

## Middle School Art, First Place

### *Reaching for Love*

Audrey Ho, grade 8

Brea Junior High School, Brea, CA

Teacher: Teri Syck

Survivor: Dina Wolfe

Dina Wolfe never had a childhood. At four years old, her family was imprisoned in Russia. Even after they were supposedly free, her father was imprisoned again. Although war is no place for a child, young Dina held on to one thing: her parents' love. In Dina's testimony she said, "...my mom and dad loved me a great deal." In my piece, the child's hand is Dina's reaching toward her father's bound hand. Letters were their only connection. The roses around Dina's hand symbolize her mother's love, fierce and ever-growing. Butterflies are a symbol of hope and are being passed to her from her parents. Dina Wolfe's story is a testament to the importance of holding on to your parent's love, an ideal I can relate to deeply.

