



# HUMANS OF

Street photographer Brandon Stanton said, "The greatest thing is that if you sit in one place long enough, the whole world comes to you." When Stanton set out in the summer of 2010, his goal was to create photos that captured the unique humans that together encompassed New York City and tell their stories. *Humans of Littleton* aimed to do the same. We wanted to look deeper into the lives of the humans that occupy our hallways; people that we pass day after day, some going four years without ever meeting. We began to have conversations with them about their lives, their pasts, their passions, their families, and everything in between, and through the project, we discovered the immense power of simple conversation. We hope you will discover the same.

*curated by Eleanor Fuchs, Holly Rossman, Lucy Chase, and Alexa Rapp*



**LUKE RENSHAW (10)**

"I went to Arapahoe before. I decided to transfer because I didn't like it there anymore, it wasn't a great environment, plus I know people here. I'm playing basketball right now; I'm on JV. I got to meet new people through basketball, more than I already knew before I transferred, so I'm close to people like Jake, Emmett, Kai, and Tay. I played at my old school too, we won more but playing for Littleton is a lot more fun. Everyone here is caring and welcoming and there's not cliques. I actually went to middle school with Emmett, but I lost touch with him. So coming here, I was able to become friends with him again and that's been something that is important to me. I mean it's been a couple of hard weeks as a team. We have gone through a lot and it's tough seeing people you love go through a lot of pain, I mean you just have to be sad for a little bit before it gets better. From this loss we have gotten closer. I feel like everyone is more caring and understanding from what happened."



**PATRICK GARCIA (11)**

"I play baseball, I chill with friends. Actually just one friend. I would say that he is like my brother. He bought me a skateboard and got me into skateboarding and he's always there to talk. I'd say he's my rock, my bro. It was actually 3rd grade when we met. He moved from California. I was grounded when we met, and I was in my room and everyone on our street would always be hanging out with him. So I'm in my room, and we introduced ourselves through the window, and after that we just started to do reckless stuff together."



**MICHAEL BROWN (9)**

"School puts a lot of pressure on me in life, and basketball helps me release the stress. I'm on the freshman team. We're having a good season so far. It's a pretty significant change from middle school. High school basketball is more intense, but it's just a game; it all feels the same to me. My dad taught me how to play basketball, he was really good at it. He played D1 in college but he didn't continue. He taught me how to play the game, I learned everything from him. I might want to play in college. I'm just worried if I were to play, I wouldn't be able to balance it all."



**ELISABETH ZELLER (12)**

"I moved here from Alabama, my dad had a good job opportunity here. I actually didn't even grow up in Alabama, but I did live and grow up in the south. It's all about sweet tea and fried chicken down there and that's not what it's about here. I like it up here way more than the south. I grew up in a ton of different places and that was cool because there was a lot of stuff going on, but it's nice to be here because we're going to be here forever. It's hard to change friend groups all over the place. You don't know how long you're gonna be somewhere so you wonder if you should get close with other people. I've made a lot of friends here and at my church. My experience at my church has changed how I interact with people; it changes you. For me it's not even about religion, it's about a relationship with Jesus. You're not gonna be really mean to people, it changes how you live and your family and everything. Going to church with my family has created a special bond. There is just this bond you make with people that back you up no matter what happens and you know that they love you."



**FIONA KELEHER (9)**

"I'm just sitting here drawing an original character. My OC is very crazy, and has an elaborate backstory. I've had this OC for around a year. I like making things like this for me and my friends. It's fun and hard to make their story about how they live their lives. I drew this OC on my phone, and it takes a lot of practice drawing just with my fingers... My dad used to wear this hat all the time and I used to steal it, until eventually he just gave it to me. No one recognizes me without this or my hoodie."



**CLARA LANDRETH (11)**



**MACKENZIE SCHWARTZ (12)**

"I came out the summer before my sophomore year. I didn't even mean to come out, it just sort of happened. I was asking my mom how long she was with my dad before they got married, and then she asked me why I wanted to know. She kept asking me if I was dating anybody. And she started to ask me who it was, and kept listing off all these guys' names. And then I told her it was a girl. It was funny because we were at Qdoba, but she was like, 'Oh okay.' I feel accepted at school. My mom is totally fine with it; my dad says he accepts me but I think sometimes he doesn't. A lot of people on my dad's side don't know because they're against it. I actually went to a Catholic school before here, so I was going to church all the time. I eventually stopped going because I kept getting dirty looks from the way I was dressing. I've always worn pants and shorts when we had uniforms. I never really thought about dating anybody when I was younger. But then in high school I just realized that I was gay."



**EWAN RICHARDSON (11)**

"My job in 4th grade was to hold the door, so I decided to continue that even now. I leave my house at 7:40 each morning and it's a 16-17 minute walk to get here. I walk to school every day. There's nothing that special about my family; they're proud of me for my recent successes, like getting into Troubadours last year. That was probably one of the biggest accomplishments of my high school career. After school I'm planning to go into the Air Force and become an engineer."



**CHAY KERAN (9)**

"I joined the saxophones in band this year. My brother came home from band camp one day and he had a lot of fun, so I thought, 'Why not, let's join band.' It's really nice to see my brother in the halls. I like to be able to say hi to him and tease him a little bit because he's only an eighth grader. I've made a lot of friends through band and I feel more open now. Band definitely has changed a lot about my life; it's a good place for quiet kids to make friends. I tried to practice my instrument and I didn't try to impress anyone. I just wanted to work hard and improve playing the saxophone. I didn't just want to be in there, I wanted to be a part of it. I saw how hard everyone works. One of my first experiences with band was when we won state fair. I joined band late so I didn't understand all the effort that people put into the show and how much people cared about it, but after state fair I understood how hard they work. It was awesome to be a part of it all."



**EVE RAYNER (9)**

"Second semester is a good time to focus on your friends and your family life. I love my family. We have really good relationships with each other. Each Saturday we have this thing where we try to go to a new breakfast place in Denver. It's so good every time. We've been to places like Jelly and Snooze and Breakfast Queen. We do it when relatives come over. It's such a great bonding experience just eating together. We are actually running out of places to go. I don't know, we might have to start going out of state for restaurants."



**ANDREW KALLAS (12)**

"Each morning I go around to say good morning to everyone and give them a fist bump. I don't have a lot of classes with some people, being in the IB program, so I don't see a lot of my friends from outside the program. It's a way to keep in touch with people, it's a positive thing to do in the morning. Something as simple as saying good morning can make the day a lot better. I know when I'm having a hard morning that can make everything so much better. I think I know the positive impact, it's a win for everyone."

"I really like mountain biking and I like camping. It's something my dad and I do together. I race competitively; I started during my freshman year. I've been camping with my family for as long as I can remember. For the most part girls, don't race mountain bikes, like that's something that is not typical. You do around six mile loops in a competition and people are separated by freshman, sophomore, JV, and varsity. Then it depends on how many loops you do around the course. It's a cool environment to be involved in because you're not around petty people. You're with people that enjoy what they're doing, so you feel like you are connected through that."

"I would say I'm really close with my sister and my mom, and we've recently gotten closer. I'm older than my sister by two years. It's gonna be weird when she's here with me next year. My dad has taught me so much about hard work. I don't see him that much anymore, but when I do I, value our time together. I'm really passionate about music, I am learning the acoustic guitar. It's my mom's guitar from the 70's. I'm learning through her and her old books."



**AMANDA NELSON (10)**

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