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EDUCATION

Here are the six options for the Parkland shooting victims' memorial. You can help choose

BY JIMENA TAVEL

FEBRUARY 14, 2024 4:30 AM |



Ali Dangelo and her service dog, Strudel, attend a community commemoration event for the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School victims at Pine Trails Park in Parkland, Florida, on Monday, Feb. 14, 2022. The event was held on the four-year anniversary of the shooting and included therapy dogs on site, a memory wall displaying photos of the victims, an area to write messages, a brief commemoration ceremony, a video honoring the victims and a drum circle. **MATIAS J. OCNER**
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When Jessica Lieberman first heard that the Parkland 17 Memorial Foundation had launched a nationwide design competition, she immediately decided to submit her idea: a heart with angel wings.

She did it because she has been living in Parkland since 2015 and experienced the tragedy closely on Feb. 14, 2018. She also did it because she relates to the grieving families of the victims on a personal level, she said, as she lost a 17-month-old son in 2017.

“I thought, ‘I’m always going to wish I would’ve submitted it if I don’t,’ so I did,” she told the Herald on Tuesday. “And now I’m humbled and honored that they selected it as one of the finalists.”

FROM 2023: Memorial planned to honor 17 lives taken in Parkland shooting

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Wednesday marked six years since a former student shot and killed 17 people at the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School campus in Parkland. Lieberman is one of six finalists that the the Parkland 17 Memorial Foundation — a nonprofit created by some volunteers in 2021 to unify efforts to build a public space that will honor the 14 students and three school staffers — chose last Thursday, moving a step closer to accomplishing its objective.

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