

Impact Statement

Kamelly Alejos, Grade 11.

Sailing to Victory, 2019.

Watercolor on paper, 18 x 12 Inches.

Mill Creek High School, Hoschton, GA

Unsung Hero: Andrew Higgins

What I find inspirational about Andrew Higgins is that he was just a normal man with a ingenious idea that could save the world from even more suffering. As many know, World War two was a gruesome and terrible war. If it was not for Higgins, the war could have turned out worse for Jewish holocaust prisoners, Allied soldiers, and innocent citizens of England. It truly takes a lot of dedication and hard work to design, patent, produce, and sell a product. He worked hard in the shadows to help make the world a better place in the long run. I have to say that the most compelling part of his story is that he could be anybody. I think his story can motivate people to start businesses that can make products and do services that can truly make the world a better place. He symbolizes a very aspirational part of the American dream that people hope to achieve someday. Many people hope to create or be someone who changes the world for the better. Andrew Higgins is one successful person who achieved this dream. Thanks to him, the world is truly a better place.

When I first read Higgins' story; the imagery for my art piece immediately popped into my head- a proud American man helping to send brave soldiers in the Higgins boat, his boat, to fight for what is right in a war that determined the fate of many. I used bright and proud colors to help symbolize the better future that Higgins helped us achieve. I also added the flags of the rest of the allied powers because I wanted to emphasize how the fight in World War two was a team effort. If it was not for the rest of the allied powers, or for the brave soldiers, or for the medics to heal injured soldiers, or for the brains of people like Higgins, the world could have ended differently. In many cases, I would say that war is bad and unnecessary, but in the case of Higgins and World War two, I can see the motivation he had in producing the boats that would help end the war. the horror of the holocaust was something that any person would be proud to have a part in stopping it. I was hoping to show that while the soldiers do quite literally risk their life and well-being to be out on the field, the war also needs brains and structure behind it too. This is where Higgins comes in with his revolutionary idea of a boat that can overwhelm and defeat the enemy. A lot of the time the big heroes that you see on the battlefield get their due credit, but the creative businessmen who help these soldiers stay in the background.

I shared this project with my class; I shared his story and my thought process on the imagery. I also shared it on my Instagram that I use to share my art projects.
(<https://www.instagram.com/tiburita/>)