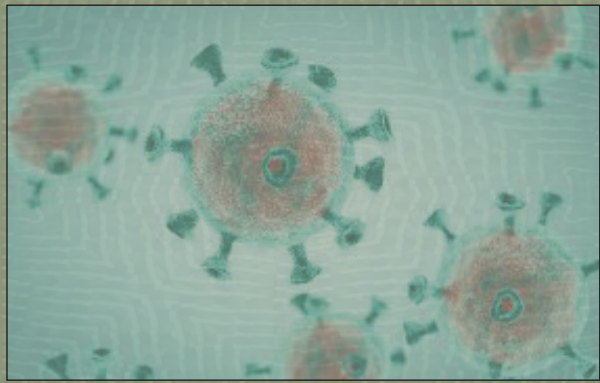


FREEDOM LOSS POWER FREEDOM LOSS



# COVIETNAM

# 19



FREEDOM LOSS POWER FREEDOM LOSS





# FASHION

**Gen-Zers unapologetically curate their fashion and style, revealing their identities through clothing and accessories that often defy trends and fads.**



**Black women always make do. Before Fenty Beauty was even a thing, finding the right shade for Black skin required mixing. We, as a people, all have varying tones and complexions.**

**Kembe Joseph**



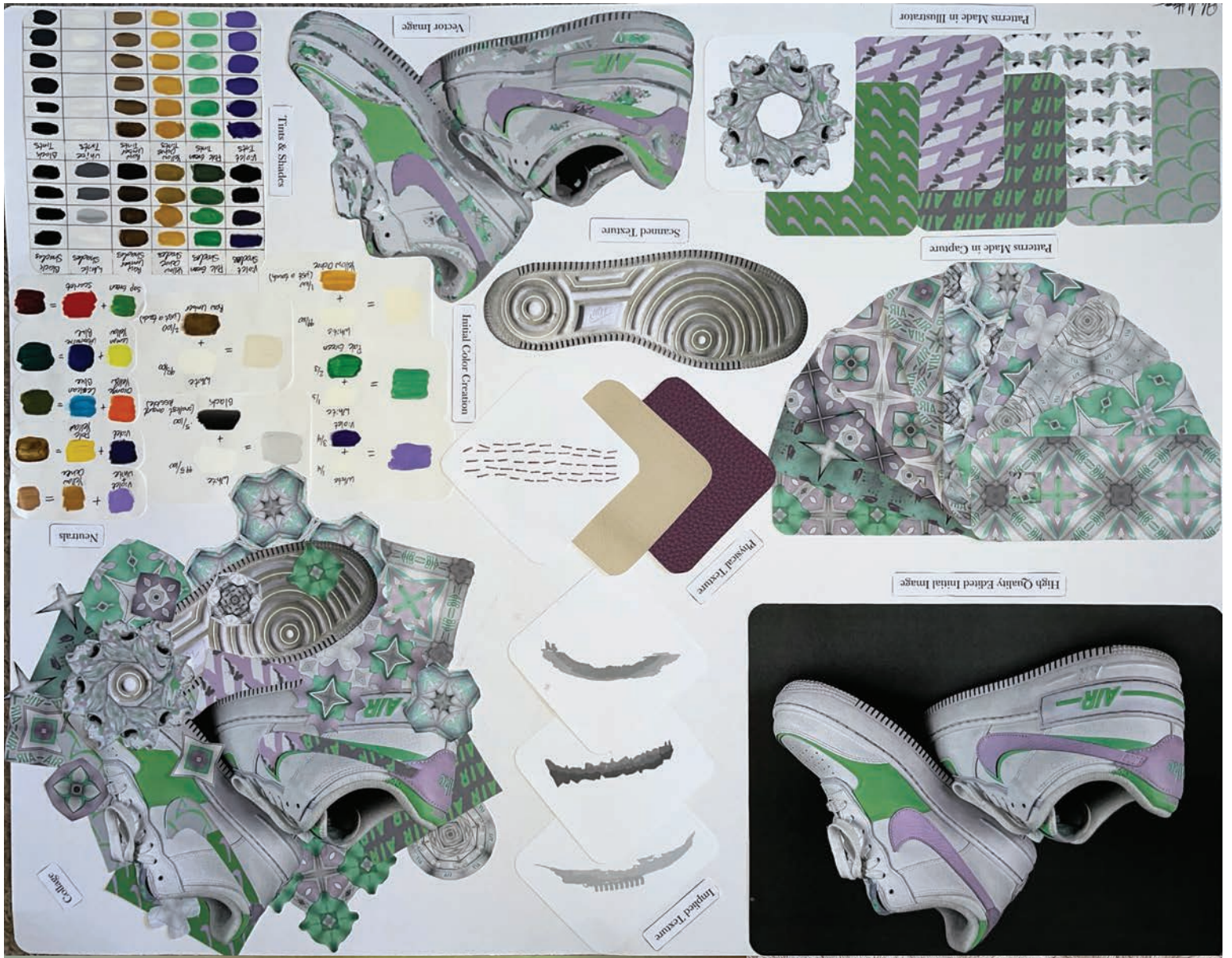


studio shot



vector

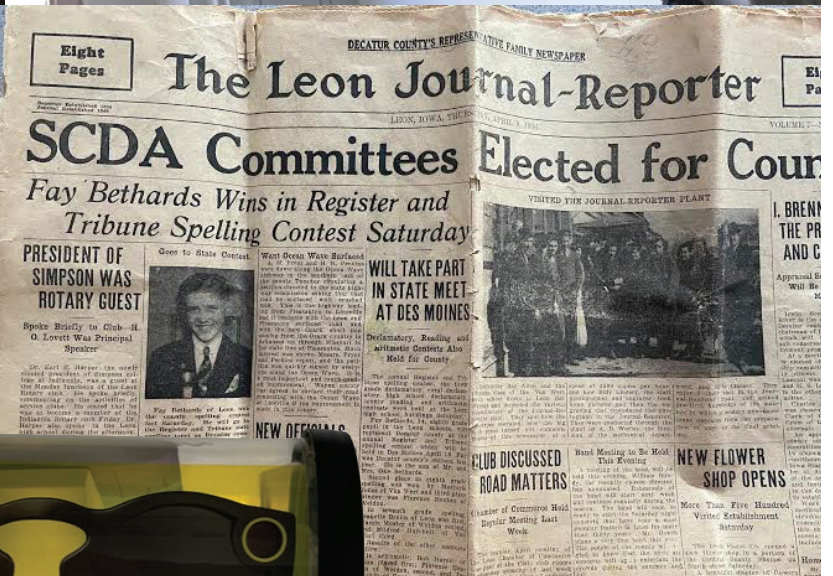
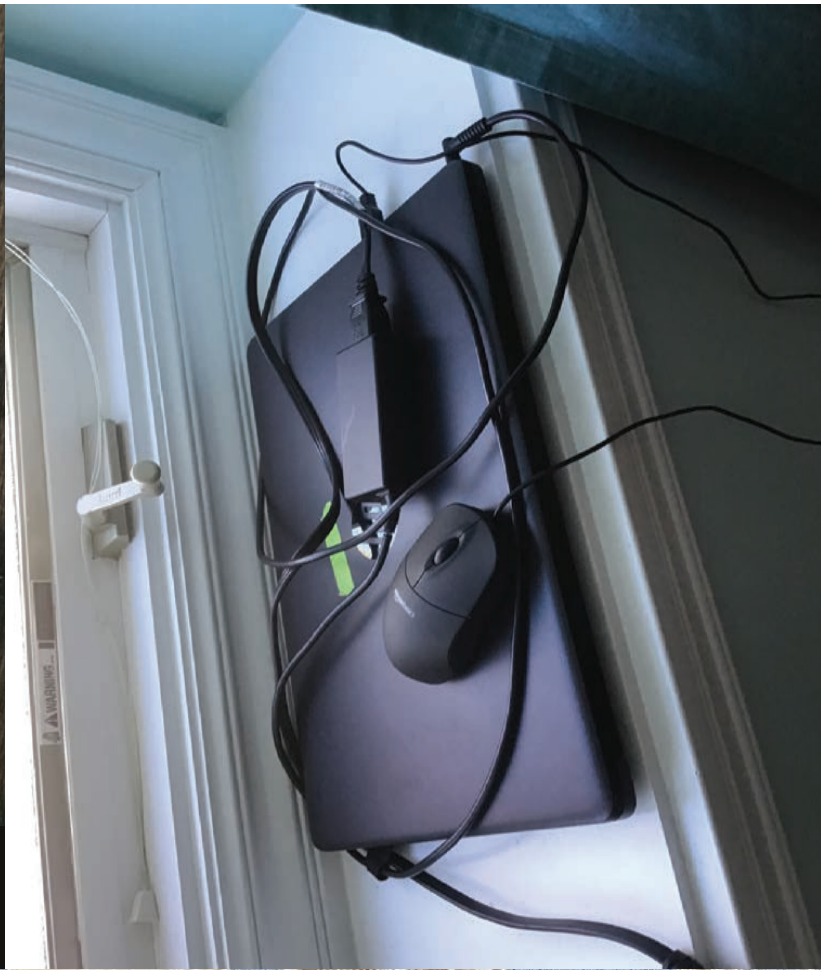




# INNOVATION & TECHNOLOGY



**For Gen-Zers, innovations and evolving technology are accepted facets of daily life, which they navigate with fluency and an entrepreneurial spirit.**

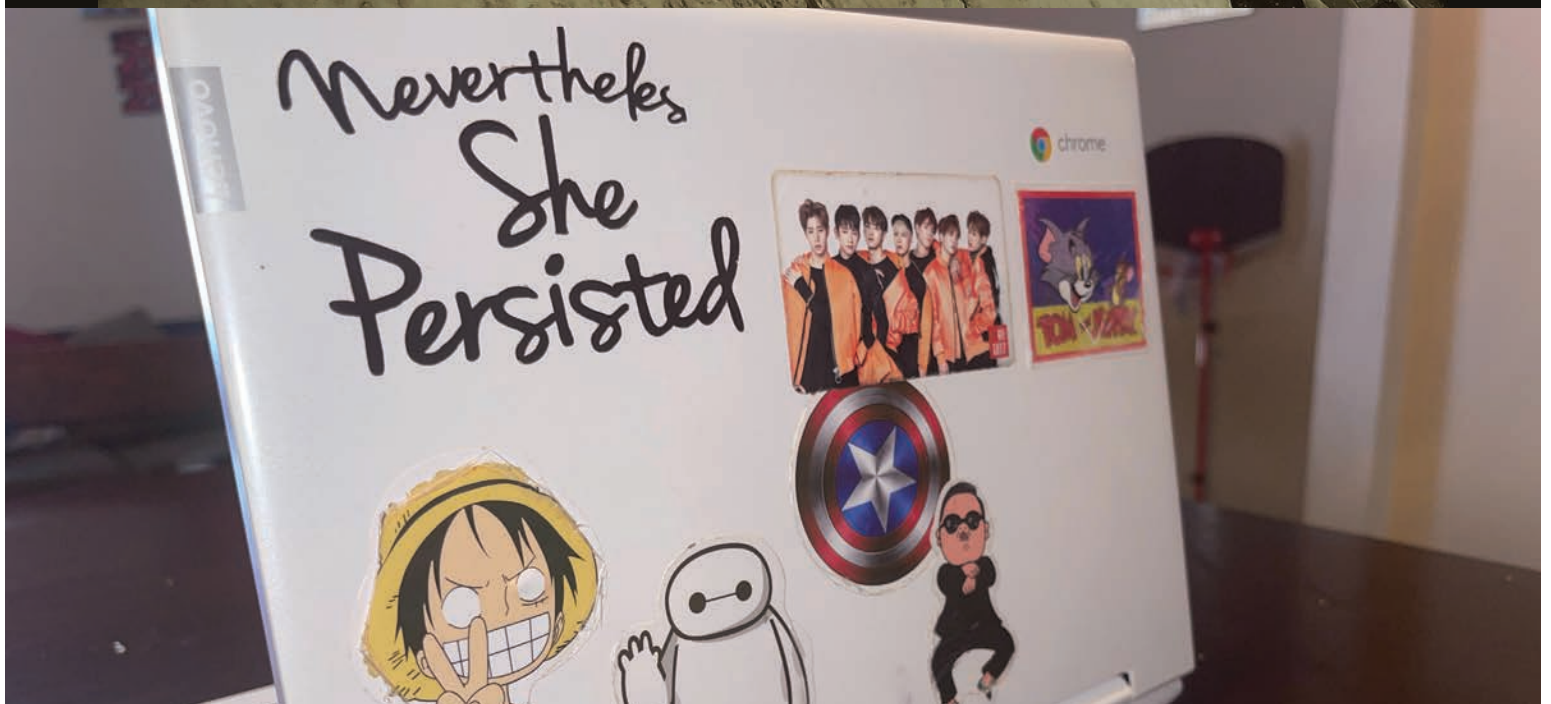


Snapchat spectacles that has a small 180 camera on the edge that uploads to your snapchat story. First edition that was released around the globe through snapchat vending machines.

Jeffre Hinojosa



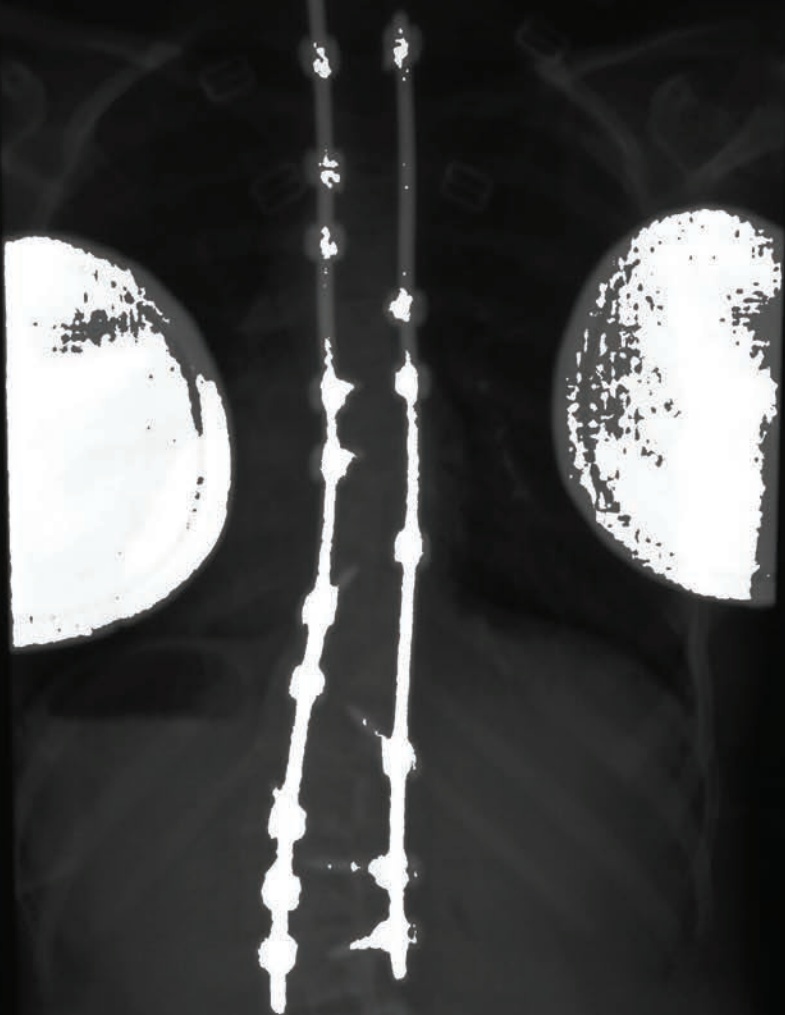
Good old dodge pulling a ford



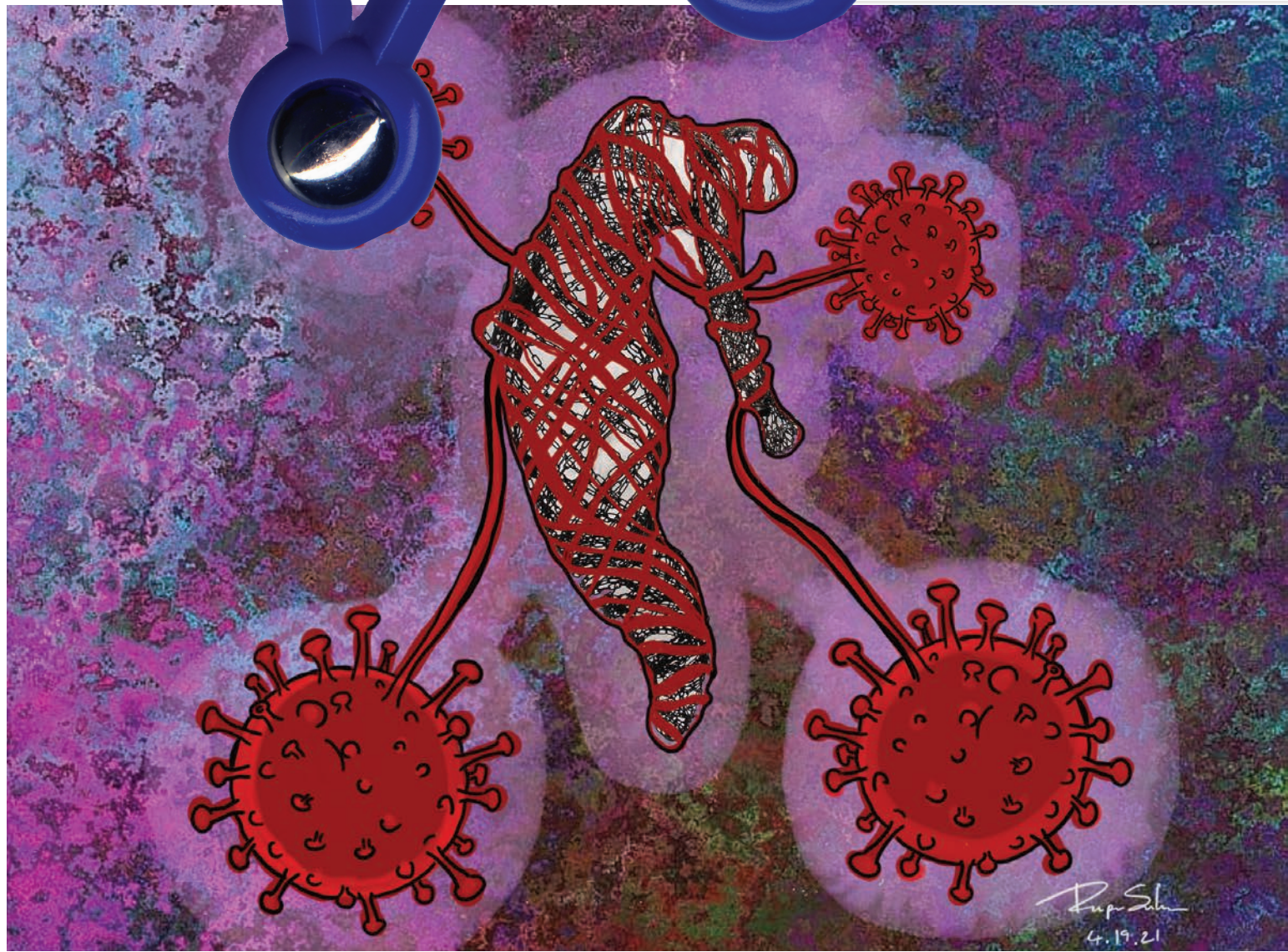
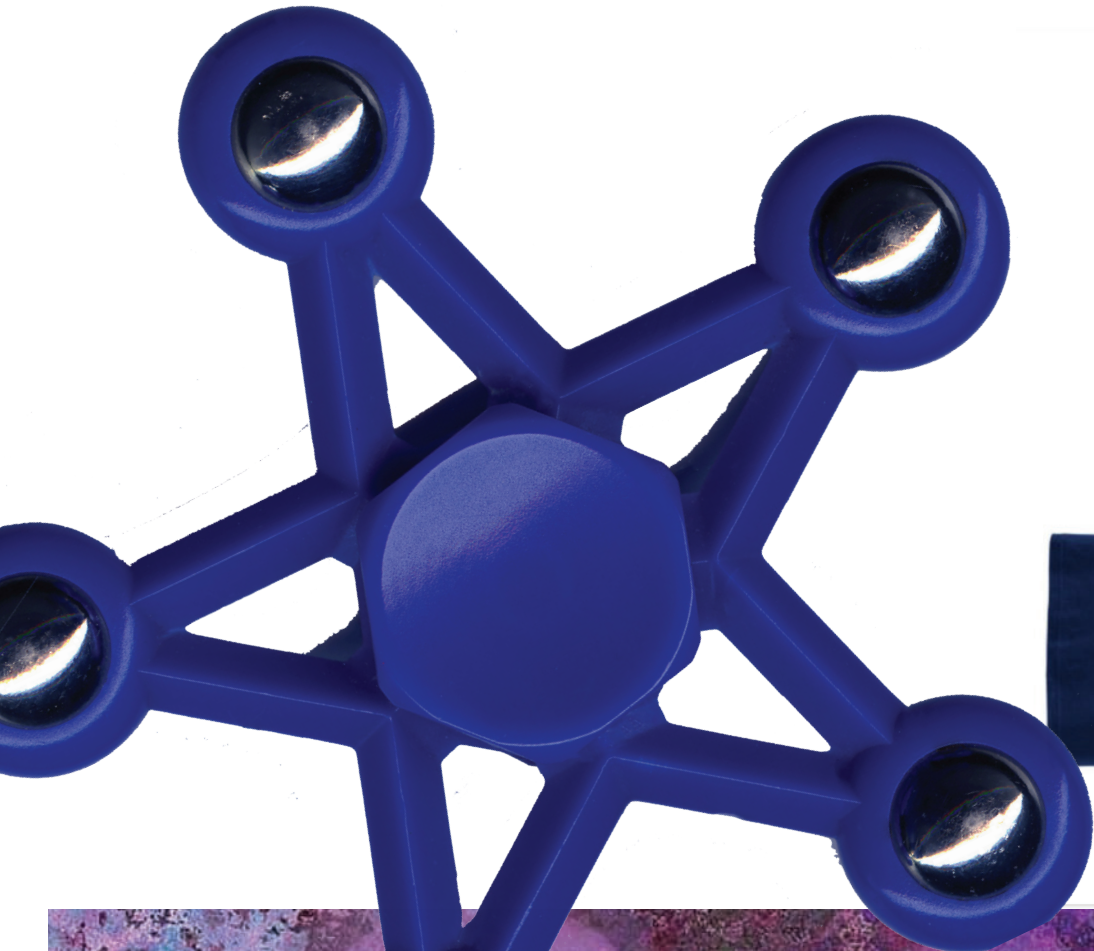




# MENTAL HEALTH



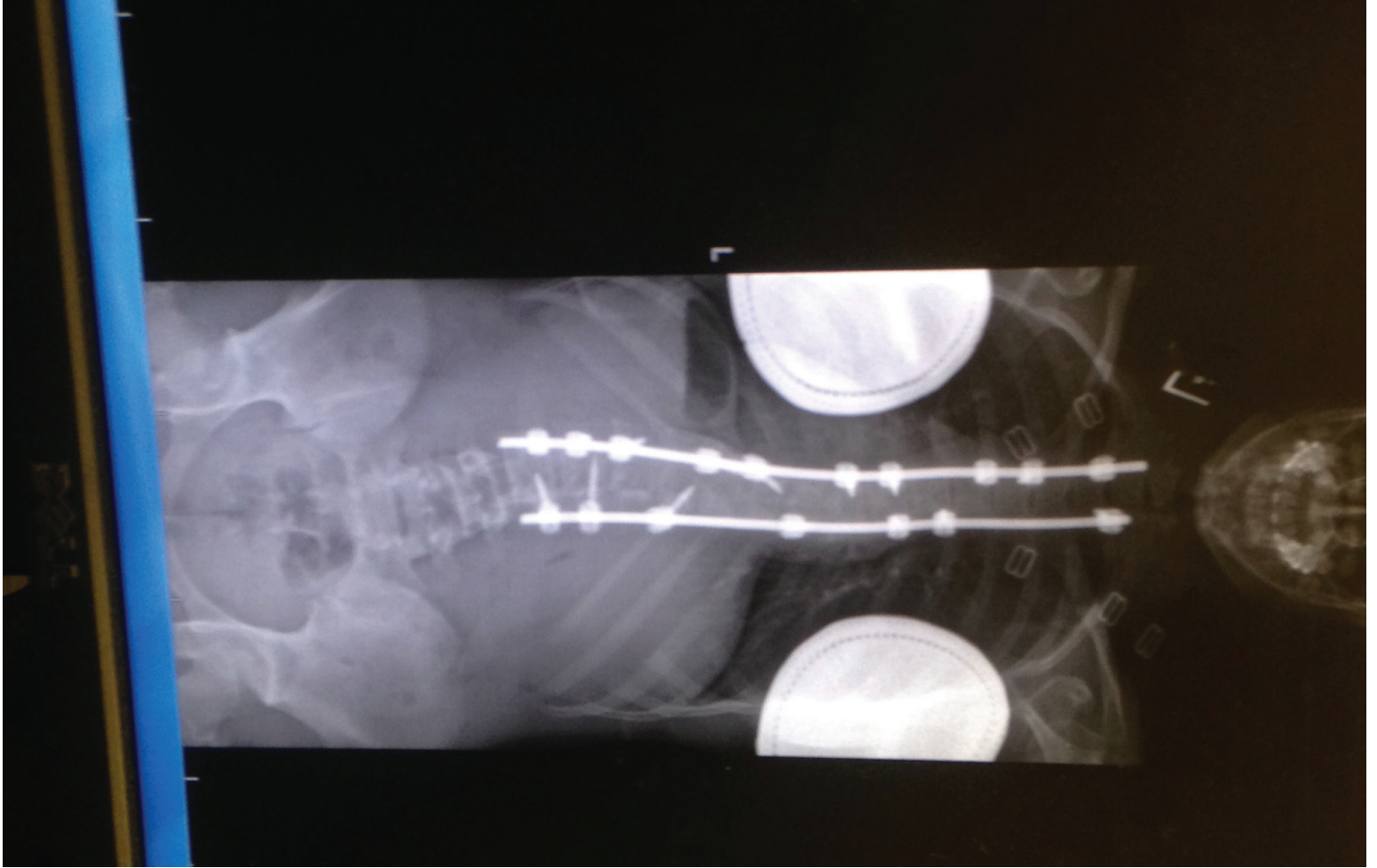
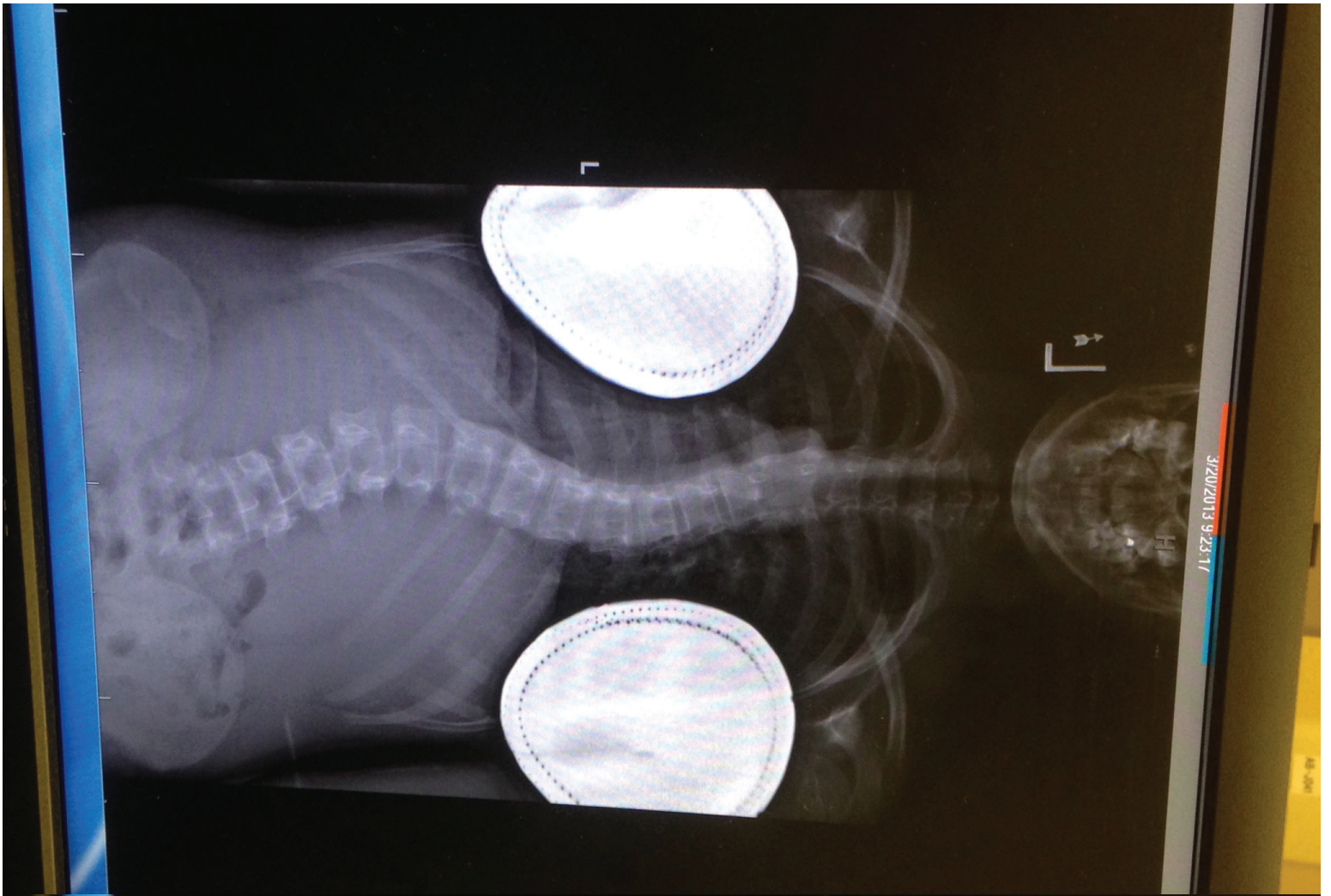
Gen-Z has rejected the stigmas widely associated with mental illness, openly sharing their personal journeys unlike any generation before them. By bringing the use of terms like "anxiety," "depression," and "suicide" into the mainstream they have helped facilitate advances in mental health advocacy and acceptance.





**Depression is an issue that many people suffer from. Some may not know how to cope with it and believe that suicide is the only option to make their pain go away.**

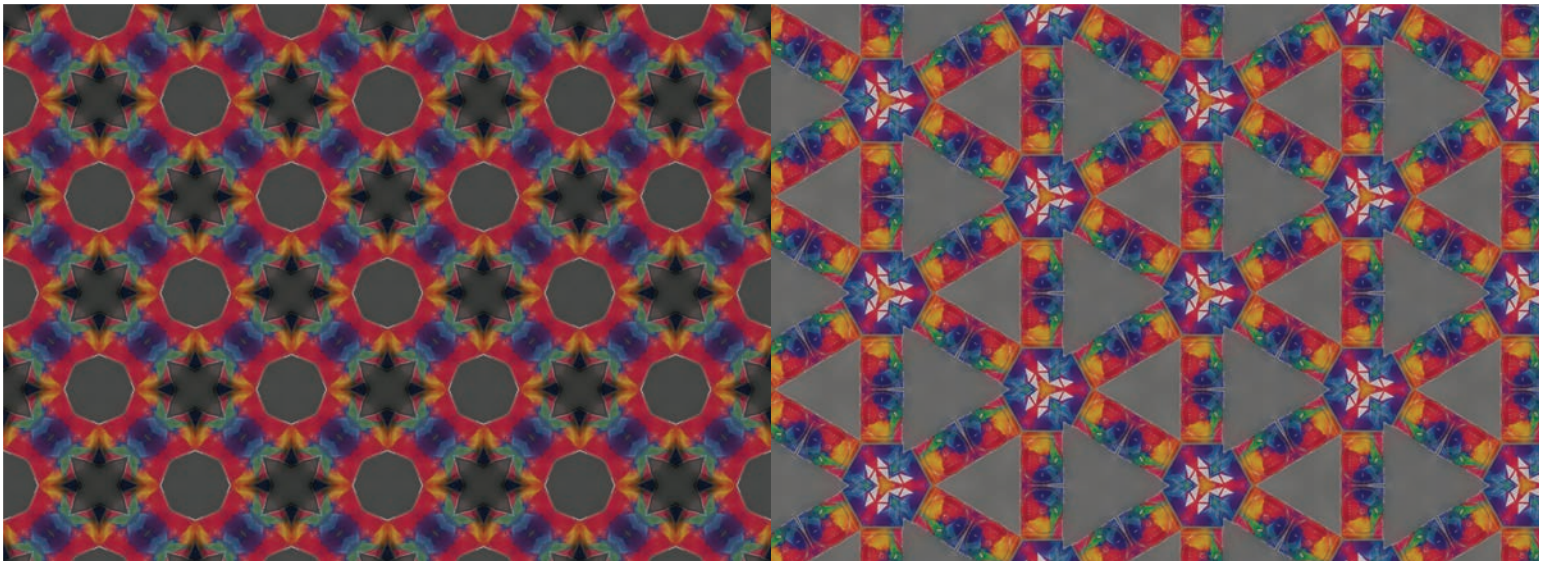
**Stephanie Burritt**





# MUSIC

The beat of Gen-Zers is revealed throughout both the music they listen to and the original sounds they create, as well as how they choose to connect with music across a multitude of platforms.



The patterns were made from the patterns in the Avicii album cover and disc on Adobe Illustrator.

Ramon Gonzalez



TICKETS  
TO MY  
DOWNFALL

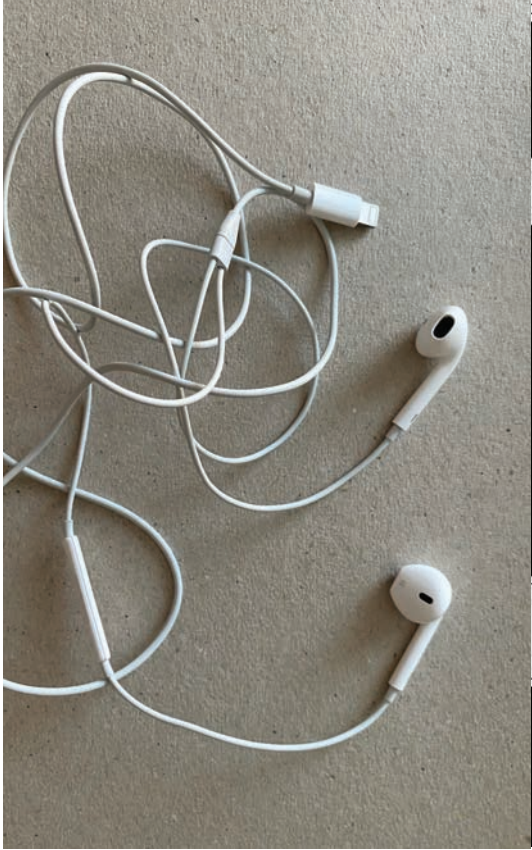
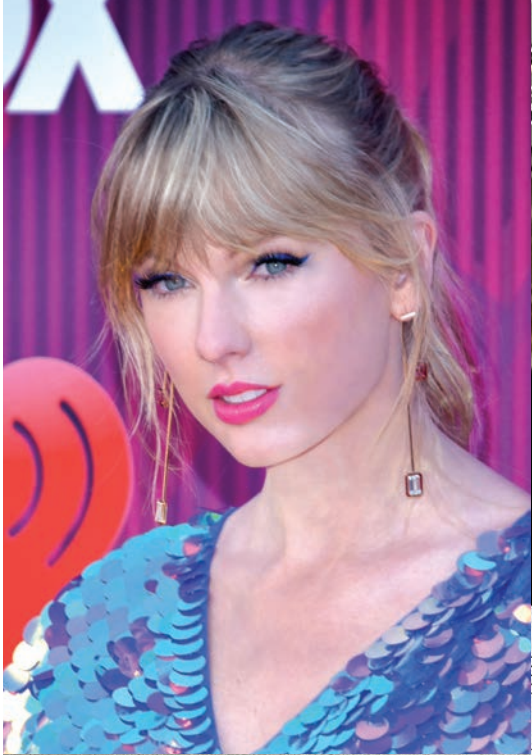
"SOLD OUT"



**This is a Kpop album I love. Its concept is about the chaos that comes with growing up. It's from a Kpop group named Tomorrow x Together.**

**Alberto Macias**



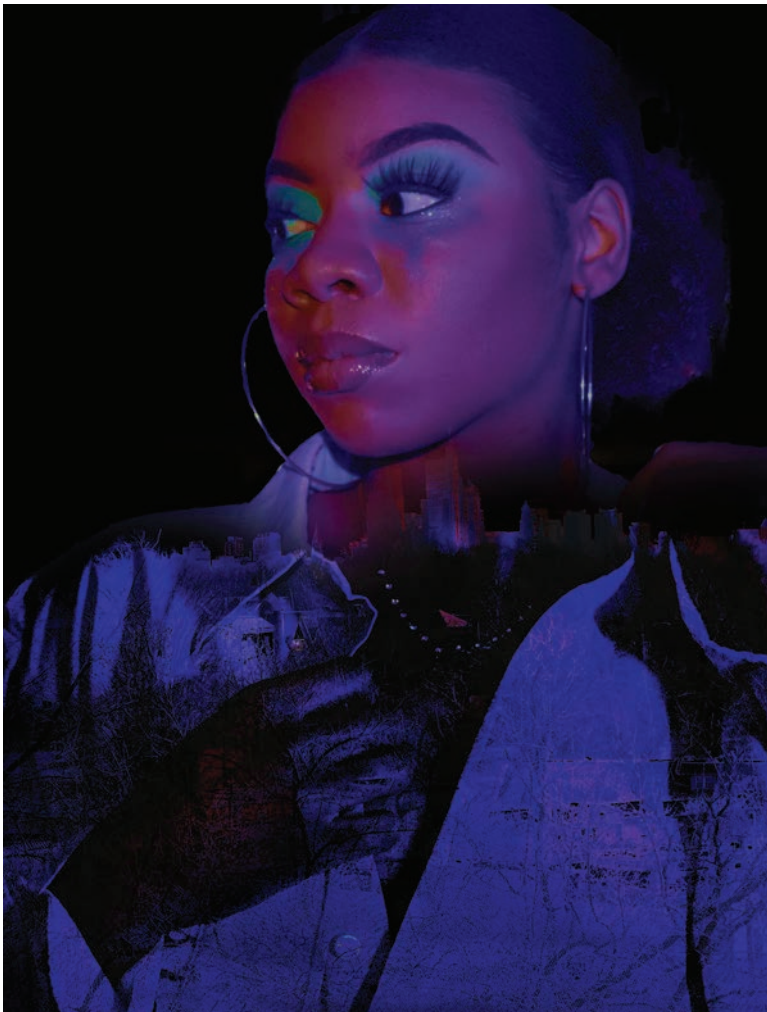




# PHOTOS & SELFIES


**Gen-Zers are true digital natives who have lived their entire lives on camera. Their photos and selfies offer insights on how they see themselves and the world around them.**





**COVID-19 Vaccination Record Card**

Please keep this record card, which includes medical information about the vaccines you have received.  
 Por favor, guarde esta tarjeta de registro, que incluye información médica sobre las vacunas que ha recibido.

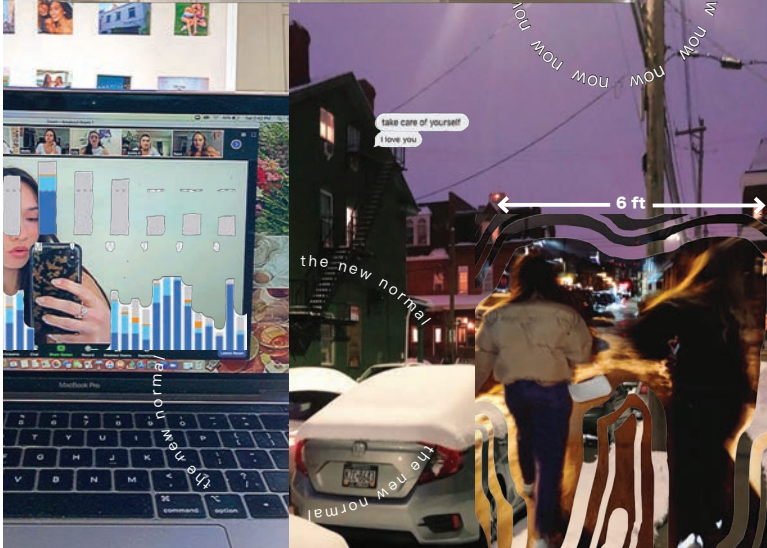


Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_ MI \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth \_\_\_\_\_ Patient number (medical record or IIS record number) \_\_\_\_\_

| Vaccine                          | Product Name/Manufacturer<br>Lot Number | Date     | Healthcare Professional<br>or Clinic Site |
|----------------------------------|---|----------|---|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Dose<br>COVID-19 | _____                                   | mm dd yy | _____                                     |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Dose<br>COVID-19 | _____                                   | mm dd yy | _____                                     |
| Other                            | _____                                   | mm dd yy | _____                                     |
| Other                            | _____                                   | mm dd yy | _____                                     |

**READY?**







**MANIFEST**

For I know the plans I have for you, plans to give you a hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11

"for the Lord is with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:9



"trust in the Lord with all your heart and le... ps 3:8



"I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing to the glory that will be revealed." Romans 8:18



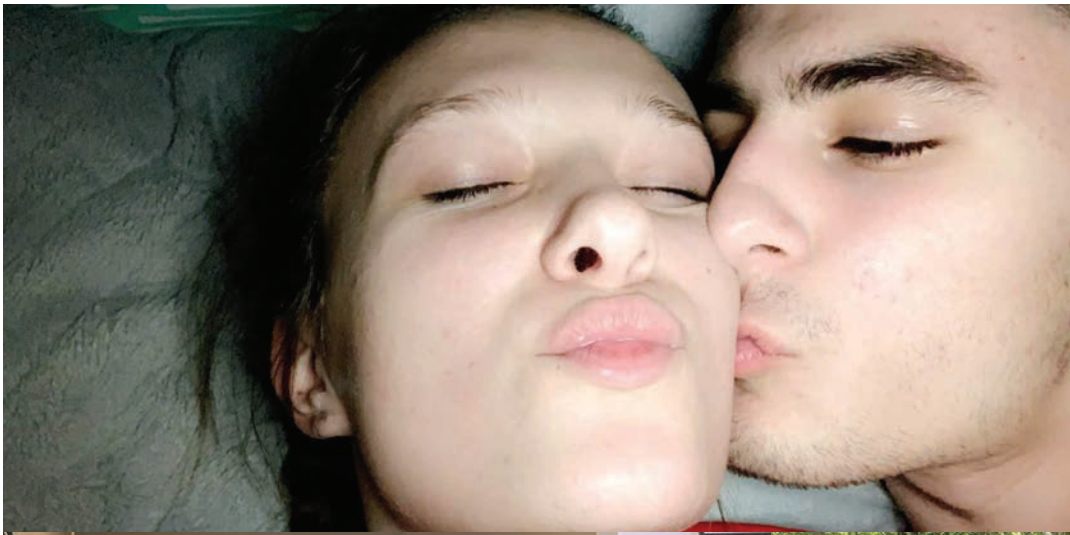
"I can do all things through Christ... Phil 4:13



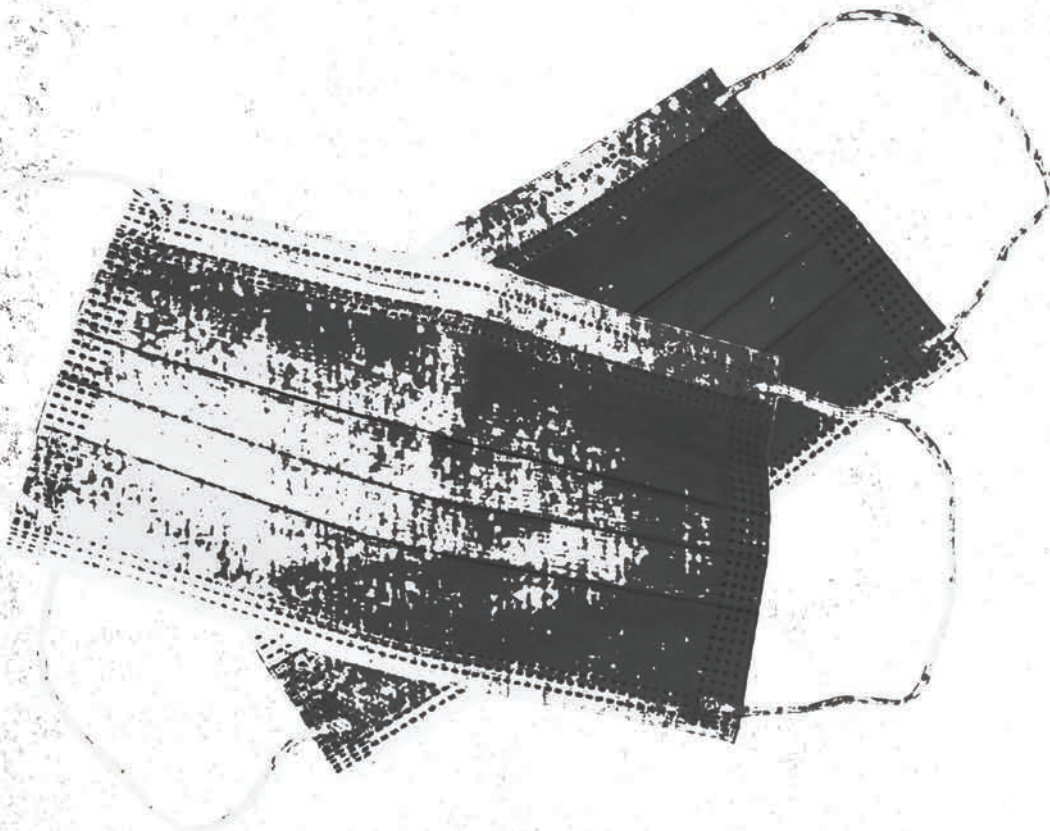








# **POLITICS & CURRENT EVENTS**



**When it comes to politics and social issues, and current events, from partisan dynamics to climate change to the Black Lives Matter movement to LGBTQ+ advocacy and more, Gen-Zers simultaneously use their range of voices while continuing to fine-tune them.**



**To capture  
the current  
life we live  
in and how  
the media  
silences  
our voice  
and pushed  
narratives  
on us and  
don't give  
us a choice.**

**Boston Wood**



**My work represents how I perceived the mask mandate throughout the pandemic, and the how the basic rights of the American people that were put into question as this occurred.**

**Meghan James**



# SPORTS & GAMING

From traditional sports fields to the burgeoning world of video games, Gen-Z has redefined the line between fan and athlete, observer and participant.



**My submission shows the identity of Gen-Z as the largest amount of gamers, and a large portion of us are PlayStation gamers, I used to be one.**

**Dylan Morgan**



**This is my first ever gaming desktop computer. I saved up for a year and bought it with all the money I earned over that year.**

**James Jeffers**





3 signatures already lets get it!!!







**ABOUT THE EDITOR:** Nicole Dezelon has worked at The Warhol for over 20 years. She has spearheaded the museum's innovative school partnerships, digital engagement initiatives and professional development programs. Dezelon has authored hundreds of pages of on-line content, from lesson plans to blog posts, as well as articles and multimedia content, sharing the work of The Warhol worldwide. In 2009, she received a Fulbright-Hays award to conduct a Brazil & US Educational Partnership studying the intersections of art and society. She has led international teaching projects in Singapore, Hong Kong, Beijing, Tokyo, and Russia introducing thousands to Andy Warhol's singular legacy and contemporary artistic practices. In 2019, The Pennsylvania Art Education Association (PAEA) named her Outstanding Museum Art Educator. Dezelon holds a Bachelor of Science and a Master of Education in art education and is a professor at Slippery Rock and Carlow University.



**ABOUT THE DESIGNER:** McKay Martin is an editor, illustrator, and designer from eastern North Carolina, and is proud to be a member of Generation Z. McKay has been writing, drawing, and planning and making things from a very young age, and loves any opportunity to get creative and make a difference. McKay attended Brigham Young University and received a bachelors degree in Editing and Publishing with University Honors, and now works in the publishing industry to create really excellent books. You can find McKay at [saintmichale.com](http://saintmichale.com).



**ABOUT THE EDITOR:** John Schlimm is a Harvard-trained educator, artist, advocate, and international award-winning author of twenty-five books, including his newest work *What Would Gen-Z Do?: Everything You Don't Know About Gen-Z But Should*.

John was among the first to start piecing together the authentic and multifaceted face of Generation Z—beyond the stigmas, stereotypes, and often misguided media profiling of these dynamic young people, who remain largely misunderstood and vastly underestimated.

During the past several years, John's extensive and revealing work and trusted relationship with Gen-Zers across the country has resulted in several thought-provoking essays—for Huffington Post, Harvard Ed. magazine, and others—and his groundbreaking collaboration with The Andy Warhol Museum to create *The Gen-Z Time Capsule*, which is a participatory project helping Gen-Zers to further introduce themselves to the world—including their own parents, teachers, community leaders, employers, and others—while also turning them into a bona fide work of Pop Art.

For more information about John's work or to connect with him on social media, please visit [www.JohnSchlimm.com](http://www.JohnSchlimm.com).



To view *The Gen-Z Time Capsule*, please visit [www.warhol.org](http://www.warhol.org).

**The Andy Warhol Museum**

*One of the four Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh*