



The Princeton Club of Rochester

**Veronica Dominguez
Junior, Victor Senior High School**

***“Tell me and I may forget. Show me and I may remember.
Involve me and I will understand.” -- Confucius***

The Princeton Prize shines a beacon on students who creatively and passionately overcome societal and human obstacles to improve race relations. But what if the struggle transcends that in the seemingly simplest way? Veronica has not only faced that challenge, but is a stellar example of how one’s passion for equality can overcome any barrier -- even language. To communicate her message about life as a minority student while learning English, Veronica took Confucius’ words to heart. She became a human “book” to tell her story in a program called, “The Human Library.” Through this animated exercise, she has taught other people about herself and her culture -- and that she’s not really so different from her peers.

“I was able to share with students what is like to be an English language learner and a minority student from a different culture. My objective in doing this was to sensitize others to races other than their own,” she shared.

Her success as a “visual communicator” continued as she designed a flag to remind students and others that there is strength in unity. Her ability to convey message of unity beyond words will also be seen as she designs a mural of flags representing the diversity at Victor Central Schools. In addition, Veronica participated in the ROC2Change Summit and the Uganda Water Project. Veronica knows she’s making a difference.

“We are all on this road called the Human Experience. Everyone is facing a challenge or experiencing a success to be celebrated. Sharing brings us closer together. It is the same with Roc to Change initiative. Meeting with other schools and students who want to make positive changes in their schools is empowering. Sharing ideas and bringing them back to our own campuses is a great start.”

Victor teacher Laurie Estochen adds, “Veronica is a deeply compassionate person who cares about justice for all. She has a genuine heart for her fellow human beings.”

Our pride in honoring you goes beyond words as well, Veronica--well done and congratulations!