

Process Portfolio by Isaac Hernandez

Inspiration for "Phobia"

Pop Art Art Movement

Pop art emerged in the mid to late 1950s mostly in the United Kingdom and in the United States.

Roy Lichtenstein, who was an American is also another pop art artist.

Two of his works that inspired my project where, Blam by Roy Lichtenstein and Roger Kastel Another thing that inspired my work was the JAWS illustration. This illustration is from a famous movie called JAWS.

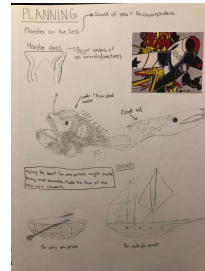
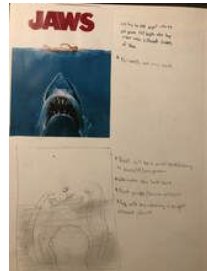


Planning for "Phobia"

For my planning I wanted to create a monster from the sea. I came up with this idea as I remembered the movie called JAWS. I sketched out my idea and came up with what medium I would be using for this artwork. My idea was to do what my inspiration did but instead of a shark I would be making a giant octopus. This came to mind as I would be using watercolor paint and some markers for this project.

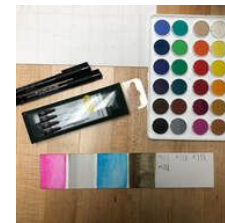
As I planned what I would create I first started by thinking about what sea monster I would be adding to my artwork. I drew 3 different sea creatures but I decided to chose the giant octopus. I decided to go for the octopus as it would be able to try and reach the character in the artwork. Symbolizing that your fears can try and take over you.

For the second planning sketch I just decided how the artwork would be and where each part. I decided this by using the JAWS illustration as a reference.



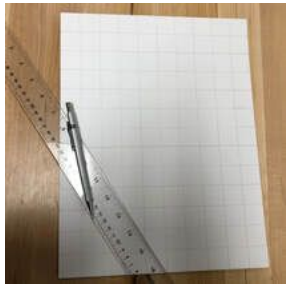
Experimentation for "Phobia"

For my experimentation, I grabbed a piece of illustration board and started blending the watercolor paint I would use such as blue and black. I noticed that the more layers you apply of water color paint, the more hard the color looks. I also tried and see if you could add a different color of watercolor on top of another color without messing up of fading away the color below the second watercolor. I found out that as long as it was completely dry you could add a second watercolor on top without damaging the way the first watercolor looked on the bottom layer of the picture. Another thing i did was experiment with the thickness of some markers I had. I planned on going in with some black markers do add details to my artwork. Just in case the black markers started to bleed after adding watercolors on top, I tested this out in a separate piece of illustration paper.



Process for “Phobia”

I started this project by finding an inspiration for my work. I came up with using some work of Roy Lichtenstein who is a pop art artist and mixing it with the movie called JAWS. After I planned out what I would do I grabbed a 10 in by 13 in piece of illustration board and started using a ruler and a pencil to create a grid. Once my sketch was completed I started to see how the watercolors worked. I started to do different shades of the colors and tried mixing the colors to obtain a color I wanted. I also checked if the ink from the black markers would bleed if I added watercolor paint on top of it, and thankfully it did not bleed. After I created the grid I started sketching my idea into the paper. At first I thought that I would not have to sketch all the details but later in the project I had to create the details.



When I started painting I started by painting the sky. I used gray and a little bit of black watercolor paint. After I painted the sky I started painting the giant octopus and using different shades of the color as it was too bright for my liking. Once I had a decent amount of dark color on the octopus, I went along with a marker and added detail to the octopus such as texture and some eyes. After I added this texture I waited for it to dry up so I could go in with more of the color of the octopus to add layers. After this was dry I mixed some black with some blue so I could create a color to paint the ocean. I wanted the ocean to have some darkness at the very bottom of the artwork therefore I used a light blue at first. I had to wait in between adding blue because if the paper got too wet it would mess up the dark red color of the purple. After I added the blue I used some grey and black watercolor paint to make the bottom of the painting darker. I noticed that it did not go as planned as the paint started to bleed all over the place. This meant that I had to use a light blue layer and be careful. Then I added a darker layer of blue. As I kept going the ocean started to look better. I finished off by adding some clouds and little details in the character and on the boat.



Reflection for “Phobia”

As I worked on this project I refined my skills as I worked with watercolors. This was one medium I had used before but not to create a piece based on the watercolors. I also refined my technique for using watercolors as there was a lot of trial and error that happened in this painting therefore I got knowledge on things that I could and could not do using watercolor. My inspiration does connect to my work as I was trying to do an illustration just like the JAWS illustration. Both artworks are connected as they have similar placements of their objects and the same kind of format. I hope others see my work and see the fear of being stranded in the ocean.

Inspiration for “Endoskeleton”

Paul Jackson

Paul Jackson is a British artist who is well known for his large scale works but he also did some works which are the pictures shown to the side. This are dark artworks which show an animal being "dissected". This means the flesh of the animal is getting separated from its bones and its nerves. When looking at Paul Jackson's work you can see how there is different things that belong to the animal or creature.

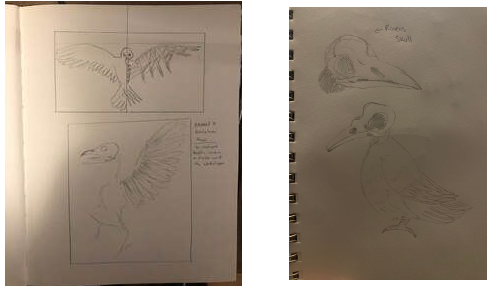
This inspired y work as I wanted to create a work showing a bird's skeleton and its actual body. Another thing that inspired me was a birds endoskeleton . I wanted to capture this in my artwork as a way to show its endoskeleton and its actual body(feathers etc.) to show things can look different but tend to do or be the same. I got this idea as I looked at different bird species and realized that many of the birds skeletons are somewhat similar. This gave me the idea to the project I created.



Planning for “Endoskeleton”

As I was planning what I would create I had 3 different opinions and sketches. I also used a ravens anatomy to create this work. I searched up how a raven looked like and how its endoskeleton looked like as well. I also searched up other kinds of birds for example a blue jays skeleton and other. I noticed that these skeletons are very similar and that gave me the idea of this work. I wanted to show how things sometimes look different but deep down they serve the same purpose.

As I was sketching my ideas I came up with 3 sketches. The first two really looked like certain type of bird so I went and used my 3rd sketch. I used this sketch because the bird I drew could have been any type of bird. To leave the viewers wondering what bird it was I decided to leave the wings white to give it more of a mysterious look. This way the viewer would assume its a certain type of bird but in reality it could be any bird.



Experimentation for “Endoskeleton”

For this project I experimented as I proceeded with the project. I never tried using pen on a canvas so I was experimenting as I started the project. As I started using the pen on the canvas I noticed that if you put too much pressure on the canvas it would make the ink bleed. So to fix this i had to lightly going with the pen instead of applying a lot of pressure. For the parts where the ink started bleeding at the end I went in with some white paint to glean up the edges and get rid of any ink that had started to bleed.



Process for **“Endoskeleton”**

As I started this artwork I started out by planning what I would do in my canvas. I decided to use Paul Jackson as my inspiration and do my project somewhat related to some of his work. I looked at a ravens skeleton and then realized that most bird skeletons look alike. Thats when the idea of connecting my work to my opinion of things looking different but often serve the same purpose came up in my mind. I did 3 different sketches to support my idea of things looking different but often serve the same purpose. At the end I went and used the last sketch I created. I like the idea of sketching a raven and looking at pictures of its skeleton to make it look as if it was dissected. After I had an idea of what I was going to do, I grabbed some white acrylic paint and painted the entire canvas with it.

Once the acrylic paint dried off, I started sketching my idea into the canvas. The sketch had to be in neat lines as it was hard to erase pencil lines once it was drawn in the canvas. Once my final idea was sketched I grabbed a pen and started going over my sketch. I had to let the ink dry as its difficult to use a pen on a canvas. I did the birds skeleton first and let the ink dry for 2 hours. Then I went and outlined the birds skeleton with pen after the head was dry. There was some times where I would accidentally rub my arm on the ink and it would make the ink bleed.

I fixed this problem by grabbing some napkins and drying the bled ink and once it was completely dry i grabbed more of that white acrylic paint I used at first and try to clean up the bled ink that was left.

For the last part of my project I still used ink on the canvas. I tried to do the birds wings as neat as I could and tried to not push the pen to much as it would make the ink bleed in the canvas. I did the wings carefully and they came out just like I wanted. After letting the ink dry I grabbed white acrylic paint and try to go over places where the ink was not supposed to be in. I also used the white paint to try and hide the pencil marks I used when sketching the bird. After that I went back to using the pen and tried to create some shadow into the bones and wings of the bird.



Reflection for **“Endoskeleton”**

When doing my artwork I refined my skills as now I know how different mediums work on canvas. My inspiration and my work do connect as you can clearly see the connections from my inspiration in my work. The biggest challenge was trying to clean up the ink that bled once it was dry. I had to use white paint to try and clean it up for a better look. This project ties to previously learned exercises and concepts as I always start a work on a canvas by painting the entire canvas a certain color for a better look, as sometimes the canvas gets dirty. My favorite part of my project was sketching the bird onto the canvas and the least favorite was adding the ink into my work as I had to be careful to prevent the ink from bleeding. I hope others see my work and wonder what kind of bird could be the one in my artwork.



Inspiration for “Self Reflection”

Hand with Reflecting Sphere by M. C. Escher

Maurits Cornelis Escher (M. C. Escher) was a dutch graphic artist who made mathematically inspired woodcuts, lithographs, and mezzo tints.

For this project I had to create a self portrait of myself that resembled a famous work of art. I decided to use Hand with Reflecting sphere by M. C. Escher as my inspiration piece. I really like the way this artwork looks and as a viewer it shows me that you as a person should reflect on yourself. That is the way I view this artwork.

M. C. Escher created this artwork because he wanted to have himself and his studio in his hands and this was a way to do that.



Planning for “Self Reflection”

For my planning, I mainly planed things in my head, as I did not have a projector or anything, I went along with doing it first try in my canvas. I had the idea in mind. I would be doing myself sitting down in my room. Giving the idea of self reflection. I did a quick sketch(shown below) to have the idea in an actual paper. this helped as I knew where things would be. After that I started to see how I could use only black and white acrylic paints to create different shades of grey. Then by doing this I would be able to create many different shades of grey.



Experimentation for “Self Reflection”

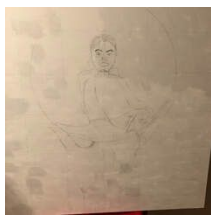
For experimentation I actually used the acrylic paints in a black sheet of paper to try and blends different tones of gray and whites together, as my painting would be in black and white. I also used acrylic paint retarder and it was my first time using it, I really liked using the retarder on my paints as it made the acrylic paint dry much slower and it was way easier to blend things together.

You can see how without adding any retarder into the paints, it was much more difficult to blend the paints together.



Process for “Self Reflection”

As I started my process, I went online and downloaded the Hand with Reflecting Sphere by M. C. Escher and a gray square. I did this and then placed the picture of the artwork on top of the gray square. This was to make the painting a square as the real painting was rectangular. After this I went into a website to create the grid on top of the image. Then once it was good I started the sketch on the canvas. This took about a day to get all the main figures in, after getting the main figures in, I started to paint the background of the picture as it seemed the easiest. After this I went in and started painting the hand which was holding the sphere. As I painted the hand, I had to blend different things in order to make it look more real.



After painting the hand, I started sketching what would go on the reflecting sphere. I decided to go with my room as in M. C. Escher painting he was in his studio. I started adding things that are in my room such as furniture and stuff and once I had the complete sketches I started painting. I first painted the background of the reflecting sphere and then painted the furniture. As I was getting done with painting the inside of the reflecting sphere, I added some white to make it seem as if the sphere was shining due to light. Another thing that I did after seeing the final result was adding more detail to the hand and blending the background better, as the background was done with only acrylic paint and it dried up fast making it difficult to blend the colors together. After I went and fixed the background with paint that had some acrylic paint retarder it looked way better than the first time I blended in the paints.

Reflection for “Self Reflection”

I really refined my skills at painting as this is the artwork that I feel most confident about. This was also one of the biggest artworks/paintings I have done and I think I did a great job. As I was doing this painting I developed as an artist even more as now I found a new technique to make the acrylic paints dry up more slowly. This technique was adding some retarder to the paint. My inspiration for this project was Hand with reflecting Sphere by M.C. Escher and it connects to my project as it's the same painting but with my face, making my very own self portrait. As I was doing this painting, one of my biggest challenges was trying to add the textures need for certain things. An example can be trying to add texture to the hand so it does not as flat or plain. My project tied together previously learned experiences as it's another acrylic paint and I had some knowledge on painting and blending colors together. Something else that ties into this project is the sketches of different characteristics of faces I did in my freshman year of High School as it's the first time I actually sketched and painted a human face in one of my artworks. My favorite part was painting the entire thing as it relaxes me and the least favorite part was sketching everything into the canvas as it was sometimes difficult to erase or sketch something into the canvas. I hope other see my work and try to reflect on themselves, realizing their strengths and weaknesses.

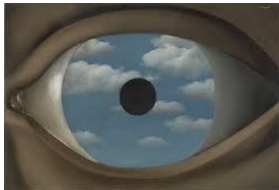
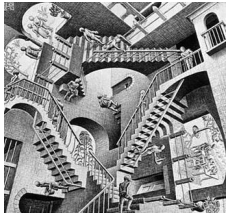
Inspiration for “Sensations”

Relativity by M. C. Escher

Relativity is a lithograph print made by M. C. Escher. This is a drawing which is mostly made in a flat stone. This artwork was created in 1953. I chose this work as a inspiration as I wanted to implement some of M. C. Escher work into mine. I wanted to design a staircase in my work as well as add some surrealism into my work. This work also has a very odd mood and I wanted to implement the mood to my work as well.

The False Mirror by Rene Magritte

Another artist that inspired me and my work was Rene Magritte. A specific painting that inspired me was The False Mirror. This artwork inspired me as I wanted my work to have a floating eye that could signify something strange or different. Apart from also being a surrealist painting. I wanted my painting to have something that contrasted from everything else, so wanted to implement the floating blue eye.



Planning for “Sensations”

As I was planning my work, I wanted to paint a shoe. I went with one shoe because my artwork would show in a way to not trust things that look suspicious and to trust your gut feeling which connects to the shoe as the other shoe was stolen from me when trying to sell it. I would be doing this by creating a dark place, in this dark place would be a giant eye close to a door which let to darkness. This would be in a very dark room making the mood seem weird or out of place.



Experimentation for “Sensations”

I experimented with some acrylic paints that i had. I was blending different shades of colors together for the floating eyes. I also experimented by having two squares of black paint and adding some shine into one of the black squares. This turned out good and i was able to add another contrast apart from the color.



Process for “Sensations”

I started the work by painting over the shoe with white. I covered the entire half of the shoe in white so the colors I used could stick and blend to the shoe better. Once all the side of the shoe was covered in white paint I started to sketch the idea I had with all pencil. I noticed that some parts would not be able to be seen because the space I had to draw and paint on was limited. So I moved a couple things around to make my idea fit into shoe.

Next I started by painting the eye, I was blending different colors of blue to give it more of a realistic look. As I finished with the eye, I started to paint the door leading to darkness. This was a difficulty since I was using a really dark background. I wanted both the dark background and the empty room to be seen.



As I was painting the door to be a brown door, I decided to switch the color of the door from brown to white. I did this so there could be contrast in the painting just like a couple works from Rene Magritte and Salvador Dali.

As I was adding the final detail of the person turning back from the entry to the dark room I made the shadow of a man, I did this because I didn't really want to give the character personality. Rather than giving it personality I wanted the viewers to come up with who could that shadow be.



Reflection for “Sensations”

I refined my painting skills even more when doing this artwork. My inspirations for my project were The False Mirror by Rene Magritte and The Persistence of Memory by Salvador Dali. These two artworks connect to my work as they are both surreal works. One of the biggest challenges I faced was painting over the fabric of the shoe. This was difficult as it was hard to blend paints together. This artwork ties to previously learned experiences as I was painting once again and now I had more knowledge on how to paint. My favorite part was creating the giant eye on the painting. My least favorite part was painting the background and trying to find different tones of gray. I hope other view my work as a symbol of not trusting things that look out of place.

Inspiration for “New And Old”

An artist that inspired me to do this painting was Rene Magritte and the painting is called Time Transfixed. This artwork's mediums are oil paints on canvas. This image shows surrealism as a locomotive is appearing straight out of a fireplace. This artwork is almost like a still artwork. This painting also has a dreamlike feeling as a locomotive is going through the fireplace. This inspired me because I wanted to somehow find a way to compare how things change over time.

I was thinking of using this as my inspiration because most of my work focuses on surrealism. Another reason that I chose this work of art was because I like the dreamlike feeling it gave the viewers and I wanted to recreate this feeling.



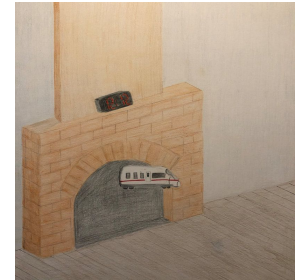
Planning for “New And Old”

As I was planning this work, I decided to do a similar work as my inspiration. It would have the same template but using different objects. My idea was to create the place and make it look as if the room was an old room. As I would do this, I would then make a digital alarm clock and a newer model of a train or locomotive. I would do this to show how time passes by and humans come up with newer and better things. Kind of showing the process of innovation as time passes by. I used pictures from the internet to see how an old furnace would look and how a newer model of both the alarm clock and the train. I then sketch these pictures into my sketchbook and decided the position in which the things would be on.



Experimentation for “New And Old”

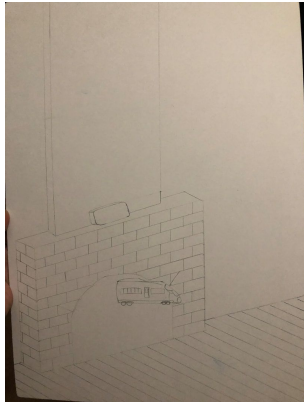
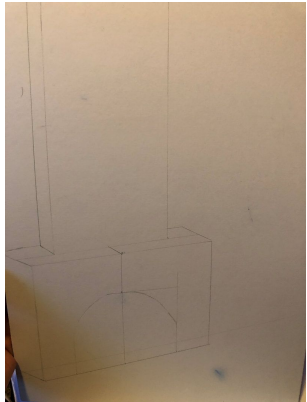
For my experimentation I used a blank piece of paper and experimented by blending colors together. I also experimented by looking at different trains and alarm clocks since there are different varieties of them. Another way I was experimenting with the medium I used was when I was doing my work trying to find different colors and blending them to create the desired color. Another helpful thing I noticed when I was experimenting was that if you wanted your color pencils to blend better you could use the white color pencil and this would make the blend look much better.



Process for “New And Old”

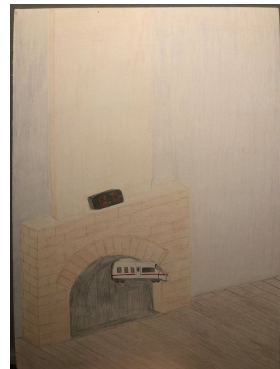
As I started the sketch I used a ruler to make everything symmetrical. I started by sketching the fireplace. I did this by using a ruler and seeing how big I would make it. Once I was satisfied with the size of it, I started doing the bricks and the floor of my artwork.

For the floor I also used a lot of symmetry and as well for the bricks. After I did the lower part of the fireplace I then started drawing the sketch of the digital alarm clock and the newer model of a train. As soon as I liked how things were coming along I grabbed a few color pencils that I thought I would use and started coloring the artwork.



I started coloring the fireplace looking for different shades of orange and brown. I did the coloring lightly as I was trying to see how good the colors would blend. For the train I used different shades of grey and different shades of black. I tried to use more light colors when coloring the train as it would be a good contrast between the different hues used in my artwork and this would also make the train stand out more.

As I was getting finished with my project I looked at my inspiration and noticed how Rene Magritte gave shades and depth to his work so I wanted to implement this to my work as well. I grabbed a black colored pencil and then lightly used it in the areas where it seemed as if light was not able to reach. This formed the depth I wanted to create in my work and was the final thing I did in my project.



Reflection for “New And Old”

I refined my skills when doing this project as I can blend color pencils better than before. I developed as an artist as I now have more knowledge I can use when I work with color pencils again. My inspiration for this project was Rene Magritte's *Time Transfixed*. The biggest challenge I encountered when creating this artwork was trying to find ways to blend colored pencils together which later became easier as I learned a way to blend the color pencils. This project ties previously learned exercises and concepts as I used a lot of blending and I have been working on blending colors together for a long time now. My favorite part was sketching how my work would look into the illustration board. My least favorite part was trying to blend colors together to form a better color or just give the work a more refined look. I hope others see my work and see how time goes by and people innovate from what they had.

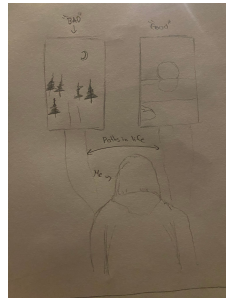
Inspiration for “Decisions”

The artist that inspired my work was, Rene Magritte. Two of his works that inspired my work where, The Son Of Man and The False Mirror. These two pictures inspired my work since The False Mirror shows some sort of different world inside the eye. This is kind of what I went for when doing my digital collage, I wanted to show different worlds inside my work of art. The way The Son of Man inspired my work was due to the fact that this artwork shows surrealism by the floating apple. This would connect to my artwork since I would have surreal things that just made you wonder how those things got there.



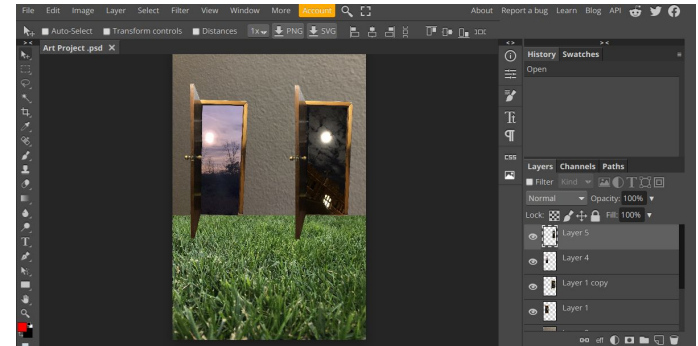
Planning for “Decisions”

I started by making different sketches of ways I would show how I felt. At first my goal was to create a digital collage showing how things change once you grow up. I was going to show this by using two pictures of myself as one fading away representing the young me and the other one staying representing the present me. As I was thinking about that, I decided to go with something that would represent you choosing your own path or decisions. So in to show surrealism, I made doors leading to other "worlds" and that would show surrealism. At first I was not sure how I was add and show my ideas using pictures but then I found how. I took 6 different pictures and started arranging them.



Experimentation for “Decisions”

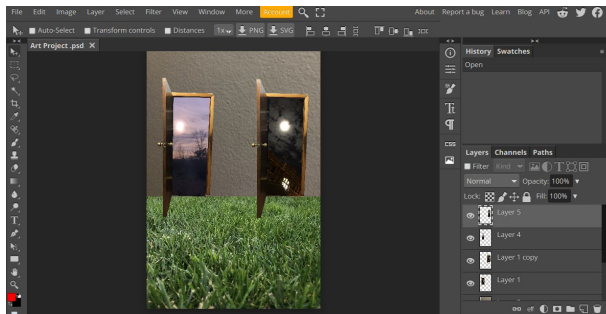
For my experimentation, we had a couple Photoshop lessons as we started this project. This was my first time trying this medium and it was quite stressful. I did a couple experiments by creating a fast picture of what I had sketched. When I first was experimenting, seeing how I would layer my pictures, My second experimentation came out pretty nice. I planned on using this experimentation and adding more things so it would be my final piece, but unfortunately it deleted.



Process for “Decisions”

For the process, we used Photoshop. We had to keep in mind that the pictures used in Photoshop had to be taken by you, you could not use pictures that were not taken by you. First you had to write a paragraph that showed something you believed in and something that would be shown in your artwork. Once you finished talking about your beliefs and emotions, you started to sketch your ideas. When you finished sketching your ideas, you started to think of things you could take a picture. For my sketch, my sketch was more on the simple side, as I did not add as much detail to the sketch. I did not add as much detail since I knew it was gonna be created with real pictures so the textures, and some colors would be different from those of what I would sketch. At first I had a totally different idea but I switched it before creating it. I sketched two doors representing the choices you have and a path leading to them. Once I finished I thought of ways real life pictures would show to a high extend what I sketched.

Keeping this in mind you took the pictures that you thought you would be able to use to create the plan you designed. Once you started arranging the pictures, cropping, cutting, blending them, etc. You would crop the pictures if you did not want something that was in the picture, as well and being able to cut things out of the picture. You would blend things to give it more of a clean finish. As you were creating this, you had to pay close attention to each different picture and you had to make them connect to each other in a way that you thought would show your sketch. The Photoshop part was the most time consuming since it you had to add all the details you wanted and you had to do many different things (cropping, blending, etc.) to most of your pictures.



Reflection for “Decisions”

As I was working on my artwork, this work was not as easy as I thought it would be, this was by far the most difficult artwork I have done so far. Although it was difficult, I learned a new way of art which was Photoshop or digital art. The essay you had to do first was difficult as you had to tie it to something you believed in. The hardest part was trying to look for pictures, this was a challenge as I had trouble thinking of what or how I would do my sketches in Photoshop/Photo pea. This whole thing was new to me and I do not think I would be using this art medium for now. Some other difficulties were trying to tie or blend each picture together. I hope others view my work and have the same point of view as I had, all your choices are your and yours only to choose.

Inspiration for “Thoughts”

The artist that inspired this work is called Rene Magritte. The specific artwork used to do this work is called The Son of Man.

Rene Magritte was a Belgian-born artist who is well known for his surrealism artwork. Surrealism is the juxtaposition of distant realities to activate the unconscious mind through the imagery.

The Son of Man:

The Son of Man, was a painting by Rene Magritte and this art was a self portrait. It shows Rene who is in a nice suit and bowl hat, but in front of him, just floating is a green apple. When I looked at this picture, I thought that the apple was a way to show the audience that people look at you but do not really look at you, they just see what you want them to see. I thought this was a clever thought since in a way we all are hiding our true self when meeting new people or just in general. This inspired my work a lot since the idea behind Rene's work looked like a great idea to me. I used what I've seen in Rene's art The Son of Man and added my own ideas to it therefore creating my artwork. I thought I could do kind of the same but instead of hiding your personality, I was going to make my characters feelings explode.

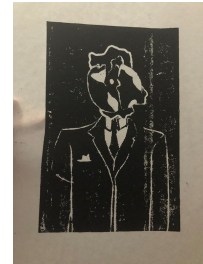
Planning for “Thoughts”

For the planning process, I was thinking of making a work of art that resembled the global issue of global warming and the effects of it on the planet and on animals. I was focusing on making a perfect sketch which made me lose track of time. Due to me wasting time and not liking any of my sketches, I thought of how I felt. I felt like as if my head was about to explode due to work, school, etc. So that is what I went with, my sketch was really inspired by The Son of Man created by Rene Magritte. Instead of an apple as the form of surrealism I added an exploding world, resembling all the stress that had bottled up inside the man's head.



Experimentation for “Thoughts”

The sketching experimentation took more than I expected, I took a long time experimenting on my sketches and this was something that had to be done fast. But at the end I was able to choose the sketch I would carve. As I finished carving, my thoughts about using ink and printing the picture into the blank piece of paper where that I thought it was going to be really easy. It turns out it was way harder than how it looks. The first couple prints that I did had either way too little or too much ink on the roller used to cover the carved image. If it had too much ink, it would cover the things I carved and those spaces would not come out clean or white. So I had to find the right amount of ink I needed to use for this project. After trying and having a couple messed up prints (7 or 8 prints) my finished artwork was finally achieved..



Process for **"Thoughts"**

The process was not as difficult but took quite some time. First we had to do at least 3 sketches of different things we would want to carve and make the block print. We had to make sure that this would fit into the block we were going to carve into. For this step we just used the sketch paper and pencil. After that we chose the sketch we liked the most and we flipped the drawing and started shading all the back of the sketch with pencil. After you were done, you chose what position you wanted the drawing to be and you used tape to keep it in place so it would not move when you are tracing it into the printing plate. Once you did this, you started tracing the drawing so the drawing passed into the printing plate. After passing the drawing into the printing plate, you used carving tools to carve into the plate/block, keeping in mind that the carved parts would be the ones that would stay white and have to ink on them. You had to pay really close attention to how thin or how thick you wanted the carved line to be. This was the step that took most of the time since you had to be very careful where you were carving into. If you were not careful, you might carve something you did not want to carve.



Once you were satisfied with how the carved image came out, you could now start preparing the ink and the other supplies you need to print the carved image into a piece of paper. For this step, you needed a tray, your print plate, a roller, ink, and a barren. First you grabbed enough ink or as much as you think you needed, and placed it into the tray. Once it was in the tray, with the roller you started spreading the ink out until it was thin or until the roller only had enough ink (not too much but not too little ink in the roller). After you thought the ink was enough, you grabbed your print plate and with the roller with ink, you started rolling putting ink in the plate, you had to be careful not to add too much as it would cover some carves, or if added too little the ink would not pass into the paper after. Once you thought there was enough ink, you grabbed a white piece of paper and placed it on top of the print plate. You had to try and make it land in the middle and not slide anywhere. Once it was on top of the print plate, you grabbed the barren and moved it over the paper so the ink from the plate would stick as much as possible. You had to use a little bit of pressure and once you were satisfied, you would peel the paper out of the plate and check if the goal desired was made. If the print came out bad, you had to redo this step till your work was as you wanted.

Reflection for **"Thoughts"**

At the beginning of this project, I was thinking it would be pretty easy but it turned out it was not as easy as it looked. I learned a new way to do art which was by block printing so I refined my skills to block print and later on if I try block printing again, I would know what I am doing. The biggest challenge I had when making this art was the actual printing the carved drawing into paper, you had to measure the amount of ink correctly in order for the print to come out as you wanted it. If you were not careful, it would either come out with no ink at some parts where there was supposed to be ink at, or too much ink even at the spots you did not want ink. This project ties things done in the past as always we start with a sketch and you always learn a couple new tricks and things when creating new art. My favorite part was the satisfaction you got when the print came out as you wanted it to come out. What I did not like about the project was that it took me a lot of attempts to have my final work. I hope others view my work and see my point of view, of peoples minds just thinking about too much and then they "blow up" or just get really annoyed.

Inspiration for “Dragon Head”

The artist that inspired me was Chris Gilmour. Chris Gilmour is a British sculptor who creates hyper realistic, life-size objects made solely from cardboard and glue. He inspired my work as it would also be from solely cardboard and glue. It inspired me because I can use some of his techniques to bend the cardboard and not give it a solid look to it and give it more of a curved look.

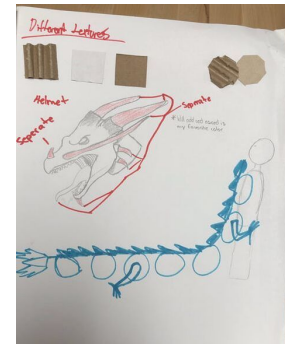
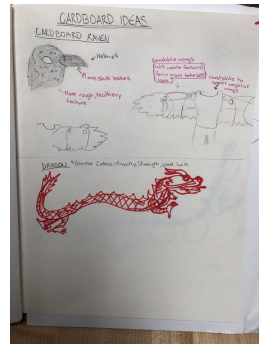
Chinese new year/ Dragon dance
Chinese dragons symbolize wisdom, power and wealth, they are also believed to bring good luck. Different colors on a dancing dragon have different meanings... Green symbolizes a great harvest, gold or silver symbolize prosperity, and red symbolizes excitement and usher in good fortune.
Apart from trying to create my dragons head to have sort of the same look as A Chinese dragon, I also wanted to add red to my work, as red is my favorite color and it also connects to Chinese culture since a red dragon in the Chinese New Year, means good fortune. I want my work to connect to Chinese culture as I admire Chinese culture and by implementing the culture into my work, I hope that I learn new things about the Chinese culture.



Planning for “Dragon Head”

My plan was to create an entire dragon body, as I like dragons and I would add some red to show and connect to myself as red is my favorite color. I chose to go with just doing the dragon head. This dragon head would have 3 horns, and 4 side horns. I would make these horns with red cardboard. The eyes would be round with a mad expression on the dragon. This cardboard dragon head would also have a tongue and teeth. My idea for the head was that the head would be able to move, the mouth would be able to open and close.

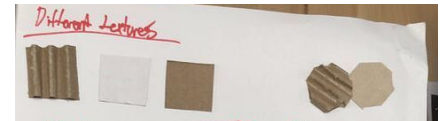
Another idea I had was to make a crow, I would be wearing the crows head as a mask and then I would be creating wings that I would be able to wear and move around. This idea was the first idea I had but I switched it and created the dragons head instead.



Experimentation for “Dragon Head”

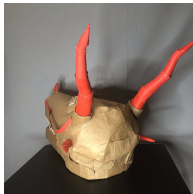
Some ways I started to experiment where, by feeling the different textures of the cardboard I had available. After that I was seeing which type of cardboard was best to create the support that would be in my head. This cardboard had to be pretty solid as it would be my support, so I experimented with 3 different types of cardboard.

Others ways I experimented where by finding a way to keep my project solid and as connected as possible, I went with using thin pieces of cardboard, cutting it into small long rectangular pieces and adding hot glue to one side. Then I used this cardboard as some sort of tape (we could not use tape in this project). As I experimented with this, I actually liked the way it added support and kept things connected so I went and used this method throughout my entire project.



Process for “Dragon Head”

As I started creating the dragons head, I started off by creating the two different parts of the head(the head and the jaw). Trying to create the movement of opening and closing the dragons mouth just as the dancing dragons from Chinese New Years. For base for the head, I used thick cardboard so that the base of head would be sturdy. I did the same for the jaw and I used little pieces of paper cardboard as tape by applying super glue to them in order to make the structure more solid and strong. Once the base was created, I started to give the cardboard shape with cereal boxes as the cereal boxes are sturdy and easy to bend. I used these boxes for parts that needed some sort of curve to them. I used super glue to connect each piece together, Just like Chris Gilmour used only cardboard and glue in his work. Once I had the shape of the head and the jaw, I grabbed some big cardboard boxes or pieces, and soaked them in water. I did this so I could separate the cardboard. I then let all these pieces dry up so I could use them to cover the base for each piece. I did this so the pieces for the dragon had more of a clean look.



Once I had the clean look for the pieces, I started to look for ways to do the eyes, and the different horn pieces of the dragon. These pieces were going to be red(connecting to myself as my favorite color is red). I found some red poster paper in my house so I used that. At first I had the horns all straight but then I cut them into different pieces and glued them in different positions to make them look more wavy. For the eyes I created them by creating the eyebrow of the dragon, having like eye bags for the dragon, and then filling the middle of the eye with white cardboard that was used for Christmas gifts. I also used the white cardboard for the teeth of the dragon. Once I decide where its eyes and horns were going to be, I used the hot glue gun and glued them to their places. As I was finishing the project, I noticed that the dragon looked to plain so I got more red cardboard and created more red horns/husks. I was planning on adding more horns on the sides but it turns out it looked better without many husks or horns.

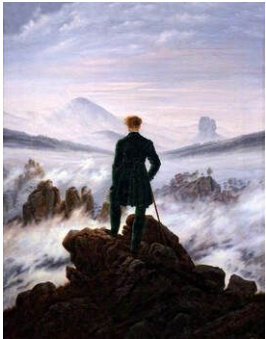
Reflection for “Dragon Head”

I refined my sculpting skills by crating a cardboard sculpture. This improved my skills to sculpt as now I have a better idea of sculpting with different things. My inspiration connects to my artwork as my inspiration used only cardboard for his work, I did the same as I only used cardboard and hot glue to create my work. One of the biggest challenges I faced was trying to create the dragons horns and give them some sort of wavy look by just using cardboard and hot glue. This connects to previous experiences as I have done projects using hot glue. Therefore I had a good idea of hot to use hot glue to connects cardboard pieces together. Although it was the hardest part, my favorite part was creating the horns of the dragon. I found this to be fun and I liked how the horns and husks turned out. My least favorite part was wrapping the head structure with thin cardboard as some curves turned out bad. I hope others view my work as a animal that resembles royalty, strength and good luck.

Inspiration for “Light”

An artist that inspired this project was Caspar David Friedrich. One of his works that inspired me is called Wanderer above the Sea of Fog. This is an oil painting create by the artist. Some characteristics of this artwork are the way the figure stands looking and admiring the sea of fog. At the same time people could view this as the character doing a self reflection.

Another characteristic that this artwork has is the viewpoint in which this was painted. This artwork tries to show us the perspective of the character inside the painting.



Planning for “Light”

As I was planning this work, I decided I would use acrylic paints with some retarder so they would not dry up as fast. Then I started sketching what I would paint in the canvas. I came up with the idea of a person standing in the middle of the road looking at a foggy forest. Giving a mysterious feeling to my artwork.



Experimentation for “Light”

Before I started painting on the canvas I had to make sure that I had an idea of how to make the forest look foggy. I came up with an idea of painting the background first then letting it dry and add a very thin coat of white paint over the entire forest. Once I noticed that this worked I started adding more layers to create the forest until I was satisfied with the way the experimentation was coming out.

Although I experimented on how to create the fog effect beforehand, I experimented during the creation of the painting as I added some water to the white paint as it was much lighter and it really gave it that foggy look that I was going for.



Process for “Light”

I started off by sketching the trees that would be in the front of the painting. I also left a space in the middle to add a person looking into the forest once the forest was finished. After this I used some grey acrylic paint to fill in the sketch of the trees I did. Once this dried off I used some black acrylic paint and started to create smaller trees for the background of the painting as it would be a forest. For the other step I had to let the trees completely dry off in order to create a foggy effect by using a thin coat of white acrylic paint. I did these two steps three more times later in the project to create different layers of the forest. But before that I added some grass by using some paper as a brush and dabbed it over the painting to create the texture of grass. I also did this with some white and grey paints.



I did these two steps three times to create different layers of the forest. Once I was done with the layers, I went over the grey trees I created at the beginning. I used black to paint over those trees and let everything dry. For the grass I picked up some paper and crumbled it up. Put some paint on the paper and dabbed it on the canvas to create textures for the grass in the front layer of the forest. When adding the white fog at first I did not like how it was turning out so I added a bit of water to the paint and it worked much better. The last step was to create a human with fire as its head would have a meaning which is that you are the only one that decides what to do with your life. I did not like how the fire looked so I tried to make the fire look more realistic by going to YouTube and look at different videos to try and perfect the fire and its movement.

Reflection for “Light”

I refined my skills as I found a new technique I can use when using paints. Which is to add some water so the paint is not as thick. My inspiration which was Wanderer above the sea of fog by Caspar David Friedrich does connect to my work as there are some clear connections like the mediums and the placement of objects in both his work and my work. The biggest challenge was creating the fog because some paints was not so good so if I used the white paint and added some water to it, the other paint started to bleed out. This project ties previously learned experiences as its another painting I create which gives me more knowledge of how to paint as painting is not one of my strongholds. My favorite part was creating the fire for the head of the character and the least favorite part was adding trees to make it look like a forest. I hope other see my work and reference that you are the only one who is able to decide what happens to you and around you

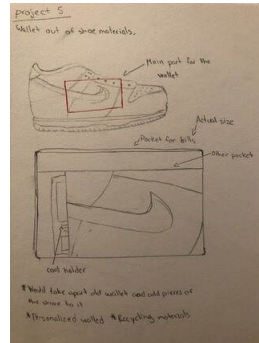
Inspiration for “Wallet”

My inspiration for this artwork was Khalil Chishtee. He is a former artist who works with plastic bags to create sculptures. He uses plastic bags as he states “In art, one has to be the voice of one’s own time, not an echo of another era. We live in the age of plastic, and plastic bags are the most ordinary form of this material. It goes back to the Sufi approach of my upbringing where worth does not depend on what you inherit, it depends on who you are. Anything made out of bronze, wood, stone or painted on a canvas carries the appearance of being worth looking at, because of its history, but if one can change the impact of that history, one is an artist.” (Got this quote from the website cited below) I interpreted this as, you are able to use anything you want for art and you can use something that is happening right now to add some history to your work. Therefore I know shoes are a big thing right now and some people collect them. So I wanted to implement that to my work as this is one of the interest i have. Another inspiration for this project was a previous project I worked on which the objective was to create something out of only cardboard.



Planning for “Wallet”

As I planned what materials apart from the shoe I would use to create a wallet I remembered I had a wallet laying around so I tore it apart and used some pieces of it to create the wallet out of the shoe. I started with the idea of using only certain parts of the shoe. I used the outside layer and the inside layer. I also wanted to see how a wallet was as there is a lot of types of wallets. I decided to go with a wallet type that is more of a cardholder



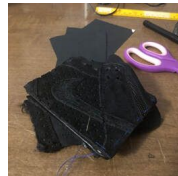
Experimentation for “Wallet”

I experimented as I first did a wallet out of paper to see how i would cut down the shoe. This paper wallet basically worked as the measurements I would use for the actual wallet. I included a side pocket for cards and two big pockets for money. This along with having an actual wallet made the design of the wallet be more easy to create as I would already have measurements needed for the pieces I would cut on the shoe.

Process for **“Wallet”**

As I started this project I had the idea of making a wallet to reuse some shoes that were beat up due to them being used to skateboard. I decided to also use a wallet that I really did not use anymore as this would also be recycling this to create something I would most likely use. As I started off the project I measured the actual wallet and started tearing it apart as I would not be using all of the wallet. I then also cut off two pieces off the shoe using the measurements for the actual wallet. I had to keep in mind that these materials would most likely tear apart over time so I went around the edges with a lighter to burn down the fabrics.

After that I started to align the shoe pieces with the few pieces of the wallet to see if they were the same measurements and if they needed to be cut. After I seen that the measurements were the same i started off by using some fabric glue to glue the pieces of the shoe into the pieces of the wallet.



Once they were glued and dry I started to sew the fabrics together. At first I was sewing really bad as it was my first time sewing something so thick by hand. As i finished i really did not like the way it came out so i cut every thread connecting the pieces together and started again. This time I started off by doing the top of the card holder as it would be the only piece that would use a separate thread. Once that was sown together I started to do the outside of the wallet. It took quite a while as two of the needles broke halfway through the sewing process. I was still able to use the same thread and continue sewing with a different needle Once i finished sewing everything in place I grabbed the lighter once again to burn down some fabrics and the knot I did when I started sewing the pieces together.

Reflection for **“Wallet”**

When doing this project till it was finished, I refined my sewing skills as I have better knowledge on how to sew things together. I developed as an artist as I have yet another form of art I can apply to my future art pieces. My inspiration for this project was khalil Chishtee. The biggest challenge I faced when creating this project was hand sewing everything together. It was difficult as the materials used out create the wallet were way to thick, making it hard to pierce the needle through. This ties previously learned experiences as I did a project that was created using only cardboard and this was a challenge just like this project. My favorite part was creating the pieces needed for the wallet with the shoe. My least favorite part was stitching everything together as it was difficult and I came across a few problems. I hope others see my work and realize that with a good idea you are able to reuse something that would be considered old or trashed and create something that can be used everyday.

Inspiration for “Elements”

One of the artist that inspired my artwork was Andy Warhol. He has an artwork called Campbell's Soup Cans Created in 1962 this artwork consist of 32 of the same Can of soups paintings. These 32 canvases are 20 in by 16 in and they were all hand painted. This was an idea that Andy Warhol had as he always ate this soup. Each of the soup paintings although look alike are 32 different flavors.

Some of my inspirations for this project are Richard Kuiper and Andy Warhol. Richard Kuiper created a piece called Dutch still life in plastic which is a photography that has everything in the picture created by plastic. I like this idea as it shows how almost everything nowadays can be created using plastic. I also like the way her uses items that we would not use nowadays. I would use the idea of having almost everything in my photography out of plastic and the way he took the photographs. In his photographs he took them pretty up close.



Planning for “Elements”

When planning this project I knew it would be photography.

I was thinking of doing a black and white photography that involved the 4 elements which are water, fire, earth and wind. I came up with this idea as I have been talking a lot of the earth in environmental science so why not tie art and environmental science together in an art project. I came up with trying to make a still life photography of each of the different elements. I decided I would put the 4 different elements in a glass cup and take a picture if them separately. This connected to my inspiration as Campbell's Soup Cans are all the same looking can but they are all different flavors. This would also be the case for my artwork as it would all be in the same glass cup but would be the 4 different elements. After that I would use Photoshop to connect them together. As I sketched the way the photos would look, I also tried to write down ideas as to how show the 4 different elements. I also wanted to use a dark background so the things that showed the 4 elements would pop out even more.



Experimentation for “Elements”

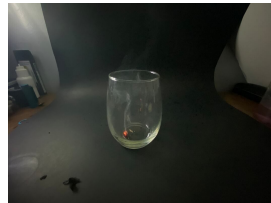
As I was going to take the pictures, I was experimenting on ways to place things in the glass cup I bought, especially for the picture showing earth. After deciding the placement of the things I had to find a spot to place the cup in a way that when taken out to switch the element inside the cup I could place it back where it was. In order to do this I used a pencil and traced the circular shape of the cup into the black paper that I was using for the background. This would help me place the cup in the same position after I added other things inside the cup. I had to find a way to only represent fire or wind as in order to create smoke which was something I used to express the wind, I had to create fire first. After experimenting with some pictures to create the wind, I did not like how the pictures turned out as you could still see the light of the fire. Therefore I went to the dollar store and bought some incense to try and make the smoke more visible. Another thing I was doing as I was experimenting was taking different pictures with different lighting. I wanted my photos to look the same but I also wanted them to look pretty professional.



Process for “Elements”

I started my project by planning out what I would photograph. I decided to photograph the 4 different elements in the earth connecting to me learning more about nature. As I was planning what to use to represent the different elements I came up with a few ideas. At first I was thinking that in order to show fire I would use some paper and light it on fire. In order to show wind I would use something that made a lot of smoke. For earth I would use some rocks, branches and a plant to represent earth. Finally for water I would use normal water but I would add some blue to it so it could be more visible to the viewer. After I decided how I would represent the 4 elements I went to the dollar store to get a glass cup so I would fill the cup in with the 4 elements and some black paper which would be used for the background of my work. Although I had no camera for these pictures I used an Iphone to take the pictures which later where edited on Photopea. I played with the camera's settings and took different pictures at different angles to try and decide which angle worked for me and made the pictures look neat.

As I started photographing the 4 elements I decided to connect each picture individually using Photoshop. I would create a square of the 4 different elements which the picture would also be in a square. I had to improvise on the wind one as I did not like how it came out. So I just bought some incense and let it burn for a while in the cup with the top covered so the smoke could stay and be more visible. As I finished with taking the photos I gave another look to see if the where good for photoshop.



Reflection for “Elements”

As I created this artwork I refined my skills as this was my second time trying to do photography. I also learned and improved my skills as I used Photoshop. I developed even more as an artist as this is now another medium I have used so its another medium I am able to use for future projects. My inspiration for my project was, Andy Warhol and his paintings called Campbell's Soup Cans and I think that my inspiration does connect to my project as there are from the same mediums and there are also some connections when looking at both works. The biggest challenge I had when making the art was trying to edit the pictures to look the same or have almost the same shades. It was difficult especially for the picture showing the fire as it came out as if there was blue lighting unlike the other ones. This project ties to previously done experiences as I have worked with Photoshop before so I had some idea of what I would try to do and how to do it. My favorite part was taking the pictures and adding different things to the glass cup in order to show the different elements. My least favorite part was editing the pictures through Photoshop as it was difficult and it took a while. I hope others see my project and find it pleasing as the 4 elements are portrayed in one picture.

Inspiration for "The Race"

For my inspiration I used any 3 dimensional or diorama model that has been made. One specific diorama model I looked at was from Lori Nix.

Lori Nix

Lori Nix is an American photographer who is known for taking photographs of her handmade dioramas. She was born in 1969. Although most of her photographs capture disasters, I like the way she has a blurred out background behind each of her artworks and I was planning on doing that as well.

Another thing I like about her handmade dioramas is the way everything connects to the work and the way she implements different materials such as small pebbles or things like that to give it a more realistic approach.

Fast and Furious: Tokyo Drift

Another inspiration was the movie Fast and Furious: Tokyo drift. this movie is one of my favorite movies and my diorama is somewhat based on the scene where two cars are racing down a mountain. These cars were a Nissan 350z and a 1967 ford mustang.



Planning for "The Race"

As I was thinking on what I would be doing I sketched out the way I wanted my model to look like. I wanted to create something like a mountain and two cars racing on it. I got this idea out of one of my favorites movies which is Fast and Furious: Tokyo Drift. I wanted to show the cars drifting and by doing this I would use some cotton and for the plants and stuff for the mountain I would be using recycled materials.



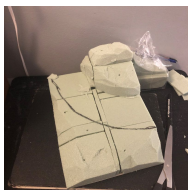
Experimentation for "The Race"

For my experimentation I had done something similar to what I was going for but on a different scale. My first creation of a diorama was much smaller and had less details added to it. I also experimented on how I would be making the pine trees. I had looked up different ways to create pine trees for dioramas but as I tried I felt like I could do them by myself. So I cut out some Christmas ornaments and glued them together. Forming different shapes of pine trees and painting them a darker green to have more of a pine tree look on them.



Process for “The Race”

As I started this work, I looked for different Christmas decorations my family used last year to use as pine trees. At first I was going to create pine trees from scratch by using some wire and thin pieces of rope but that was difficult for me. once I found what I was going to make my pine trees out of I started by doing the base of the mountains. I did this using floral foam blocks and carving into them to make curved sides and different shapes to make it seem more like an actual part of a mountain or hill. After I cut everything out I had to start using glue and newspaper to give the floral foam a stronger feel to it as floral foam tends to break really easily. I did this by wrapping everything in newspaper which was dipped in glue, just like paper mache. As I was letting the paper mache dry I started painting the pine trees a darker shade of green and adding brown for the pine trees trunk Once the paper mache was dry I then started adding different tones of grey for the dirt and black paint for the road. I also went around and looked for a couple rocks to add in the diorama.



as I finished painting the hill, I grabbed some Popsicle sticks and toothpicks to use to create a fence to go somewhere next to the road. I cut and glued the Popsicle sticks and the toothpicks together. Once the fence was dry I added some brown to make the fence look more old trying to implement the way Lori Nix made everything fit into her dioramas without having anything look out of place. Once I was done I arranged everything together in the diorama to see if everything would fit nicely. Once I liked where everything was put I used a hot glue gun to glue everything into the hill. After that I added two cars which then I added some cotton behind then to create the look of them drifting down the hill just like the movie

Reflection for “The Race”

I think I really refined my skills at making a diorama and adding details to my work as this second time doing a diorama looks way better than the first time I created one. I developed my skills as an artist as I looked for different ways to create things for my art and improvised if something went wrong. My inspiration for my project who was Lori Nix does connect to my work as she also did dioramas and took photographs of her work. This project ties previously learned exercises and concepts as I used different materials and practiced my color blending skills when adding details to the ground of my diorama. My favorite part of this project was adding everything together and seeing how the final outcome looked like. My least favorite part was cutting the floral foam into pieces as little dust of the foam. I hope others see my work and compare this to something from the real world as its a diorama from the real world.



Gallery From Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design



These are a few of the pieces of art and work that were presented at Miad. These were pieces created by students at Miad and they all varied on different things such as clothing, digital art, creating video games and creating things to help in the real world. These works are known as industrial designs. When I was looking at all the different works this also gave me an idea of all the different mediums and methods of art that are available to us. We can create many different things with many different objects such as digital work such as a video game, digital marketing for certain things. All these works use someone's ideas and I overall just enjoyed the time I spent looking at each individual work as everything seemed to be put well together and everything looked neat. Most of the work at this gallery was digital or created using some program.



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