

Years later, says Lupu, as an adult living in Tucson with her husband and three children, “our family always went to Seders at Handmaker when Ted Koff was the director. We watched as more and more synagogues came to Tucson. I remember when the Jewish Community Center [came about] through the great skills of Ben Brook. When we first came here there was discrimination against Jews. There was only one country club and Jews weren’t allowed.”

That’s changed, notes Lupu. “Mayor Jonathan Rothschild is so involved with the Jewish community and is now our mayor. There’s much more acceptance now of a Jewish mayor than when George Miller was mayor” during the 1990s.

Still, “we discriminate against current immigrants,” she says. “My own mother came from England through Canada and when she married an American citizen, at that time she didn’t automatically become an American citizen,” which happened later. “How do we know how legal our ancestors were?”

“It concerns me that [discrimination toward immigrants] could lead to discrimination against Jews. I also fear that discrimination could resurface in Tucson as it has in Europe over the conflict in Israel and the [negative] media coverage.”

Lupu, whose husband died in 2002, still lives in the same home where they raised their family. “I love Tucson,” says Lupu. In the city’s future, “I would like to see more concern for others through increased assistance at all human levels and less segregation of different populations.”

Since her 2006 retirement, Lupu has become president of the board of Dancing in the Streets, Arizona, which is a diverse performing arts organization, primarily for at-risk youth. The dance school, based in South Tucson, is run by Lupu’s daughter, Soleste Lupu, and her husband, Joseph Rodgers, both of whom are professional dancers.

Seventy-five percent of the dance school’s participants are on partial or full scholarships due to poverty in the region. Lupu attributes the poverty to both “our prejudice and the lack of jobs.”

“I thought I saw poverty in the ‘60s and ‘70s when I was involved in bringing the needs of the elderly to the community,” she says. “But you very rarely heard of the homeless elderly. For kids today it’s different. I’ve never seen poverty among children the way you see it now.”

As a lifelong social activist, it seems natural for Lupu to be taking on the plight of children. “Staying involved with what excites me challenges me to give meaning to my life beyond my own existence,” she says. “That’s why I’m so happy to be working with children.”

In closing, I just want to thank Marian for her kindness, friendship, and guidance she has graciously given me. I remain humbled and privileged to know and call Marian Lupu my friend and ally.

RECOGNIZING THE 2015 FINALISTS
SELECTED IN THE 24TH CON-
GRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF
TEXAS ART COMPETITION

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2015

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to recognize the following 30 high school students from the 24th Congressional District of Texas who were selected as final-

ists from the 250 district entries in the Congressional Art Competition:

Erin Branscum, “Curly Hair”;
Tea Brooks, “Fawn”;
Eunice Choe, “Change is Calling”;
Julie Choi, “Monotonous Preparation”;
Hannah Christensen, “Selfie”;
Taylor Coughlin, “Fish”;
Kathryn Deatherage, “Two Lions”;
Amie Deng, “Fire”;
Paloma Diaz, “Dallas”;
Avani Gallo, “Man Horror”;
Madeline Huang, “Nighttime Adventures”;
Diane Huynh, “Humility”;
Zhixin Jiang, “Driving the Herd”;
Haley Justitz, “Sad Boy”;
Jacob Kim, “Frozen Grass”;
Allison Li, “A Spring Afternoon”;
Nicole Martin, “Aluminum”;
Elissa McCracken, “Rings of Life”;
Duc Tran Nguyen, “Vitalygo”;
Jeongho Park, “Horse and Rider”;
JC Patino, “Adam”;
Sydney Peel, “See No Poverty”;
Brittney Phan, “Diversion”;
Hayley Rothballer, “Wisdom”;
Nicole Schifferdecker, “Bluebonnets”;
Kate Sheedy, “Ireland”;
Anna Sim, “Japan in Texas”;
Kaitlin Westbrook, “Street Side”;
MacGregor Williams, “Tuskegee Airmen”;
Arden Wolski, “Texas Impressionism.”

The art competition was represented by a variety of high schools in the 24th District, and I am honored at this time to acknowledge the participating schools and the students’ art teachers:

Summer Neimann and Eric Horn, Carroll Senior High School;
Holly Hendrix, Carrollton Christian Academy;
Tamera Westervelt, Coppell High School;
Sarah Royce, Colleyville Heritage High School;
Bob Thomas, Creekview High School;
Jeff Nisbet, Grapevine High School;
Melissa James, Newman Smith High School;
Brenda Robson, Prestonwood Christian Academy;
Caroline Kinlaw, Ranchview High School;
Steve Ko, Steve Ko Art Studio;
Carolyn Allen, Trinity High School;
Sharice Williams, Uplift North Hills Preparatory.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all my distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating these exceptional high school artists on becoming finalists in the 24th Congressional District of Texas Art Competition.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2015

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, April 13; Tuesday, April 14; Wednesday, April 15; and Thursday, April 16, 2015, I was out on medical leave while recovering from surgery and unable to be present for recorded votes. Had I been present, I would have voted:

“Yes” on roll call vote No. 145 (on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 1249),

“Yes” on roll call vote No. 146 (on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 1265),

“Yes” on roll call vote No. 147 (on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 1480),

“No” on roll call vote No. 148 (on ordering the previous question on H. Res. 189),

“No” on roll call vote No. 149 (on agreeing to the resolution H. Res. 189),

“Yes” on roll call vote No. 150 (on the motion to recommit H.R. 650, with instructions),

“No” on roll call vote No. 151 (on passage of H.R. 650),

“No” on roll call vote No. 152 (on passage of H.R. 685),

“Yes” on roll call vote No. 153 (on the motion to instruct conferees on S. Con. Res. 11),

“No” on roll call vote No. 154 (on ordering the previous question on H. Res. 200),

“No” on roll call vote No. 155 (on agreeing to the resolution H. Res. 200),

“Yes” on roll call vote No. 156 (on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 1562),

“No” on roll call vote No. 157 (on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 1563, as amended),

“Yes” on roll call vote No. 158 (on the motion to recommit H.R. 622, with instructions),

“Yes” on roll call vote No. 159 (on passage of H.R. 622),

“Yes” on roll call vote No. 160 (on the motion to recommit H.R. 1105, with instructions), and

“No” on roll call vote No. 161 (on passage of H.R. 1105).

24TH ANNUAL DC BLACK PRIDE
CELEBRATION

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2015

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in celebrating the 24th annual DC Black Pride celebration Washington, D.C. on May 22–25, 2015.

DC Black Pride 2015 is a multi-day festival featuring a reception, films, a poetry slam, a church service, educational workshops, community town hall meetings, a basketball tournament, awards ceremony, and a health and wellness expo, among other events. We in the District of Columbia are pleased and proud that the DC Black Pride celebration is widely considered to be one of the world’s pre-eminent Black Pride celebrations, drawing more than 30,000 people to the nation’s capital from across the United States as well as from Canada, the Caribbean, South Africa, Great Britain, France, Germany, and the Netherlands.

As the very first Black Pride festival, DC Black Pride fostered the beginning of the Center for Black Equity (formerly known as the International Federation of Black Prides, Inc. (IFBP)) and the “Black Pride Movement,” which now consists of 40 Black Prides on four continents. The Center For Black Equity, the celebration’s organizing body, chose “DC Black Pride 2015: 25! Inspiring a Movement, The Mission Continues” as the theme for this year’s celebration. This theme reflects the 25