

# GADFLY



2022



"MECHA Oni Mask" Digital Art By Hannah Sullenbarger

### GADFLY

Word forms: plural 'gad, flies

1. any of several large flies, as the horsefly, that bite livestock
2. a person who annoys others, esp. by rousing them from complacency

# GADFLY 2022

## *CREATIVE ARTS MAGAZINE OF FATHER RYAN HIGH SCHOOL*

Creative compositions found  
in the Gadfly were contributed by students of  
Father Ryan High School.

The individuals below assisted in publicity, collection,  
photography, arrangement, and editing of many pieces of work.

### Student Gadfly Staff

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Creative Writing Club Liaison: Harry Penne

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Art: John Durand, Ellen Dempsey

Editing: Suzie Barry, Cheryl Edelen

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Front Cover: "Fear of Time" Acrylic By Sophia Emmanuel

Back Cover: "Fear of Being Touched" Charcoal By Sophia Emmanuel



"PANIC!" Markers By Charlotte Butler



"Pseudodysphagia" Charcoal By Sophia Emmanuel



"High Fructose" Digital Art By Charlotte Butler



"Empty Room" Digital Art By Charlotte Butler

## Watermelon Gummies

By Addi Gunderson-Imhof

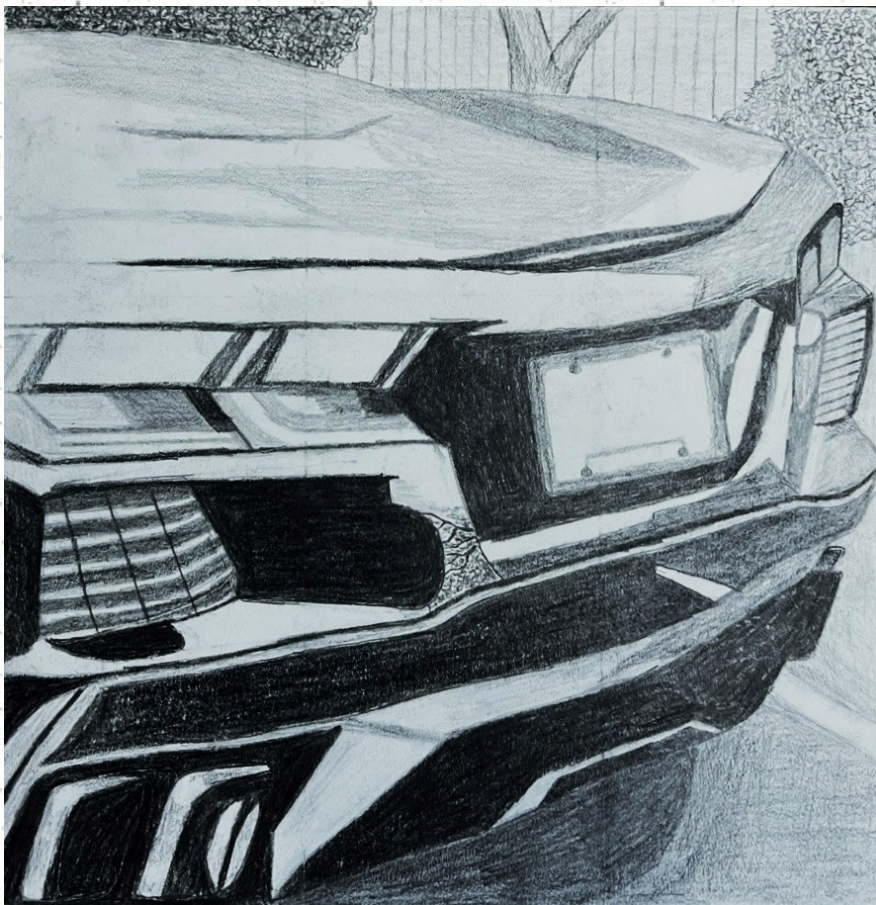
Eighteen-year-old Melony Paige, dead on the floor with her favorite candies next to her. What a sweet death she had. The love of her life had given her those poisoned gummies to finally get rid of her. Melony has no clue that her love could cause someone to want to kill her! She just wanted to get back the love that she gave.

She stands up, having no clue what just happened. Melony puts her hand on her chest but feels something...off. Where her flesh should be is her exposed ribs. Dried blood and maggots covering them.

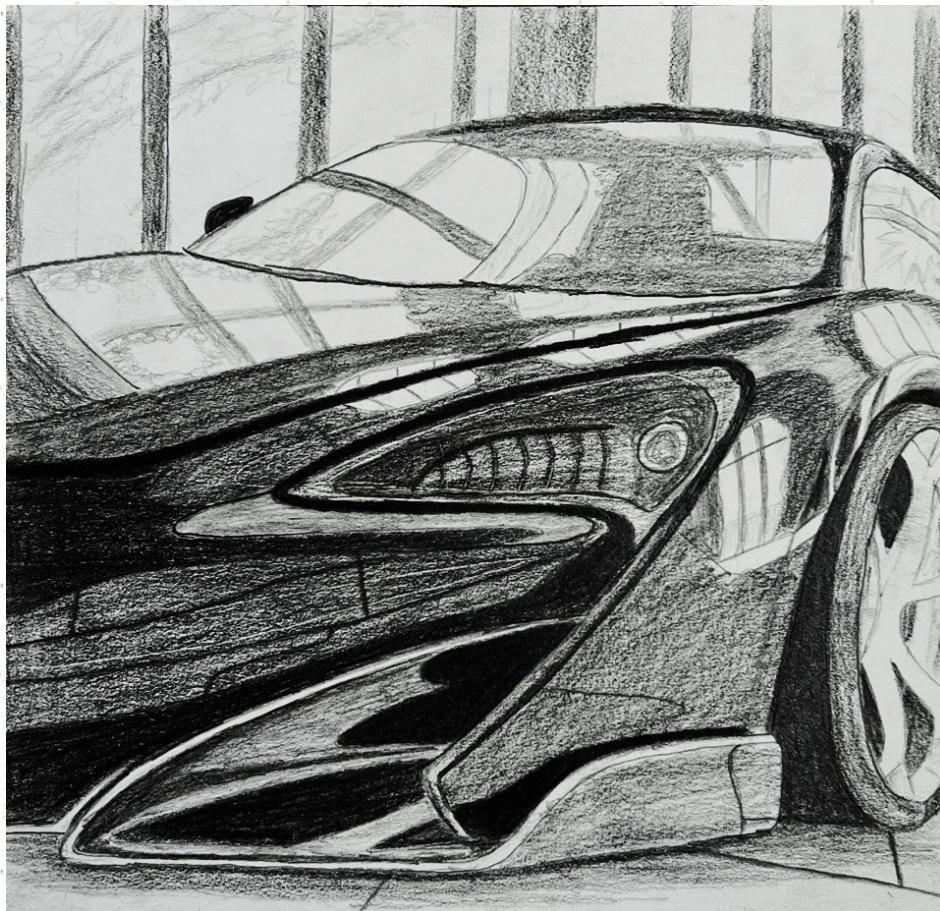
It's five months since Melony died and she's become a rotting, candy coated, bug covered zombie.●



"Choking Sympathy" Colored Pencil By Bree Schrodt

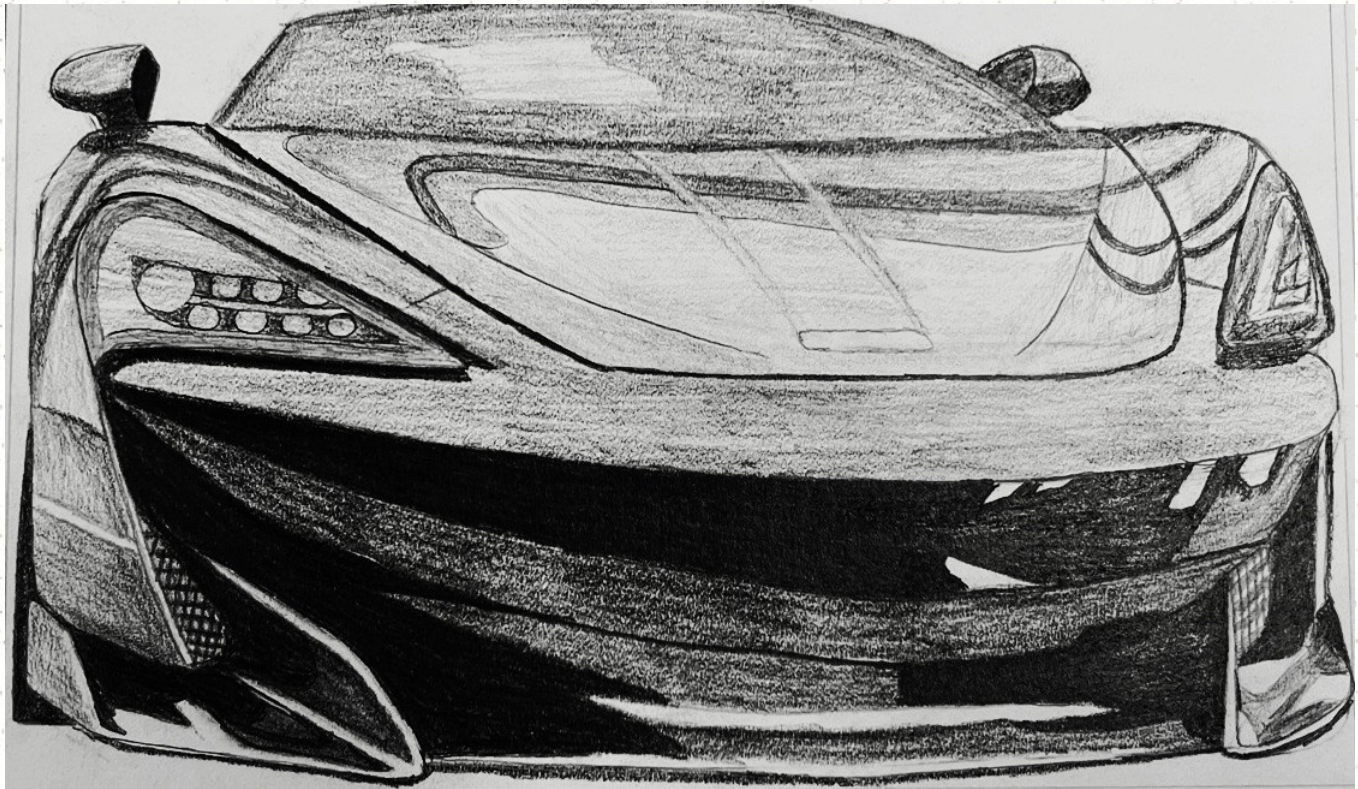


"Stingray" Graphite By David Sloan

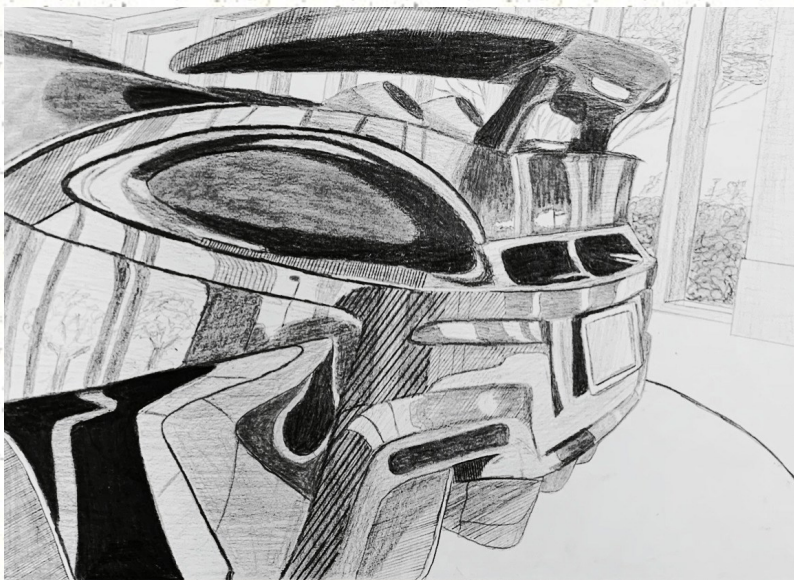


"Front 750" Graphite By David Sloan

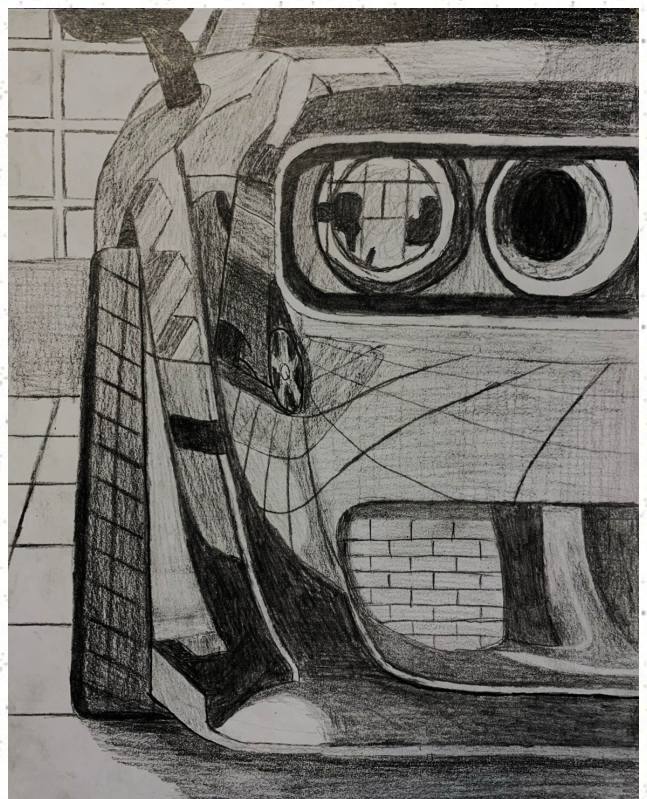
Life  
is  
too  
short  
to  
drive  
boring  
cars!



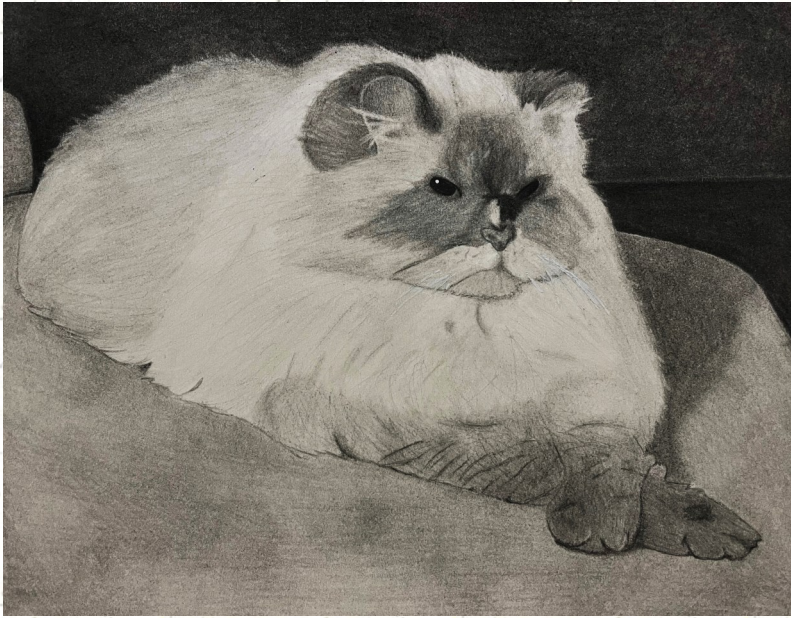
"600 LT" Graphite By David Sloan



"Rear 750" Graphite By David Sloan



"Track Demon" Graphite By David Sloan



"Rassy" Graphite By Lily Philbin



"Where Have all my Friends Gone"  
Photo By Harry Penne



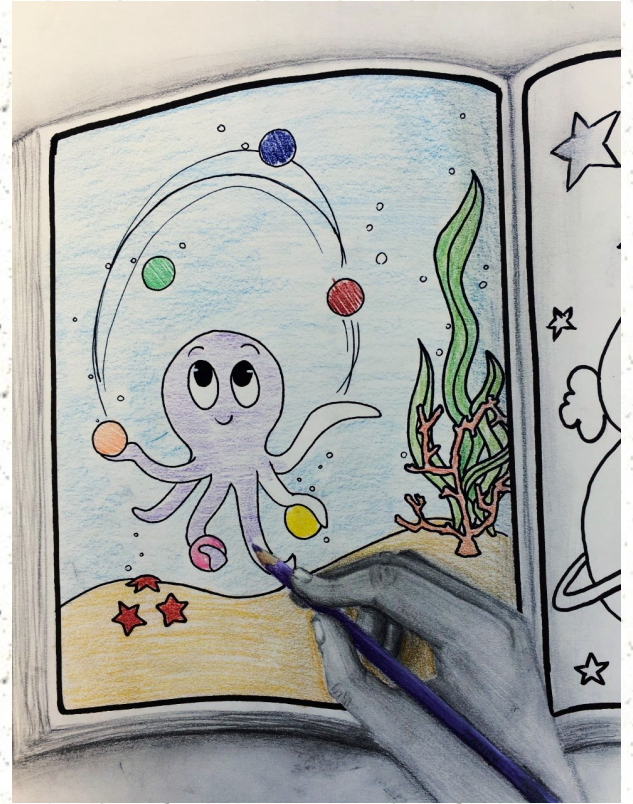
"Tings" Graphite By Lily Philbin



"Cozy" Graphite By Lily Philbin



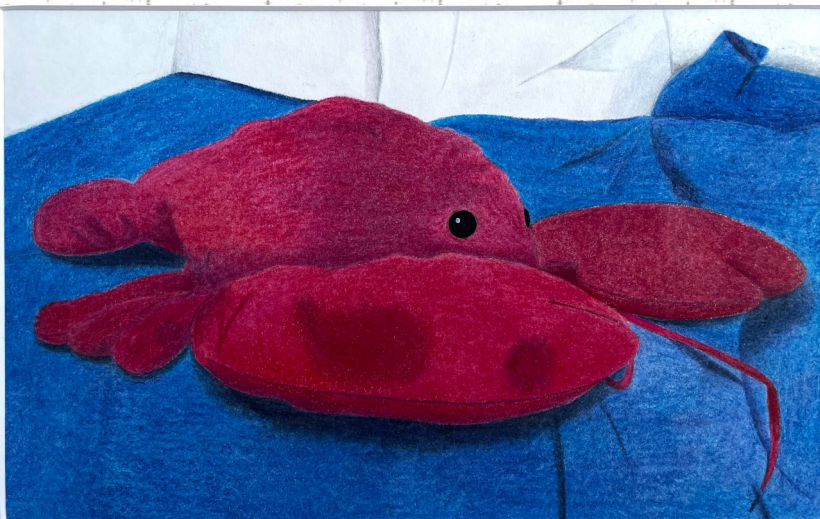
Mixed Media By Delaney Atwell



"Laney" Colored Pencil By Marina Chiames



"Making Friends" Photo By Harry Penne



"Larry the Lobster" Colored Pencil By Lily Philbin



"Soup of the Day" Photo By Harry Penne

# The Land of Shadows

By Kathryn McCormick

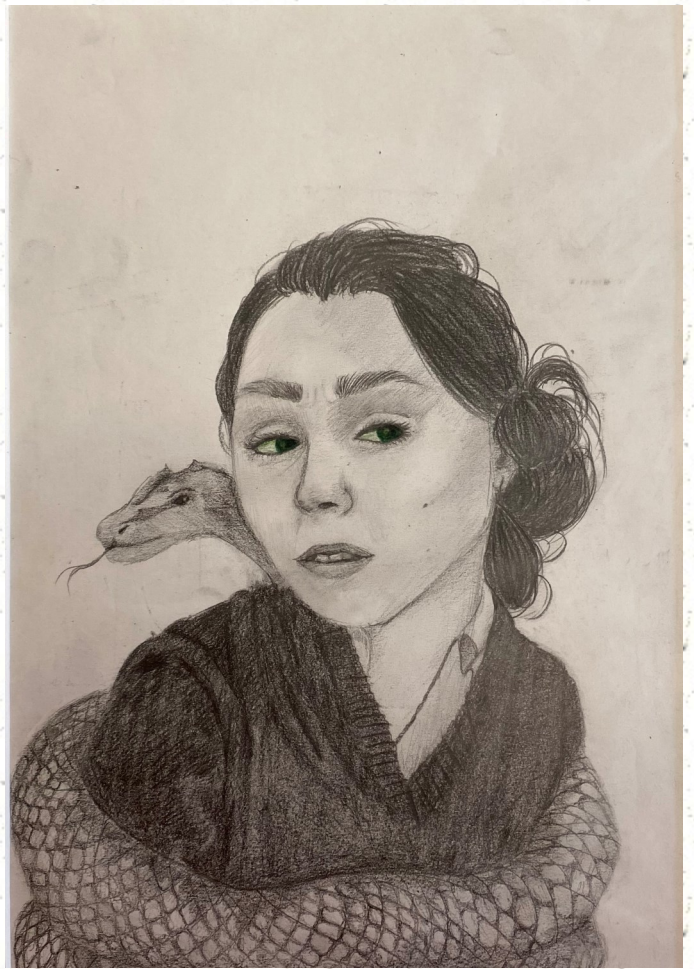
This is the land of shadows  
This is the land of corpses unseen  
A place where no man would choose to go  
A place where the souls within are tainted and unclean

A place where no adventurer should ever go alone  
A place where the trees are dead and frail  
A place where no flower will ever grow  
And a place that sailors have told of in many tails

People who go here almost never return  
But if they do the story is always the same  
"The earth is blackened and charred as if it has all been burned  
As if a creature stood there and lit it all aflame"●



"Justice" Watercolor By Bella Preston



"Envy" Graphite By Bella Preston



"Agoraphobia" Acrylic By Sophia Emmanuel



"Rumors" Watercolor By Bella Preston



"Pride" Graphite By Bella Preston



"Claustrophobia" Acrylic By Sophia Emmanuel



"Bowl of Life" Photo By Ava McClintick



"Gateway to Paradise"  
Photo By Ava McClintick



"Life Through the Eyes of a Snail"  
Photo By Ava McClintick



"Hireath" Photo By Ava McClintick



"Where the Bison Roam" Photo By Ava McClintick



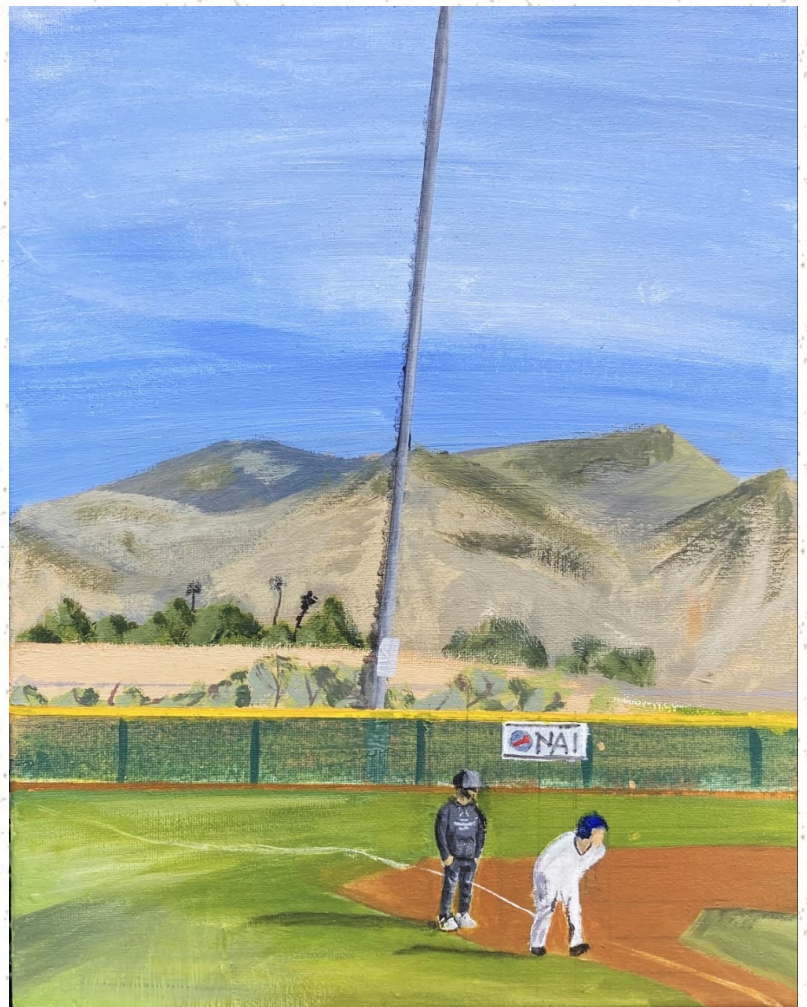
"Abendrot" Photo By Ava McClintick



"A Story Already Written" Graphite By Matt Derrick



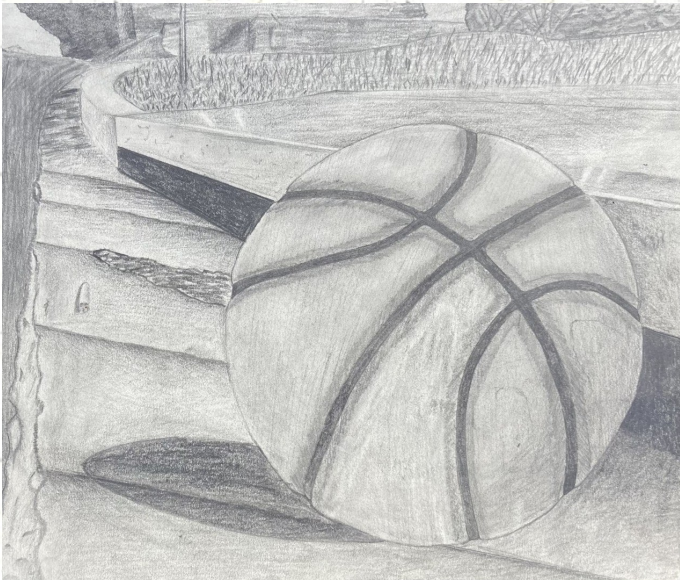
"Tristan" Graphite By Marina Chiames



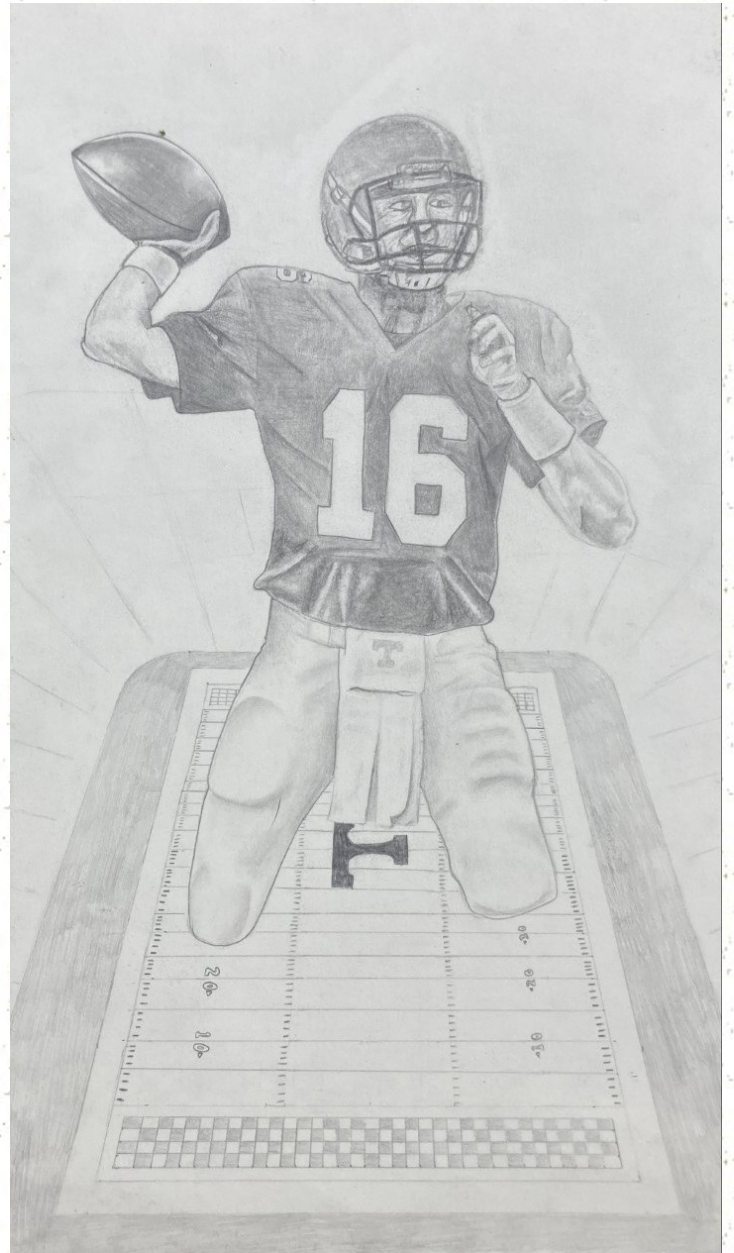
"Arizona Mountains" Acrylic By Matt Derrick



"Let It Fly" Acrylic By Matt Derrick



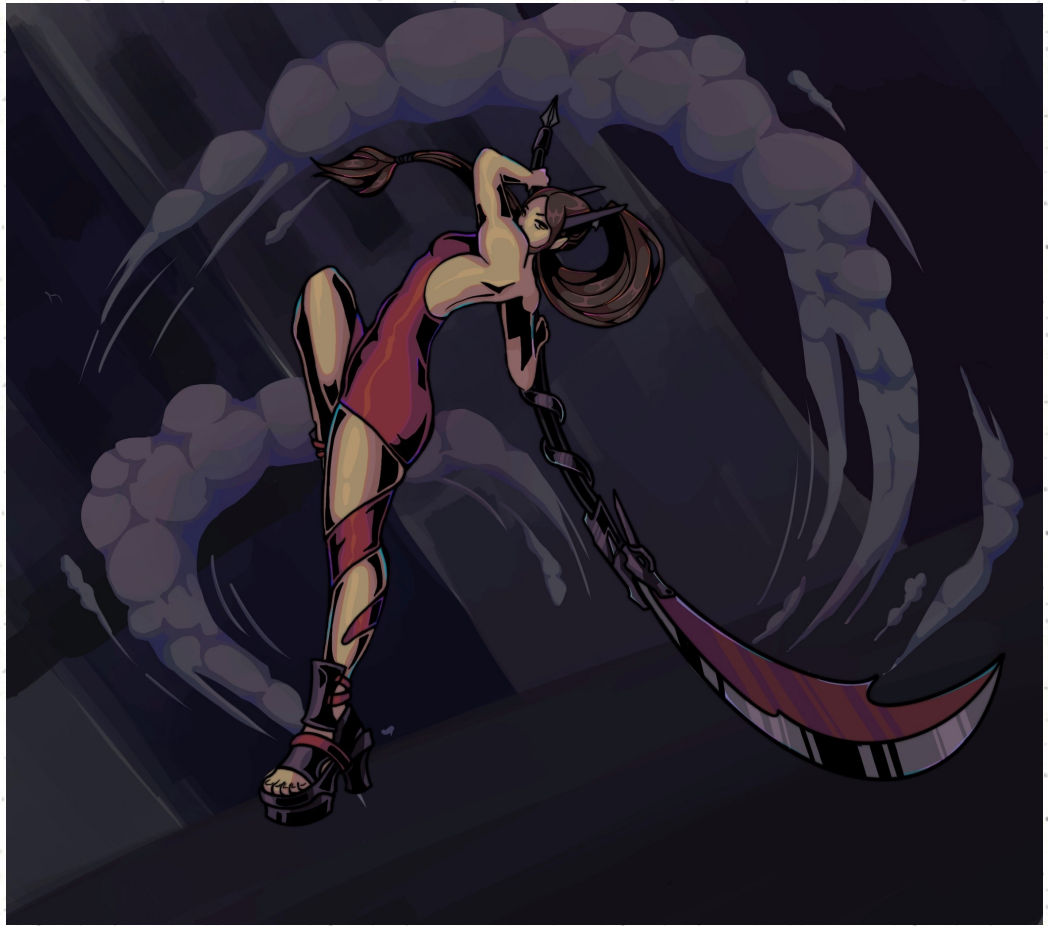
"Late Night Hoops" Graphite By Matt Derrick



"Manning" Graphite By Matt Derrick



"Gamer" Graphite By Matt Derrick



"Dragon Guandao" Digital Art By Hannah Sullenbarger



Digital Art By Hannah Sullenbarger



Digital Art By Hannah Sullenbarger



"Too Frightening to Concern Yourself With JD" Digital Art By Hannah Sullenbarger



Block Printing By Delaney Atwell



Graphite By Delaney Atwell



"Lion and Peacock" Block Printing By Julianne Hopkirk



"Library Doors" Colored Pencil By Julianne Hopkirk



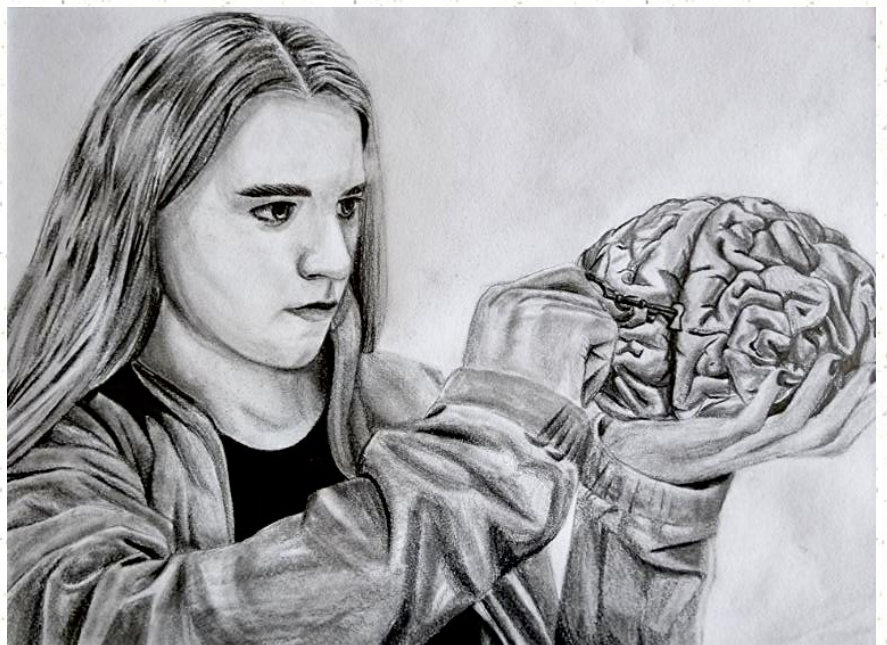
Polymer Clay By Xander Presler



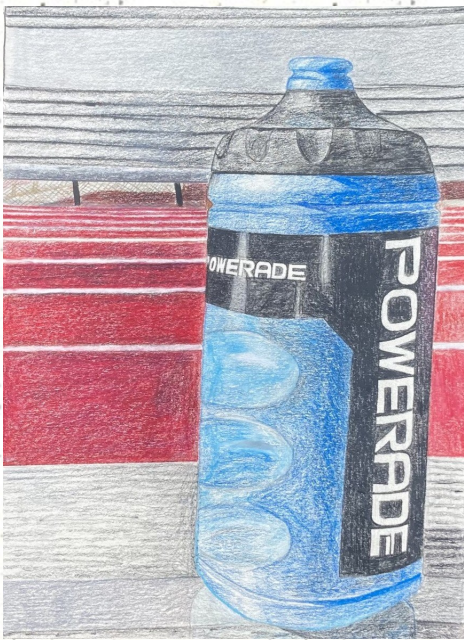
Polymer Clay By Josh Bornot



Ceramic By Dominic Farone



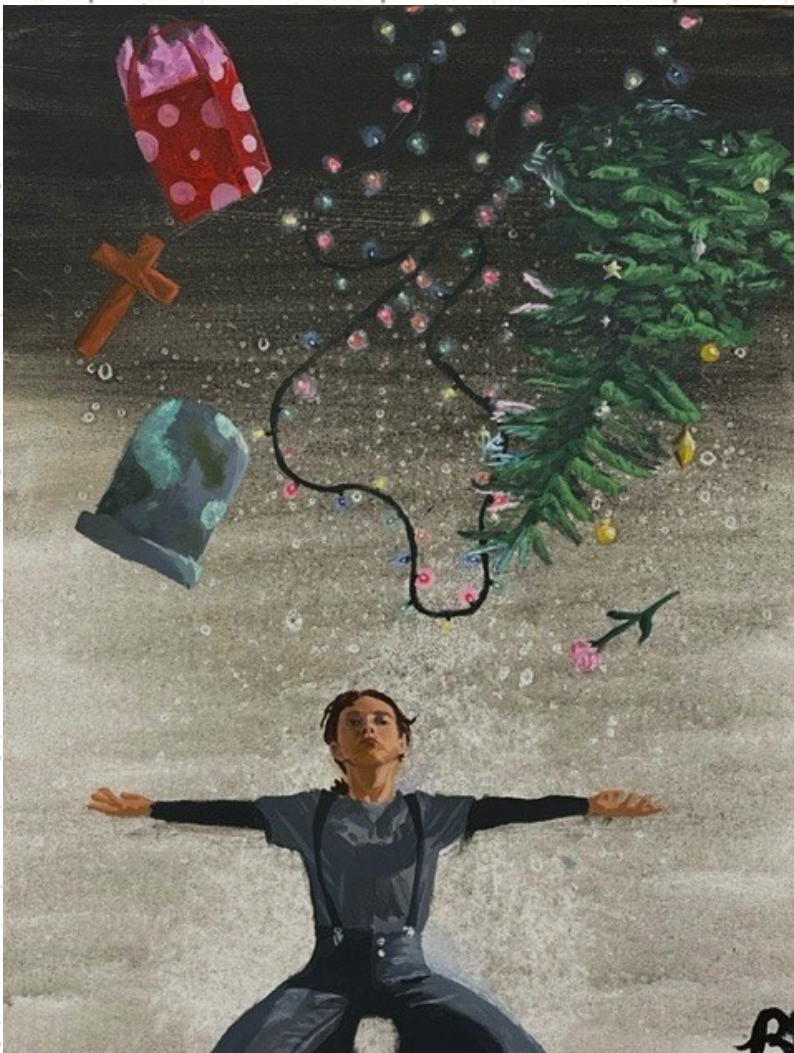
"Unlocked Memories" Graphite By Sophia Cox



"Powerade"  
Colored Pencil By Matt Derrick



"A Dance in Loving Light" Digital Art By Charlotte Butler



"The Weight of You" Acrylic By Bree Schrodt



"Thomas" Graphite By Marina Chiames

# America Is Passionless

## By Ella Claire McMurtry

Is America passionless? Think about it. How many do you see stand to salute our flag? How many news stations report on the sacrifices of those who have died for our country? How many of the youth today understand what saying the Pledge of Allegiance means, and for those who do, how many truly mean it? This is where we stand currently. We are stagnant. The civilians of America stand still. We do not move with the same passion and energy that brought us this far. We sit as a nation, drained and apathetic.

Consider our founding fathers. These men brought their ideas to America. These dreams of freedom and liberty are our beginnings. They have laid down the base for us to build upon, but once a base is built the building does not stop. Men like Hamilton and Jefferson devoted their lives to devising a government, a plan for this nation. Their plans were not small. These men were the architects who set in place the bones of our country. They gave all citizens before now and in the future a place where passion, ideas, and freedom can run rampant. Another architect, Daniel Burnham, who you may know for designing the Chicago World's Fair, implored his successors, "Make no little plans; they have no magic to stir men's blood and probably themselves will not be realized. Make big plans; aim high in hope and work, remembering that a noble, logical diagram once recorded will never die, but long after we are gone will be a living thing, asserting itself with ever-growing insistency. Remember that our sons and grandsons are going to do things that would stagger us. Let your watchword be order and your beacon beauty." Burnham did not build the land of the free, but he certainly had the right idea. The architects of our country have engaged these same principles. They have made no little plans. This country, our country, was built with a fervor which will never fade, it exists still today and is deeply instilled in all of us.

Consider the men and women of the Revolution. Do you think they fought against the entirety of the British empire without determination, without goals, without plans that seemed insurmountable? They did not. Men and women such as Paul Revere and Sybil Ludington did not ride a horse many miles through storms in the dead of the night without good reason. They were passionate. Passion like theirs is what allowed the founding fathers to build a prize like America. But we had to fight for our prize, and it was not without cost. 6,800 men dead, 6,100 injured, and 20,000 captured throughout the battles of the Revolution. Our predecessors sacrificed for what they believed, they left a legacy, a space, and a hope for future Americans, to act with the same fervor.

Now, please consider the families of those who have sacrificed for our country, be it the Revolution, the Civil War, World Wars, Vietnam, Afghanistan, police forces, or firefighters. Their families did not cry empty tears. They did not bury loved ones without cause. Husbands do not leave their wives for service without worry or pain. Wives do not fearfully kiss their families goodbye hoping only to see them walk through the door once more. None of the deaths, service, the fearful goodbyes is without reason. The people who work every day to protect America do so because they believe it must be



"Just out of Reach" Graphite By Lily Philbin



"Patriotism" Graphite By Ashley Nealon



"Fastball" Charcoal By Matt Derrick

done. They work for what they deem important just as we should. This work can be of extreme cost. This is not the life of some unconnected person; this is the loss of a brother, sister, mother, father, spouse. Risks like these are not taken without consideration for the future and all possibilities it may hold. The price is high, but the people who serve, and their supportive families, firmly believe that what they do is worth the risk. We must acknowledge and respect this and go about our lives with the same fire that we see in these men and women.

Those who have come before us built a foundation, a base. The determined spirits of those who came after continues to carry us forward. And now, the people of the present, who work to defend our country allow this legacy to continue. We must, as a country, as a community, as a people, recognize our responsibility to carry out their wishes and enact our own plans for our future. Small plans go nowhere. Our country was not built upon small plans. Our country was built upon the passion, desire, convictions, and the colossal plans of those before us. These thoughts and actions have kept our country in motion and now it is our turn. Now, we must act. We must fight, love, and unite all with passion, or our country will remain stagnant. We will fall into complacency. We must fight, lest we become still, paralyzed, and a hollow shell of the great plans of our predecessors.

Consider this a call to arms. Arm yourselves with passion. Believe and act with passion. Everything you do, do so with passion. I encourage each of you to make no small plans. Find your passion, find others like you, and unite; pull each other together for the common good. Let none of you fall motionless.

Only if we remain passionate do we have the power to move our country forward. We must utilize the fire and desires that burn within each of us. If we unite our passions, we are a formidable force; a force that quickly amounts to more than enough to make a passionless country move again. ●



"Self Portrait" Acrylic By Julianne Hopkirk



"The Myth of the Mirror" Digital Art By Bree Schrodt



"Duck Collection" Graphite By Ashley Nealon



"Cleaning" Graphite By Ashley Nealon



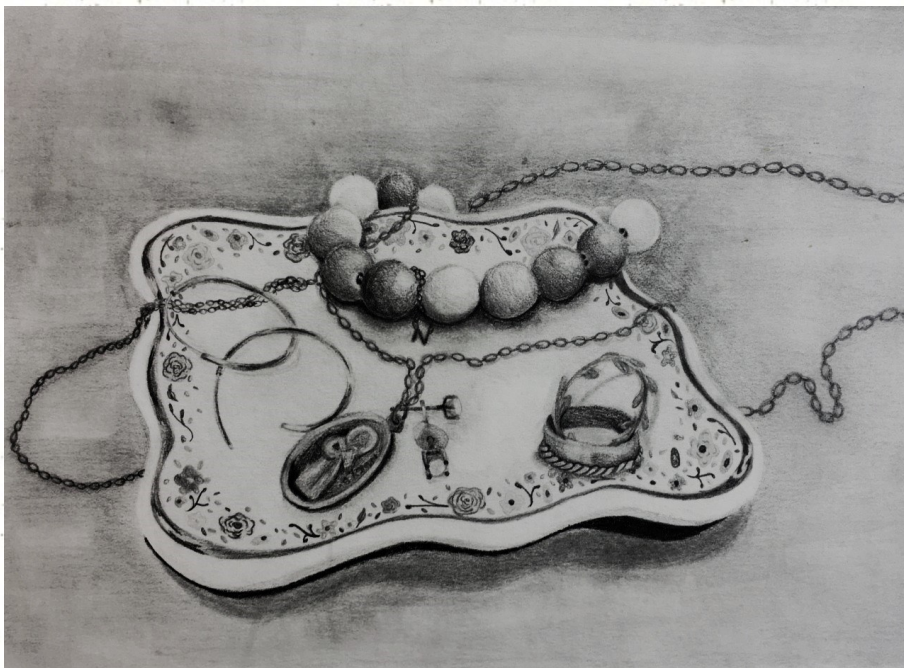
"Keep Holy the Sabbath"  
Graphite By Bella Preston



"Peaceful Resignation"  
Graphite By Charlotte Butler



"The Walls I Hide Behind"  
Digital Art By Bree Schrodt



"Nancy" Graphite By Marina Chiamas



"Amelia" Acrylic By Marina Chiamas



"Molly" Acrylic By Marina Chiames



"Limited" Acrylic By Sophia Cox



"Money Jar" Graphite By Ashley Nealon



"Birthday Party" Marker By Sophia Cox



"Wilted" Marker By Sophia Cox

## Brief Interactions and Tsunamis By Ella Claire McMurtry

When considering making a mark, it is often assumed that it must go down in history. Something must be conquered or forever impacted to leave a lasting mark. This is incorrect. There is no need to go down as a Napoleon in history textbooks. New Beethovens exist, but they are not the only ones who will change music forever. It is not necessary to walk across the moon and leave forever footprints to be remembered.

Consider the butterfly effect. This states that one small movement could create something as massive as a tsunami across the globe. When this is applied to daily life, it is easy to see the impact that one person can have. A wave to a stranger, a few extra cents, a book recommendation, and a note to a friend are small things that can change those around us in ways vastly unexpected. That wave could make someone's day, and they could wave to another, until an entire city's mood lightens a little. The cents tossed in a tip jar could be the last cents needed to pay monthly rent. A book recommendation that changes someone's thinking could change their path forever. A short note could save someone's life.

When considering the small interactions I have throughout the day, I realize I could create a thousand tsunamis. Through small actions, I can make changes that leave an unwritten legacy, which will remain with those I have influenced. Their actions are my marks being made. I hope to inspire those around me to understand themselves and work for their passion, as I plan to do. I hope to grow kindness in all, as I grow myself. Through a wave, a few cents, a book, or a note, I have the potential to change the world. ●



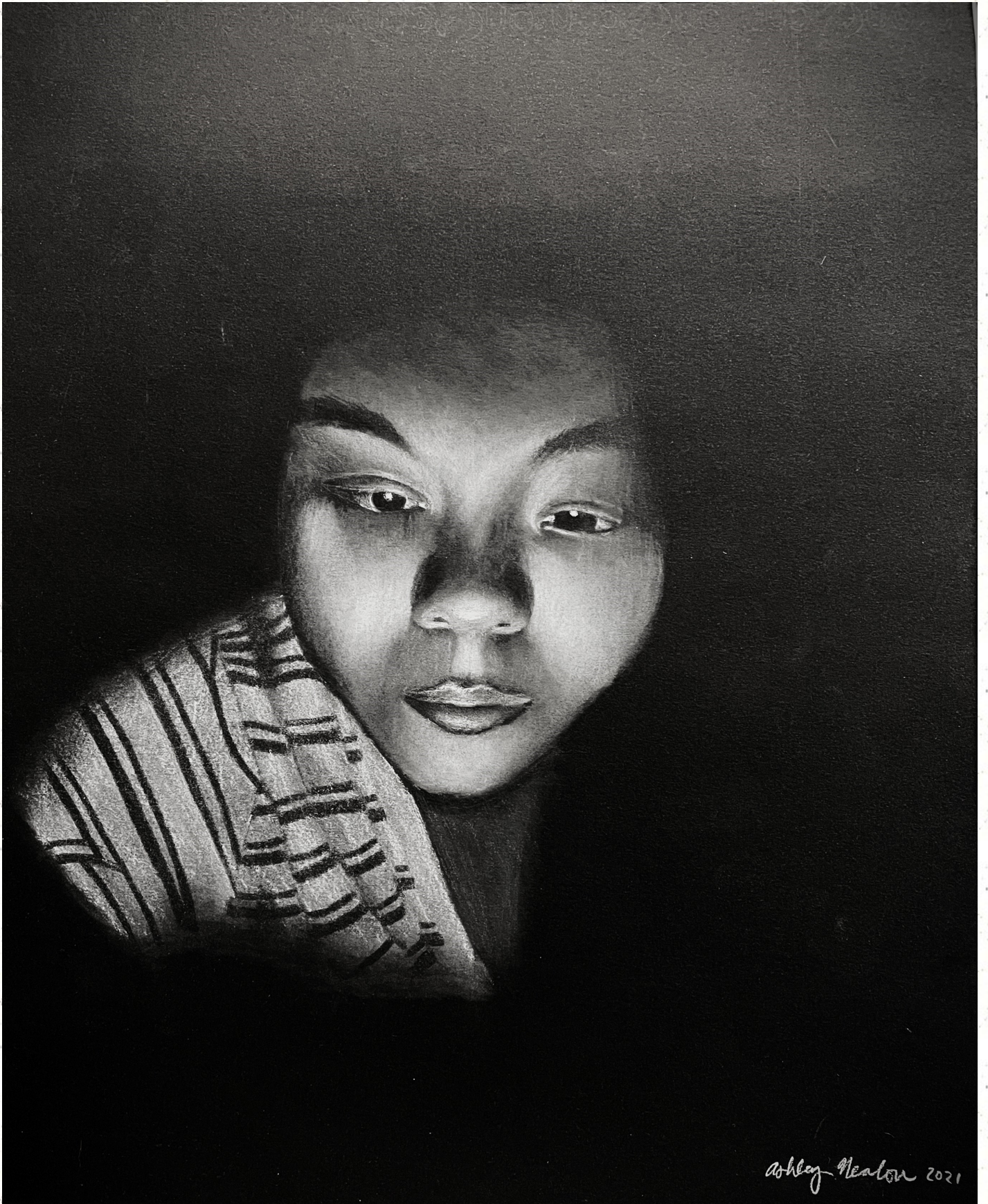
"Digital Depression" Acrylic By Bree Schrodt



"Conscience" Graphite By Bella Preston



"An Introduction" Marker By Sophia Cox



"Me and My Phone" Graphite By Ashley Nealon

