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Hyewon (Henie) Cho  
In Kun (Ken) Chun  
Jiwon Hwang  
Gyuri (Lily) Kim

# KIS AP Art

## 2020 - 2021

Hannah Kim

Jun Kim

Nayun (Chloe) Kim

Rachel Kim

Suyeon Kim

Da Yoon (Alyssa) Lee

Maro Lee

Chaewon (Jessica) Lim

Claire Williamson

Halie Won

Eric Youm



# A Message from the Art Teachers:

We are so excited to share the work of our 2020-21 KIS 2D and 3D Advanced Placement Studio Art students. These students have overcome tremendous obstacles over the past year but have faced every challenge with inspiring perseverance and creative problem solving. The work you will see in this book is a product of several years of hard work and a testament to our students' artistic passions.

As always, this year's AP Art students shined with incredible talent and creative drive. The amount of time and effort that went into the work presented in this book is truly prodigious. This book celebrates their hard work and presents a snapshot of the artistic legacy they leave for the Korea International School community.

Each AP Art student explores a Sustained Investigation, which is a large series of work exploring one inquiry throughout the year. Focusing in on one cohesive body of work helps these young artists to hone their artistic voice and refine their vision.

It is always such a joy to see the AP students develop their portfolios over the course of the year-to watch their ideas take form, develop, and grow is to watch the formation and flourishing of their artistic journeys. You will find that each of our students have explored highly varied topics in ways entirely unique to them. It is poignant to bid farewell to this fantastic group of students as they move on from the art program, and we hope that they continue to create art throughout their lives.

Many thanks to Mr. Daniel Kilback for once again designing this book and to the administrators of KIS for making the book project a possibility. Most of all, thank you to our students for their dedication to art over the past few years. It has been wonderful to work with you.

-Ms. Hannah Cone and Mr. Spencer Selbo







Jung Woo (Chloe)  
Ahn



Many elderlies in today's society, which is explained through the phenomenon of Kodokushi, are being abandoned and neglected by their own children, relatives and the society as a whole because they are often viewed as "useless." The magnifying concept of age in my arts rooted from this concern. Our society's tendency to degrade one's life according to their age, labeling them as "outdated" and "useless," exposes the negligence of traditional values and toxic conformity to modern trends. This abandonment of aged beauty, and disrespect of historical values are also revealed in the treatment towards Nacre wardrobes. Nacre wardrobes, despite the extensive consumption of time, effort, and its artistry, are neglected, thrown away in streets and criticized by the obsolete mother-of-pearl designs. Just like an elderly's life, it once had its most youthful, luminous days, but by society's perceptions and denunciation, lost hope and had to endure the impression of worthlessness. Criticizing this societal bias towards age, I desired to depict that one's worth does not diminish with age. My art is

about providing substantive solutions, digging deeper into an issue that affects many, and aiming ways to remedy such emotions and destructions, which is taking a step further than merely depicting a visual concept. My AP portfolio as a whole shows development in this thinking process, proposing intriguing symbolisms and insights into the broad concept of "family," and grouping them into three general categories of "connections, disconnection and consolation."



Hyewon (Henie)  
Cho

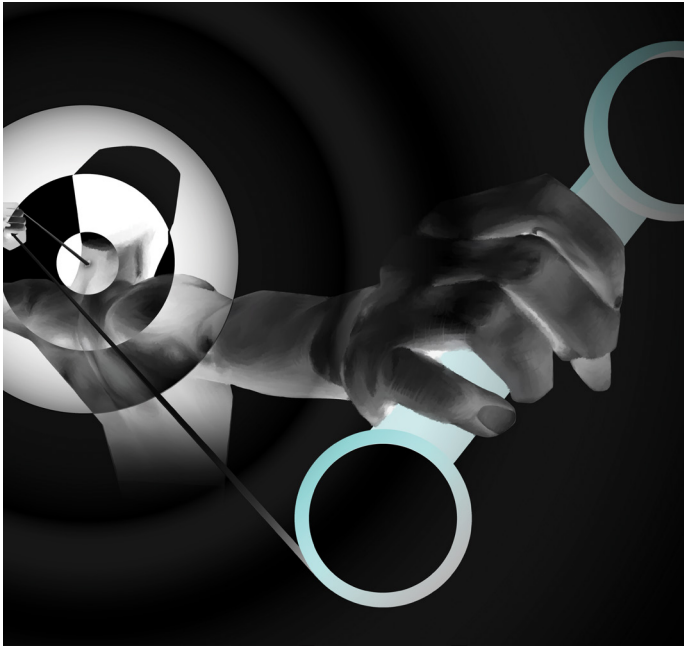
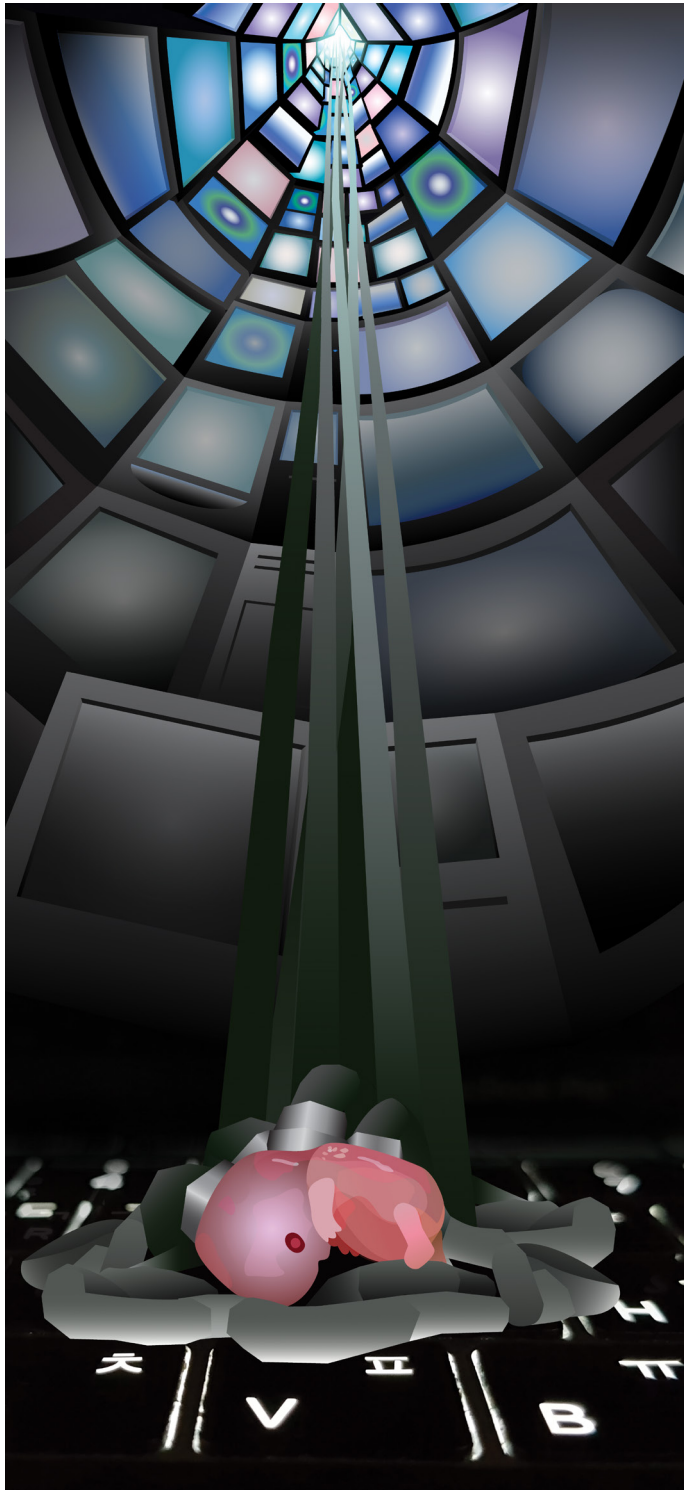
Living in a country that prioritizes and values academic performances, I had a hard time convincing myself that what I do— making art— is valuable. Whenever adults asked me, "What do you want to do when you grow up?", I would automatically answer, "Art", ever since I was little. The replies to my answer were oftentimes invalidating, stating that my passion for art should just be kept as a hobby. I understood, art careers were always viewed as "unsuccessful" especially in Korea, but their discouraging replies over the years did hinder my certainty about art. By the time I reached 10th grade, I wasn't even sure if it was right for me to continue art. I doubted my artistic abilities and often compared myself to other artists. However, something in me never allowed myself to give up on art and through taking AP studio art, I was able to become certain about my passion. The course has really allowed me to explore and redefine my artistic abilities. I'm glad that I did not give up on art because it encompasses such a big portion of my identity. Though I still have room for improvement, I am now certain about my artistic abilities and I hope to continue exploring my passion for art.



My portfolio focuses on self-improvement, displaying my search for identity and purpose in a narrative format spanning across multiple artworks. During the artmaking process, I paid heed to my own personal flaws and thought of ways to make up for those flaws. Before joining AP Studio, I had usually doodled as a means to express myself and seek acceptance. But having done AP, I now understand who I am more clearly as well as what I need to do to take my life back. Additionally, taking influence from visuals in games and films, I was able to see my own artistic style gradually emerge and evolve from piece to piece. I perceive a future in which I employ my visual storytelling skills to create interactive art in the form of video games.



In Kun (Ken)  
Chun



Jiwon  
Hwang



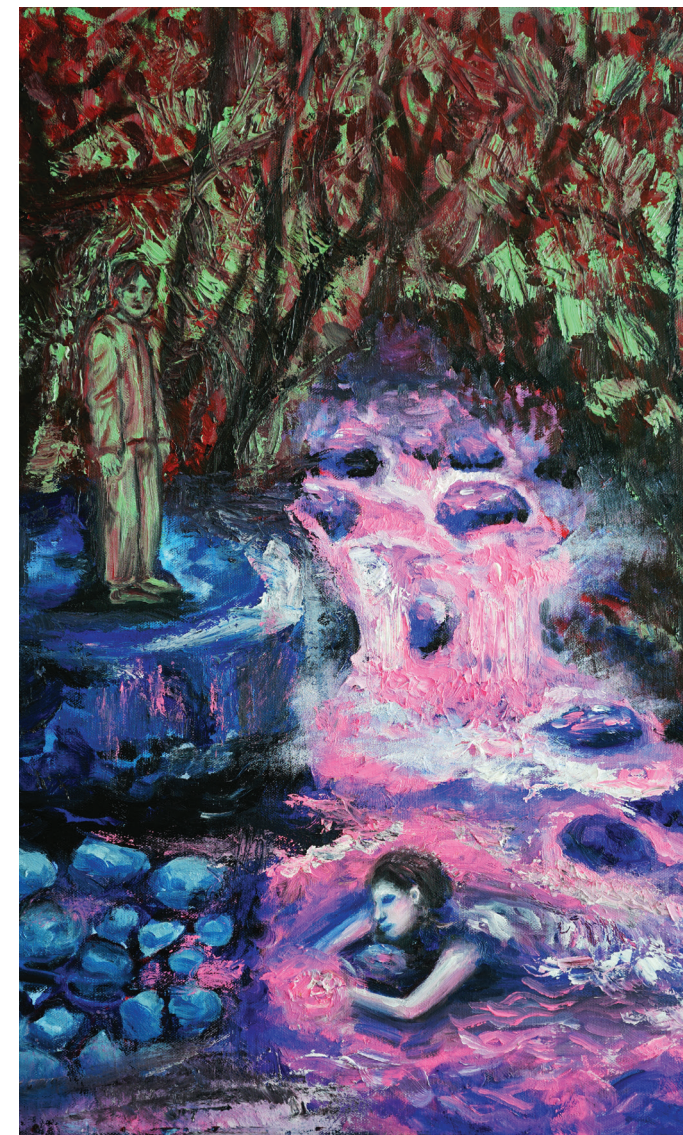
I've been taking art classes since sophomore year and I've learned a lot of skills and techniques. Not only the skills but also some vocabulary related to art, the names of the materials, and other small things were what I learned. Most things were new to me so I could learn something in a wide range. The Sustained Investigation was really challenging for me. Since I usually work on one piece for a long period, it was difficult for me to create a piece in a shorter amount of time. However, I learned how to prepare the artwork quickly and throughout the process, I experienced many different media and gained art skills. My SI is about How do dreams reflect reality? and I wanted to make something that came out from my dreams and explore how my real life looked like while having weird dreams. Because my dreams were usually about water, I mostly used blue tone colors, connecting the pieces together. In the future, I will be focusing on design but I would like to continue practicing drawing and painting. With that, I can build up my basic drawing skills and it can help my design. Even though I may not be a professional artist, I will continue improving artistically.





Gyuri (Lily)  
Kim

I have been doing art since elementary school. Throughout the years, I found what I was interested in: digital art and storytelling. For this year, I included storytelling and emotions throughout my sustained investigation: denial and deprivation. I wanted to explore how denial and deprivation exists in our lives through flower language. I chose flowers mostly because I wanted to get better at observation drawing. As I worked with this topic, however, I realized that I just wanted to focus specifically on me. The second sustained investigation piece, which was about denial or the inability to forgive oneself, is what I'm most proud of because I feel like the composition and blue color scheme works out fairly well. However, the eighth piece was what I enjoyed doing the most because I got to make silly faces for my reference photos. It was also less pressuring to precisely paint the faces below the green water. Overall, I just feel like I've gotten better at observation drawing and composition. All I wish in the future is to keep drawing and improving.



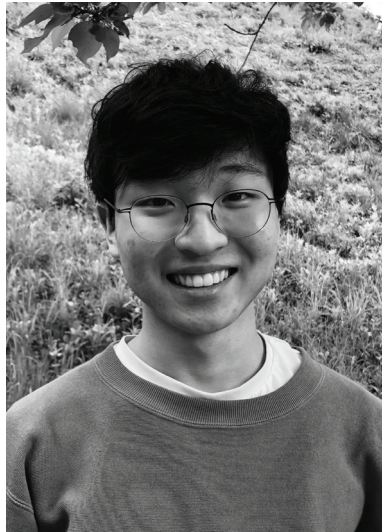
Ever since I was a little child, I was surrounded by a world full of art - my parents would always encourage me to step out of my comfort zone and walk new paths, creating unique styles. This enthusiasm was not met by others, however. People would try to discourage both myself and my family from making art; their concern stems from the idea that 'art is a scapegoat for academically failing students.' I completely disagree with this for many reasons. Art is an expressive and intricate language altogether, each stroke conveying various emotions and waves of meanings that touch the heart of the audience. Art is one of those subjects which challenge both the artist and the audience to explore a new world, an abstract and realistic one, from different perspectives. This made me think of my Sustained Investigation topic, which was how people cope with the inevitability of death. Every person has their perception towards life and death, and it was interesting how the same situation could be approached differently depending on the person. With this in mind, I discovered many universal themes and personal stories to create my AP art portfolio. Just like how people see everything in their way, there is also no right or wrong when it comes to creating art, and I hope that my art will continue this artistic revolution of emotion.



Hannah  
Kim



Art has limitless boundaries that entices me into spending hours and often days on a single project. The idea that the art can go beyond the boundaries of a canvas and even accumulate on the canvas depending on the medium intrigues me. I believe we, highschoolers, often experience an overwhelming amount of pressure and constant worries. It has come to a point where being a child is no longer simply “being a child”. However, when picking up a pencil, there is a sensation of relief, releasing the unnecessary thoughts I had in mind and the tension I carried in my shoulders. In the moment, I draw what comes into mind, whether the idea was influenced by an event that day, something seen in social media, or an experience from travel. In addition to the feeling of letting go of some of the burden I have felt that day, there is a relief knowing that a blank page represents no rules, and I am free to do whatever I wish with this blank page. When settling the tip of the pencil on the paper, as the bits of particles of graphite push against the surface, there is a sensational sound that sets off as I bring my imagination to life on a blank page, and this sound soothes my mind from every distraction that it was caught in. As lines and curves are drawn, my ideas set flight and forms into shape. As I sketch, the page gets messy, the blank page is now filled with lines, shapes, indents, and erased marks that hold memory and feeling by me. The comfort I feel with art has not only always brought me back to the blank pages in my sketchbook, but also motivates me to make a passion into a career.



Jun  
Kim



As I look at the world from a perspective of an artist, I believe that life isn't just about studying and getting into colleges. My Sustained Investigation pieces represent moments of the past, present, and my future goals. They are emotionally based on my opinions of the current conflicts against myself and the society. The outcome that I hope to achieve from this is a responsible, self loving, and selfless identity. All of my pieces create a storyline and show the conflicting and happy moments, and how they all benefit/contrast each other. I show this through the variety or monochrome colors I feel that they sync well with the emotions attached to the situation. My theme mostly revolves around my personal life experiences, however I believe that the audience will still be able to understand and sympathize with the emotions contained in each piece.



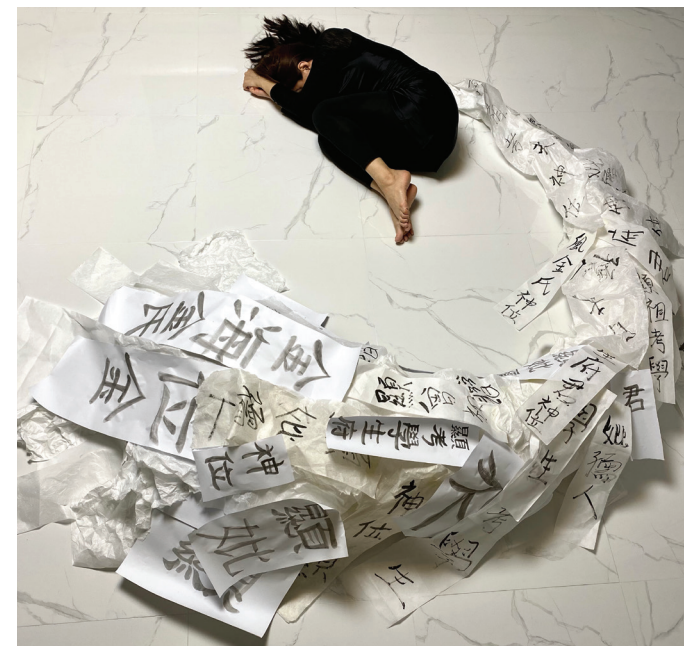
Nayun (Chloe)  
Kim





Rachel  
Kim

**A**lways having an interest in art history, artistic movements influenced and informed my creative process. My starting point originates from reference photos and stylistic influences I discovered in art history books. Many of my pieces have been inspired by movements such as Fauvism and Surrealism. These movements fascinate me because of their ability to change a subject to look different from its original state. My portfolio focuses mostly on depicting common toys, people, sceneries, and pets that represent nostalgia and childhood to show how these common experiences influenced my identity. Recurring motifs are often employed. I chose mundane subjects and events most people have seen, had, or experienced throughout their childhoods.



**T**he past three years have been a meaningful period of exploration and experience for me. The 2D and 3D art classes provided me with opportunities to broaden my artistic skills and deepen my layer of thinking. With a series of projects and the teachers' guidance that constantly pushed me out of my boundaries, I was able to explore areas that personally resonated with me. I was able to express my fear, doubt, and thoughts in my works, through the process of which I further reflected on who I was—I think art helped me define myself. As I move onto my final year of art-making, I continue to be captivated by art's limitless capacity to inspire people—now it has become something more than a mere hobby, something I want to keep pursuing after high school.



Suyeon  
Kim



Deciding to take art out of pure curiosity as a freshman has led me to continue into the AP level of 3D Art this year. AP Art to me does not only signify my advancement as an artist, but also as a thinker, student, and as a person. I'm continuously pushed to step outside my boundaries, turning to directions and paths I would've never reached otherwise. This is the pattern that motivates me to take bold steps in brainstorming ideas and constructing. It grooms me into an explorative individual, curious yet fearless of taking risks and sharing her ideas with people around her. Through the research projects, sustained investigation projects, and other guiding projects, I was given the opportunity to pursue the things I love and care about. I took this chance to practice coming up with innovative solutions to my ideas while at the same time experience the nourishment of creating visually appealing work. AP art taught me how something that once stemmed out of curiosity can turn into something so meaningful that I could rely on it forever.



Da Yoon (Alyssa)  
Lee



Art has been a unique experience to me, something that is sometimes familiar and not. I've taken several art classes in KIS and I can guarantee that the diverse experience I had, each broadened my view on art. The first method I used to embark on this path was through a simple pencil and paper. Through the guidance of several teachers in KIS, I was further able to hone my skills and reach a certain state I am satisfied to be in. As my skills further developed, I was able to convey more meaning and emotions into my pieces. Art really has been a special experience for me which helped me grow up to what I am today. As graduation closes in closing a chapter of my life, art will stay a part of my life now and in the future.



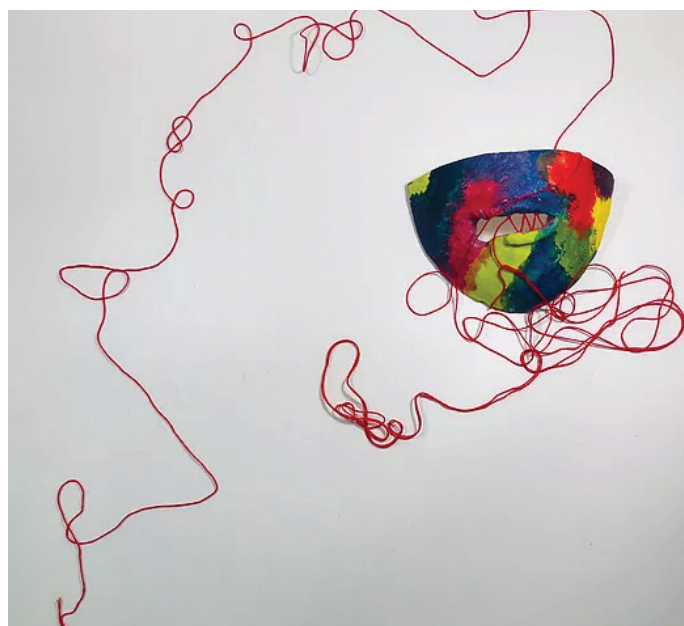
Maro  
Lee



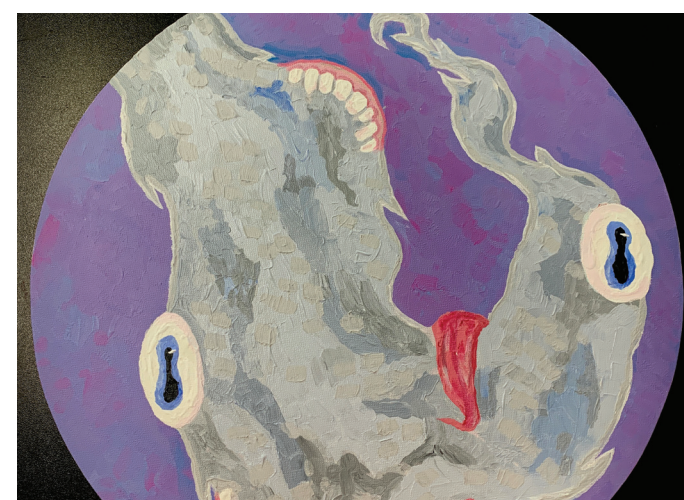


Chaewon (Jessica)  
Lim

Art can be communicated through many methods. I personally like portraying art through photography. It is impossible to define art or give it a specific definition because it truly depends on how the artist wants to describe it. To me, photography is my art. It is so fascinating to me because you're seeing a 3D sculpture through 2D. I like how I can have access to both kinds of art, and that I can use a 3D source to capture my art and display it in a 2D form. I don't think 3D art is just about making things or creating sculptures. I think it's really about going over the limits of 2D art and exploring the world of tangible things, of sculptures with form and materials of all kinds. If I had to describe 3D art in one word, it would be "unlimited". You can create anything, with anything, and display it in any way you want. Photography allowed me to see my art in many different ways. Sometimes I had to bend down or climb something to get the right angle, and sometimes I had to zoom in super close or take a photo from far away to find the proper perspective. It was challenging but a challenge never hurts, and most of the time, they're needed. Art is anything you want it to be. Use that to explore the world of 3D art.



My interest in art has been lifelong but only at KIS has it truly flourished, I am incredibly proud of all the work that I've done but I am particularly proud of my most recent pieces and the development of my artistic style. I had previously felt confined in the ways of my old teachings, as it was very restrictive towards realism, but now I am able to paint what I like instead of what someone else thinks I should paint. I will definitely miss the freedom art has given me and the time that it has allowed me to devote to creating art, as without deadlines I am very bad at creating art. Mental illness is an issue that I also really wanted to incorporate into my art as a lot of people suffer from it and I was very thankful to be able to express that through KIS's art program. Even though my work is not super representative of physical mental illness, I really wanted to create something that had that vibe in a way that would make the viewer think about their perceptions of mental illness and how to address those who have mental illness. I hope to create a more positive response to mental illness, like a broken leg it can be fixed. I am an incredibly different student than how I was just a few months ago and that growth has impacted not just my art but also my personality as a whole, I wouldn't get rid of this growth for anything in the world. I'm really proud of myself and the work I have created and I'm also proud of the values that have been instilled upon me through the work I've done.



Claire  
Williamson





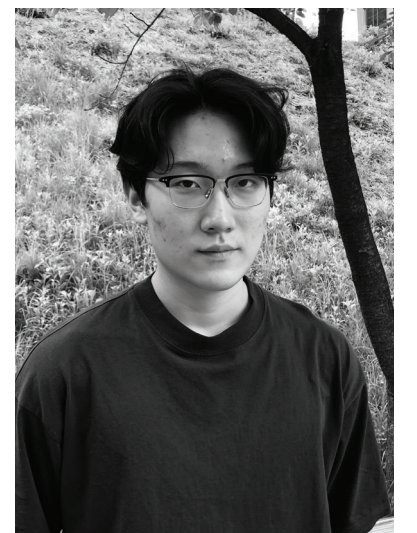
As an elementary art student at KIS, entering the high school art room was simply a dream. From a short glimpse of the art room during a tour, I realized that there was so much more freedom in art while I was limited to colored pencils, crayons, and watercolor palettes. And now, here I am, accomplishing the near end of high school with an AP 2D art class with over 30 completed works, including my 3D and at-home artworks. I never thought that art would be such an important factor in my life that communicates my identity. As much as I prioritized art in my life, I also prioritized materials in my pieces. I believed that materials communicated so much more meaning through my personal interaction with them, and the way they synthesized the content rather than a simple visual representation through a drawing.



Halie  
Won



I think Art can be one of the most difficult subject and the most easiest subject at the same time. The difficult part of art is when you know what to create or build in your mind, but not being able to physically or based on your skill. However, when everything falls into place and your artwork goes the way you intended it, it is can be one of the most straightforward subjects. I think this can differ based on how much effort you put into your artwork also. Apart from that, art classes allows you to think of some topic in a different way. When the sculpture needs to be about yourself, art requires you to bring out everything to define yourself, naturally leading you to closely examine something or someone.



Eric  
Youm



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