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Wesleyan Upward Bound

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Photograph by Jayleen

What Do You See?

What do you see when you look in the mirror? People ask themselves everyday: Who am I? What am I doing? Why am I here? Well, I see many different things in me. I chose this photo of myself because every color has a meaning, a goal, or a dream. It shows more than the vibrant colors; it also shows the shadows and the dark side.

The red on my lips reflects my courage, strength and power. I have the courage to push myself further becoming what I chose to be. I have the strength to get past the bad things that may bring me down. I have the power to let go of the negative people that

will lead me down the wrong path.

Nature's beauty - and all of its wisdom – gives me the color green as represented in this photo. This color brings out the light. I dream, every day, of a new lesson from earth: a new way to survive because life is a battle that we must fight. Green shows me a new path like recycling and re-using: recycling the memories and creating new ones, re-using the moments and the paths taken, and re-doing the mistakes without regrets.

Blue is my favorite color; it captures my personality and everything that is in me. I see blue as my relaxing time. It is the bubble person inside that not many see. It is the kindness that I have and the smiles that I give. I see blue in my head, in my heart, and all around me. It relaxes my thoughts and clears my mind.

My happiness is seen in the color yellow. What is happiness? It is joy and pleasure. Joy comes from the heart. You must feel pain to know what true happiness is like. Pleasure is more than physical: it is the ability to make someone happy or smile or laugh; it is the giftedness to make someone feel special and safe.

Black, as we all know, is pain and sadness. In my eyes, it is the shadow of my world; it is a dark reflection of me. The darkness around my eyes prevents me from seeing or being seen: this allows me to move forward with my life, goals, and dreams. My one desire is that I will accomplish all of my goals without the darkness overtaking me.

My clarity and wisdom is seen through purple. I have clarity on this world as well as my place in it. I have seen things that no one should ever have to see. Nonetheless, my wisdom allows me to understand the reasons for this. Clarity, to me, is more than understanding; its believing, accepting, and seeing.

Orange is my reality. It is everything that makes me unique. Orange has a strong meaning. It brings me memories of pain and fire: a vision of my past and a clear view of my future. Yet, I have questions. Where am I headed? Where will this color take me?

The memories have taken me to where I am now – a junior in high school and a student in Upward Bound - but what is next?

White is my faith and peace. I have faith in love, people, and most importantly myself. I believe that everyone should get along, and we should have world peace. Peace is something we try to understand, but none of us really do. I believe that I know the true meaning of peace: it is to be true to self as well as others.

Each color in my photo has a meaning. This is because every person possesses emotions, goals, dreams, thoughts and fears. I am red, green, blue, yellow, black, purple, orange and white. These colors make me. What do you see when you look in the mirror?