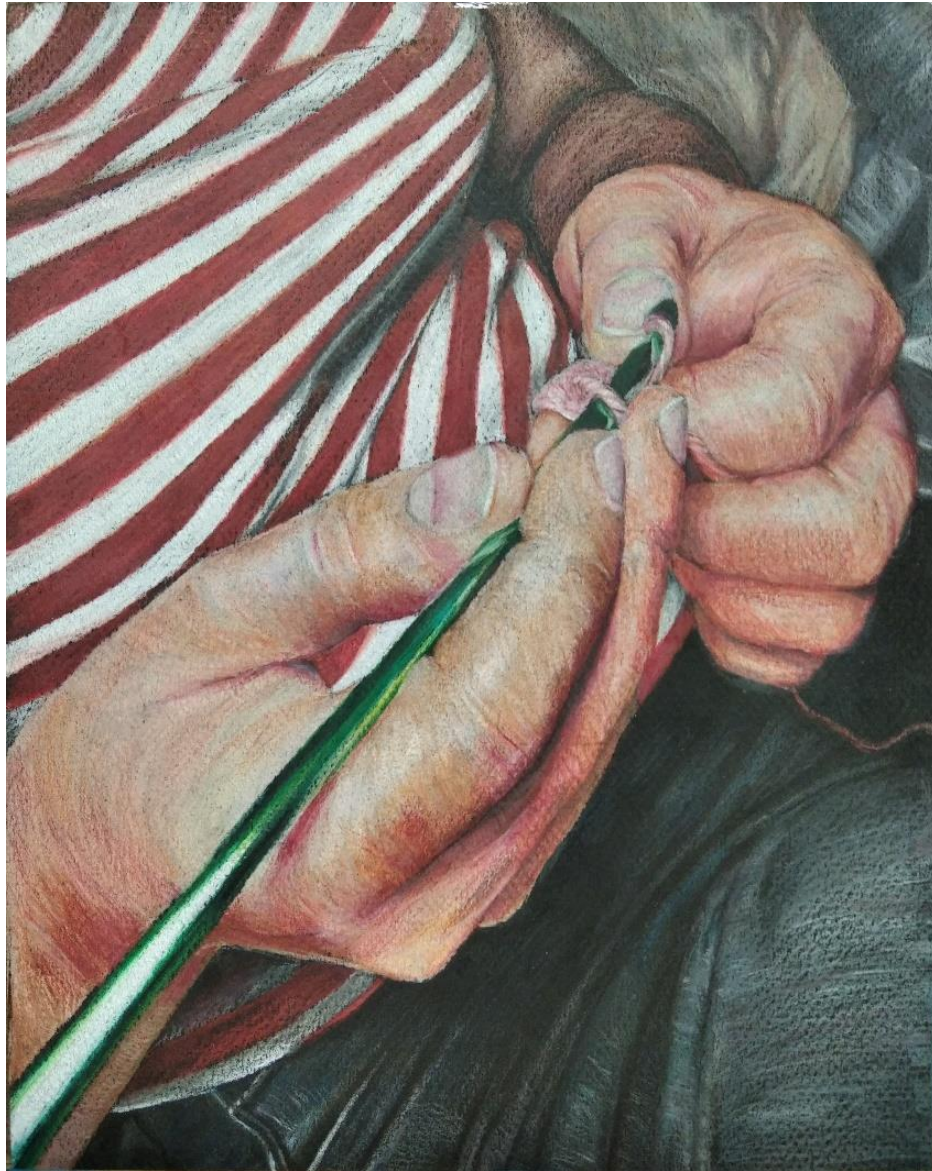




Malina Bhola
The Joker
Ceramics
NFS

My ceramic head, adorned with metal piercings and painted in clown makeup, is a comedic and interesting take on personal style, exploration, and society's norms. Through incredibly fun experimentation, I challenge the tight-knit beauty standards of today, and I invite the viewer to find joy in self-expression and identity as a whole. The metal jewelry reflects on using unconventional methods and elements to make someone more comfortable in their own skin, especially when facial jewelry is outcast in plenty of social settings. I myself find self-expression through creative makeup to be one of my favorite things, so incorporating that was important to me. The runny nose reflects on challenging the aesthetics of art itself, pushing the boundaries of "beauty is in the eye of the beholder". This piece is a celebration of individuality, it is evidence that art thrives in creativity and experimentation, and that it is not bound by rules or norms.



Tetiana Bilokon
Crocheting Warmth
Drawing
NFS

For the subject of my drawing, I chose my mother's hands in the process of crocheting one of her projects. I really wanted to depict the care and love that she puts into her hobby, as well as the comfortable and familiar atmosphere that it creates. I think color pencils were the best medium choice because of their texture, which always reminded me of the deeper childhood spent drawing by my mother's side while she worked. I focused on portraying the warmth and softness of the hands, so I didn't blend the colors perfectly to make them feel less polished and more "homey".



Mia Clair
Blooms of Spring
Photography
\$200

When I found this beautiful flower in Memorial Park in Downtown Stuart, I knew I had to take a photo because the lighting was just right. Through this photo, I wanted to capture the natural beauty of Florida's flowers and also add contrast with the bright pink flower and the green leaves, creating the idea that this flower is a hidden gem amongst ordinary plants. I edited the photo to bring out the vibrancy of the plants so that I could better show this concept. This photo inspired me to create more nature photographs to show how beautiful something so simple can be.



Victoria De Koekkoek

Fifteen

Drawing

\$350

The idea behind *Fifteen* was to represent what it's like to be a teenage girl but in a universal manner so that most anyone could relate to it in some sort of way. So I decided to do that by making a few different versions of myself doing different actions. The 5 versions of me all represent different concepts but are also mostly up to interpretation. The version of me sitting on my dresser with my phone is supposed to represent over consumption but could also represent the pressures of social media. The version of me cutting my hair has a direct tie to a social media trend that was going on back in October of 2023 where a lot of girls were saying "hair holds all the memories" and they then cut their fairly long hair into a drastically shorter style. However it could also be interpreted as not being satisfied with your appearance. The version of me reading from a book is supposed to represent the pressures of being a good student but it could also represent not understanding a school subject. The version of me laying on the floor and the version of me thinking are both completely

for the purpose of the viewer developing their own interpretation. For me personally, the version of me laying on the floor is the "I can't do this anymore" feeling and the one of me thinking is supposed to represent that feeling when you feel like you're doing it all wrong so you're just watching all of your actions from an outsider perspective. However those ones I both left for the viewer to develop their own interpretation because I think that everyone has some sort of way they can relate to that pose and it might vary from person to person. Like laying on the floor might be crying or the feeling of having come home from a tiring day. As for the one of me thinking, for one person they might relate to it as in like planning out their day with their morning coffee or they might relate to it as just plain thinking. I left both of those up to interpretation because I wanted people to look at it and really try to think of what my art means to them. I also decided to cut off the sides of the project but leave myself in it because I wanted to represent the feeling of not being able to fit into your environment and I achieved that by literally making the version of me laying on the floor and the version of me on my phone not fit in the piece. Also, even though this piece was about what it's like to be a teen girl, it was also very much about myself which is why I used my favorite medium, colored pencils, and why I used mostly my favorite color, blue, while I was drawing myself. Me as an artist: I have been making art probably for as long as I have been breathing.

My maturity and how I have grown up show best through my artwork. From a crayon elephant with a Hello Kitty bow from before I even started school, to the Prisma colored pencil piece I am presenting called Fifteen, I have always managed to find a way to express myself through art. Most of my art is composed of portraits and nature. I especially love drawing portraits because it's a way for me to express my gratitude for the people in my life. However, more recently I have been trying to express emotions using art instead of drawing straight from a reference photo, and this piece was me practicing that. After high school I plan on going to art school and becoming an illustrator, a full time artist, or an art educator.



Kira Eason
Off To Class
Ceramics
\$NFS

For the bust I used a reference photo of my friend going to dance class. The bust in general had a technique of getting glubs of clay and putting it together. I have never done a bust before, so everything was done by winging it. One thing I love about art is that you can wing it and see where it takes you. This bust shows the mixed emotions of going to dance class. It's like going somewhere you love, but something stops you from wanting to go. The face can show many things through one simple expression. That's why art is so interesting it can show expression through many different things. It lets people think about what was created.



Kennedy G.
Little Flowers Little Thoughts
Photography
\$200

Beauty can be found in some of the simplest places, you just have to look. For example, to some people flowers are just flowers nothing more nothing less. But to others, flowers are poems folded into something intricate and beautiful. The piece I have created is about all the little details that can be discovered in black and white photos. With just a simple glance of my photo, you will see a 15-year-old girl laying on her stomach looking straight at the camera. However, if you take a closer look to analyze the photo you will discover so much more. You can find the details in her hair, skin, eyes, eye lashes, eyebrows, lips, sweater, and even the grass, flowers, and even the pine needles. Even with all the little details that would seem to crowd the focus of my photo, the different shades of gray, white, and black make my model, and friend, stand out among the grass and flowers.



Elizabyth Green
Fountain of Emotions
Photography
\$280

This photo originally started as an assignment to recreate pictures from famous Photographers. I chose Mary Ellen Mark and being completely honest I had no idea who she was or what she even did when starting that project. It required research into her life and her photos and I learned she believed black and white photos created a more abstract and emotional tone. When going out and taking these pictures I didn't think of anything other than just shooting in black and white but after a while the model (my younger sister) started posing in a more closed-off fashion and I realized I

wanted to go deeper into that, I wanted to create emotion. When editing the photo I sat there for a while looking at the photo and I felt something. My model is 8, that was around the time I realized that the constant "darkness or pain" I was feeling at that time wasn't necessarily normal for everyone but instead childhood depression or mental illness. When speaking out about it I was told that I was being dramatic and seeking attention, I was conditioned into thinking what I was feeling was unimportant and wasn't allowed. I thought ignoring it would solve the problem but realistically it made it worse. If you let the drain drip for too long it will turn into a flood, and it did. I want this photo to pay tribute to mental illness, and no matter how young or old you are your feelings are valid.



Taylor Hall
Mother Nature
Photography
\$285

Today's society constantly undervalues women. Although women are beautiful creatures, is this the only thing society sees us fit for? Mother Nature is a widespread stereotype that portrays women as delicately, beautiful blossoms that nurture the earth and the people within it. Through this photograph I want to dispel the common misconception that women can't be graceful and assertive. Women that possess intelligence can't also be gorgeous? Women that strive for something on their own are simply too much? Women are courageous, resilient, invincible, and fierce. Let us approach Mother Nature in that manner going forward.



Jamora Johnson
Neptune
Ceramics
\$250

This art piece represents a person who isn't afraid to express themselves. I made this piece to represent people that have experienced all aspects of life but their colors remain bright. I want to showcase the reality of people going through life's harder moments but not allowing those moments to define them. We all have the ability to shape ourselves, self-expression is never a bad thing, and change can be embraced. The different saturations of blue show depth and play on emotion: blue is usually linked to sadness whereas brightness can be representative of peace and tranquility. I wanted the face itself to be representative of someone who has had an inflexible way of life but managed to break through.



Chloe K.
Blooming
Ceramics
\$300

This piece representing beauty in a murky place, was created to cultivate the idea that something coming from a bleak position can still exude simplistic elegance. This form was thrown in two pieces and carefully connected at the base of the neck. Meticulously trimmed to create a modern shape inspired by traditional Grecian and Chinese pottery. I will be continuing my ceramics investigation as I embark on my BFA at Alfred University in the fall.



Sydney Launay
Sisters
Photography
\$300

This work, *Sisters*, is meant to represent the relationship between two girls who consider each other best friends. I created this piece to show a glimpse into what a bond between two girls looks like. For example, the time spent together in silence just getting ready and enjoying the presence of each other. This photo is a depiction of two girls touching up their makeup before getting out of the car and going out. The moment is small, and it might not seem significant, however these seemingly small and insignificant moments make up so much of the time girls spend together.

This photograph is a picture of myself and someone who I'd considered my best friend at the time the photo was taken. Although things have changed, I still look back and appreciate this friendship, as having a bond like ours is a piece of girlhood.



Mei Lee
Ringing In the Dragon
Digital Print
\$200

This piece is in celebration of the Lunar New Year. 2024 is the year of the dragon which symbolizes power and ambition. I wanted my art to depict the dragon's boldness and traditional elements with vibrant warm colors. Digital art is my preferred medium as I can layer multiple elements like the details in the background, lanterns, and dragons to tie together my idea. I want to continue to share my art to inspire others and celebrate Asian culture.



Abigail Leiblein

Sharks

Ceramics

NFS

When looking at this piece I wanted the viewer to feel a sense of cohesiveness in the nautical theme presented with my three shark pieces. I chose this medium to express the fluidity of the sharks and to create three harmonious pieces that have everyday uses. For this project we were directed to create three utilitarian items that all follow the same theme. I sketched out my ideas and came up with a shark mouth bowl, a serving board with a shark swimming on it (a Shark-cutterry board), and a mug with a shark as the handle. When coming up with ideas for these pieces I asked myself what interests me and how I could convey them in this clay medium following the guideline of this project. I found the answer to these questions in my fascination for sharks and the utilitarian aspects of objects such as serving plates, bowls, and mugs.

Discovering how I could incorporate my love for sharks in these designs to create the pieces presented. I further experimented with these pieces by incorporating a nautical or sea theme to the underglaze, to further convey this underwater idea.



Alayna Long
Nature Undisturbed
Painting
NFS

A tranquil mountainscape, devoid of planes, boats, and people, just sheep being sheep surrounded by God's creation. I started this painting with the full intention to depict nature in its most purest form, and while it still depicts that to me it also communicates a lot on life itself. Life and connecting with other people lives in the modern day have been increasingly getting more complex when it truly shouldn't. Sheep together grazing on the mountain and enjoying such simple parts of their life like eating together to form a bond. And while in modern life these occurrences of sharing peaceful moments such as eating meals together, or even just relaxing together can easily be overlooked when there's so much to do in life. However when a loved one's life cycle has ended it's often times these moments of making each other laugh over simple things that will be remembered of you loved ones when you can no longer create any more memories together. And remembering these moments of those who you have loved can also evoke peace and tranquility in your life, just as God's creations do in this painting.



Jaime Lopes
Statue of the Wild
Photography
\$350

As a kid, I loved the great outdoors, specifically wild animals. Now through my photography, I use my love for the environment to showcase the beauty and intricacies of the natural world. I recently had the opportunity to go on a Safari tour in the Serengeti. I used black and white to highlight the contrast between the water buffalo and its environment. The branches also form a natural frame around the buffalo, focusing the viewer's attention. I use photography to frame the world how I see it, sharing my appreciation for the life around me.



Ryan McGeehan
Exit the Dragon
Photography
\$290

Photography is everything to me. It allows me to articulate stories through my photos, which has always been my main goal. This particular photo tells the story of a man who is trying to leave his past life as a Yakuza behind and is now reflecting on his choices. He is filled with guilt, and the consequences of his actions have hurt the people closest to him. The somber style of this photo reflects these themes of regret, self-degradation, and rumination. This design style is a signature of mine and is instantly recognizable among my peers and mentors. When I take a photo, I want my viewers to not only understand the story but to also feel the emotions that I felt at the time of taking the shot.



Tatiana Montisol

Prevail

Ceramics

\$500

This piece is a reflection to capture beauty in the presence of despair as a woman. I choose this lady to signify beauty while her emotions show sadness and hopelessness. The colors help bring the piece out, the green shows the rotting and despair that's taking over almost as rusting on a statue. The gold shows the beauty that is slowly peeking out of the rust and despair. The shape and movement of the hair shows the peaceful flowing movement and grace. The statue itself represents divine femininity, and how that is challenged in today's society; how women in our social setting are treated, and how unfair it is. But under all of that, we will always prevail.



Ella M.
Insatiable
Drawing
NFS

This piece explores the relationship between teenagers and the over-consumption of media. Situated in a diner, the teen is seen eating a variety of overly-sized foods that are created out of social media features. Using colored pencils to properly capture each small feature, I experimented with attempting to make components of the piece, specifically the burger, look as though actual 3-dimensional papers (the posts) had been laid out. As for the posts themselves, they consisted of meaningless content which was on my actual social media feed, paired with a blank expression to touch on the redundant and unnecessary overabundance of content.



Madison Movchuk

Burn Out

Drawing

\$300

Burn Out is a piece reflective of my own personal experience. As I pushed through my senior year, it became more and more difficult to find a spark of creativity or motivation in general as it was a stressful time. So I sat down, picked up a pencil, and drew out exactly what burn out feels like to me. I chose black paper and white pencil because I knew I wanted the piece to be literal -- a candle burning out, so the white would stand out. So I drew a sequence containing little versions of me, with candle characteristics - like fire and wax - slowly melting away into a puddle. I wanted to show some loss of control as her hands are splayed out in a fearful way, like she's losing composure more and more as she melts. The fire lit on her head symbolizes 'the spark' in which it gets dimmer as time passes showing the loss of motivation or ideas. I loved making this piece because it felt real. It expressed how I truly felt at the time while still having an original twist that made it more alluring to the viewer.



Ella Smith
In this darkness
Photography
\$300

My image intended to bring out not only the solitude, but the beauty of being in the dark. Recently I have been surrounded by a personal darkness, which I have suffered in trying to end. In my image I showcase not only embracing the shadow around me, but also learning from it, eventually finding the light. The lessons acquired have taught me things that I would continue to suffer, if not for these moments. I want those who look at my image to realize that the abyss can swallow any of us; however, when you continue to push through, continue moving forward, continue learning from this weight of living life... you can be at peace even in the forbidding



Kaitlyn S.
Jeep
Painting
\$300

My automotive piece Jeep utilizes a singular medium: acrylic paint, one of the most used and most common mediums amongst artistry. So how was I able to take a seemingly over-used medium and create this piece, you may ask? Well, I found my uniqueness in this medium through adding the smaller details like dirt stains and in adding slight highlights and reflective points – additional to this, I found this uniqueness in bigger areas as well, for example, the types value changes in all areas on the car and the type of shadowing and color-blocking techniques. In this piece specifically, I wanted to portray the beauty of the least thought of part of any car: the back. I made this piece as close to the photo as possible, with the exception of bringing more of the colors to life for your visual pleasure. My interest in automobiles is personified in this piece. I have always been interested in the smaller details of car and seeing how to come together and make a whole vehicle, so making this painting really showcases how even the forgotten part of the car has so many intricate details. Creating this piece with a medium as simple as acrylic paint truly is a very unique thing in the crowded artworld today.



Abigale Stachowski
Choosing Faces
Painting
NFS

Choosing Faces explores the feeling of finding yourself and how you want to present yourself to others, despite what you may feel inside. It is to invoke an uncomfortable and despairing feeling, with the light source and color choice, pushing the idea that you're looking in on a private life, showing the struggles that aren't meant to be on display, hence hiding behind a mask. I like to use acrylic paint and explore a piece's mood through colors, doing many under-paintings before the final layer. The most challenging part of this piece was painting so many faces! I even took a few out



Chloe Tolton
Memento Mori
Photography
\$300

The study of Art History has been a constant fascination of mine, and plays a part in my senior portfolio. Guided by my goal to pay homage to different art movements, *Memento Mori* is my own representation of vanitas still life paintings that were popularized after the renaissance. *Memento Mori* is a latin phrase meaning "remember you must die", and is closely related to the vanitas genre of art. To remind viewers of the inevitability of death, my photo is full of symbols such as a skull and burning candles. In addition to the more obvious symbols, I chose to add a rosary to represent the presence of religion during the 1600s and the half-eaten apple to symbolize temptation and knowledge. The grapes and berries illustrate the idea of lust, while the haphazard placement of the jewelry ties into the theme of the futility of pleasure. As a whole, *Memento Mori* is meant to embody the certainty of death and the worthlessness of worldly goods. I've been able to adapt and have fun with my projects this year because of my never-ending curiosity and eagerness to learn. The research I've conducted over the past months has given me a newfound appreciation for not only art but humankind itself. It's incredibly inspiring to know that art has always been a force that connects us across centuries despite the constant evolution of our global society. With *Memento Mori* and the other works in my portfolio I aim to not only create something beautiful, but also share that sense of appreciation with others.



Brooke Vanderwarn
Alight
Photography
NFS

As a photographer, I am drawn to capturing raw moments in time. This year, I wanted to specifically focus on creating photos that are both aesthetically pleasing to look at and to have meaning behind them. This photo was taken while it was torrentially raining outside. I was photographing my friend when her brother stepped in and wanted to have some photos of him taken. We were experimenting with poses when he found a lighter and held it up while I took photos. The way the raindrops lay on the windscreen gives a feeling of anonymity, while the models watch the lighter burn with a sense of yearning. You can see in the background, my friend peering over his shoulder as he holds the lighter. This image represents finding hope when surrounded by gloom.