

**GUN VIOLENCE**



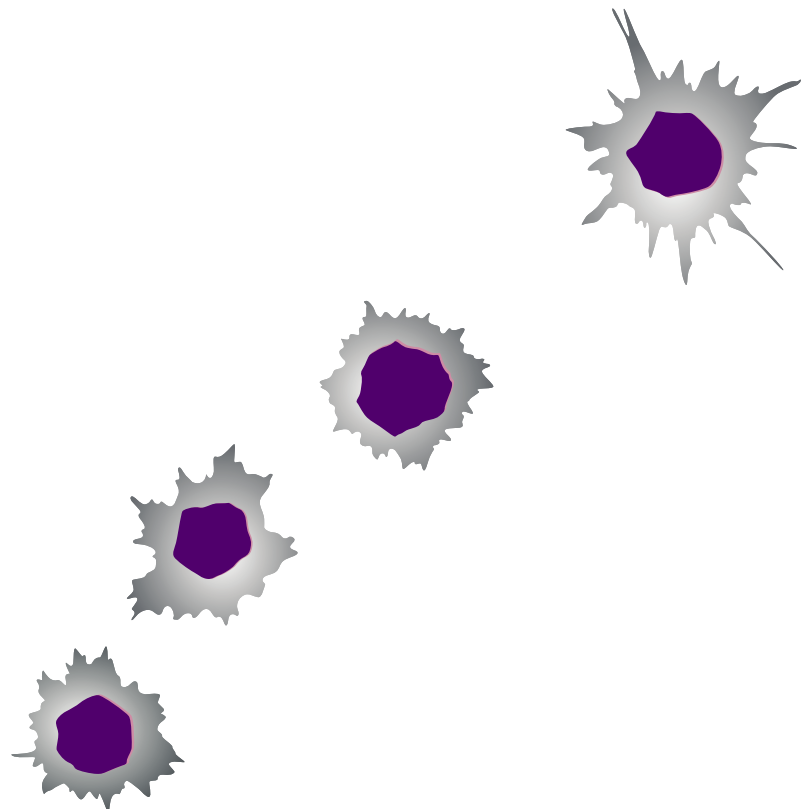
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## *Angels Trumpet*

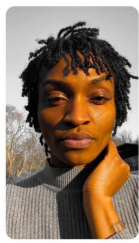
Angel's Trumpet. A song you could hear from miles away.  
A song that brings many families in this city to anguish.  
A song we used to fear so much as children.  
Now we just know where to keep away from.  
In a city full of thunderstorms, or so it seems.  
Tears like rainfall from the breaking news on screens.  
Iris. A dark reality is some don't get that luxury.  
A story not big enough for news companies.  
Another soul snatched by the song,  
but the power doesn't see it as wrong.  
The power of the people has turned to something different  
Everyday like the fourth of July  
Every name we're forced to deny  
Khyrie Isaac, Perretti Danzler, Jailene Holton





### *Artist Statement*

I used creativity by using gun smoke to convey souls being taken. This relates to the primary purpose and question because you don't see whos behind the gun, which sparks the question of where this problem comes from. I based my poem on *The Tradition* by Jericho Brown and included his symbolism, poetic technique, and imagery through poisonous or deadly plants. It complements the poem because I convey guns as the song or an angels trumpet as said in the poem and how it creates a soul tie effect when it's used because of how many victims are taken with unsolved cases, and they are left forgotten, not by the people but by the people in power within the city



I chose to interview my mom because she's very prideful in being from Philly but I noticed recently it died down. With her not only being a Army Veteran she's also experienced gun violence within her time of living in Philly as well.

1. What are your thoughts on the current state of Philly?

The current state of Philadelphia is the current state of any major city or town. It is being overtaken by those who didn't grow up calling this place home.

2. Do you feel like guns are a problem?

I refer to a gun as a weapon. Therefore I do not find them to be the issue inner cities have. The accessibility to black market weapons is problematic in poverty-stricken neighborhoods.

3. are you from Philadelphia?

I am proud to have been born and raised in Philadelphia (Philly)

4. Does Philly seem more dangerous now compared to past years?

The city feels very different, and that feels more dangerous. I will not deny the violence that we experienced in my youth. However, I do feel the violence has become more reckless. Removing after-school activities that lead to positive outcomes leaves the youth restless. You only find love in the wrong places when you are left in a restless state.

5. Where do you personally think these sudden gun uprisings come from?

They aren't sudden, and it's always been an issue. Who holds the guns most has shifted over the years in Philadelphia. However, pretending this is a new issue negates the violence this country has endured, let alone this city!

6. What's the most dangerous part of Philly to you?

The most dangerous locations in Philadelphia are the ones you don't know. Traveling in the city can be very safe for those truly at home. Even in you are from Philly, if you are not from North Philly, you shouldn't spend much time in that area. To be safe.

7. Have you lost anyone to gun violence (optional to explain why or who)

I have lost more people than I would like to count due to gun violence. The most recent loss was my little brother, who was shot and killed in 2021 during one of the deadliest days in December.

8. What would you change about the city?

If I could change anything about the city, I would assist in shifting the mind of the people within the city. Shifting the cities mindset towards more towards building community and we would actually become the "city of brotherly love"

## *Tyrone Hill*

I decided to do this project by myself. I chose gun violence as my topic because I've experienced a few losses due to them and since I used to live in a hazardous part of the city. I feel our city needs to be more protected, especially with the number of youths losing their lives. DAILY!

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