



February is **Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month (TDVAM)**. The color for TDVAM is **orange**. During the First Friday of February, Walnut Avenue Family and Women's Center, in collaboration with The Diversity Center, The Museum of Art and History, and the Santa Cruz City School District will host Love Like That: Teen Dating Violence Awareness Art show.

You are invited to respond to our theme for this year's TDVAM "Love Like That". The love is respect Youth Council chose this theme to help us understand what "that" means when it comes to healthy and unhealthy relationships. This can cover things ranging from definitions of respect between partners and how boundaries and solving conflicts work within your relationship. "Love Like That" reminds us to create a positive world where we express and show healthy love in many ways.

We want to know how *you* feel about dating violence and this year's theme. There are three topic categories below, you will be responding to one prompt from one topic category.

***Please note that all art submissions are due on January 25, 2024.***

#### Instructions:

Utilizing your materials, please create a piece responding to only **one** of the prompts below. Your piece should be expressive, should answer one of the prompts, and should thoroughly utilize the materials of your choosing (such as ceramics, paint, graphic design, etc.).

Remember: you can explain in detail what your piece means in your artist's statement-- especially if your piece feels abstract.

#### ***Healthy Relationships***

- PROMPT 1: Consent is key. How do you make sure you get your partner's consent?
- PROMPT 2: Boundaries are healthy. What is one boundary you can set for yourself in a close relationship (either with friends, family, or a romantic partner)?
- PROMPT 3: What is a one example of healthy relationship behavior?

#### ***Changing Your Community***

- PROMPT 1: Social change starts with you. What is one thing you can do to help stop teen dating violence in your community?
- PROMPT 2: How would you respond if you suspected your friend or classmate was experiencing relationship violence?



### Education

- PROMPT 1: Knowledge is power. What is one thing you want other teenagers to know about teen dating violence?
- PROMPT 2: What piece of information about healthy and unhealthy relationships would you share with others?

**Please include an artist statement with your piece.** Your statement should be 3-4 sentences. It can be handwritten or typed. In your statement, please answer the following:

- Your name
- Your age
- The title of your work
- The materials you used
- What were you trying to say with your artwork?
- What did you learn from this experience?
- Briefly describe *how* you made your artwork.

*Example artist statement:* My name is Michelle Turner. I am 15 years old. This piece is called "Violence is Never the Answer." This piece is saying that it is never okay to hit, slap, kick, name call, ridicule, demean, insult, or bully your partner. I hope that others who view this piece see that teenagers understand what healthy relationships look like and that they remember to never try to intentionally hurt their partner. I learned that anyone can experience teen dating violence, even boys. I made this piece by using watercolor.

### How to Submit Artwork

All 2D and 3D art can be submitted in-person to Walnut Avenue Family & Women's Center located at 303 Walnut Avenue in downtown Santa Cruz. If you created a digital art piece, you can submit the piece you created and your artist statement via email to [avelazquez@wafwc.org](mailto:avelazquez@wafwc.org).

### When Can I See My Artwork Exhibited At The MAH?

The exhibit will take place starting 2/2/2024 to 2/4/2024. There will be an opening reception on Friday 2/2 from 6:00- 7:00 PM at the MAH, so please join us if you can!