

2025

AP ART

& DESIGN

2026

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Designer
Lisa Kim

Photographer
Rachel Shin

Editors
Ms. Hannah Ireland
Ms. Julia Reynolds

AP Art & Design Teachers

MS. REYNOLDS & MS. IRELAND



AP Art and Design is a journey of expression, exploration, and deadlines. As the instructors of these artists, we have the privilege of watching them grow creatively as they develop their ideas and transform them into works of art that reflect their personal voice and artistic vision. This year-long exploration of a chosen topic of inquiry results in a body of interconnected works.

This exhibition represents a small portion of the work that each of these artists has created. The variety of topics and mediums explored reflects the scope of their passions, concerns, and interests. Through themes such as the natural world, architectural design, our changing selves and societies, and the intricacies of human connection, each student has placed a part of themselves into these works.

Our wish is that our students will continue to appreciate the beauty around them and continue to take creative risks by putting themselves—and their art—out there. Please join us in congratulating all of our artists on their accomplishments.

Ms. Ireland & Ms. Reynolds

AP Drawing

Rachel Shin

RACHEL SHIN



Animal Reflections

My sustained investigation focuses on human behaviors and psychological tendencies, using animals as symbols to explore them. I combine my interest in animals with my curiosity about human psychology, using animals rather than human figures to represent aspects of the human psyche. This approach makes the work more playful while also illustrating complex ideas in a simpler, more recognizable way.

The commentary in my work comes from my own observations and interpretations of patterns I notice in everyday life. In my process, I experiment with different mediums such as graphite, pastels, colored pencil, paint, and collage. I also explore different mark-making techniques, layering lines, textures, and patterns for each animal. Working with different materials reflects how I understand the human mind through multiple perspectives and shapes how these ideas are represented through animals.





AP 2D Design

Ellen Park

Sylvia Lee

Alexis Oh

Hajin Lee

Lisa Kim

Audrey Kim

Alina Lee

ELLEN PARK



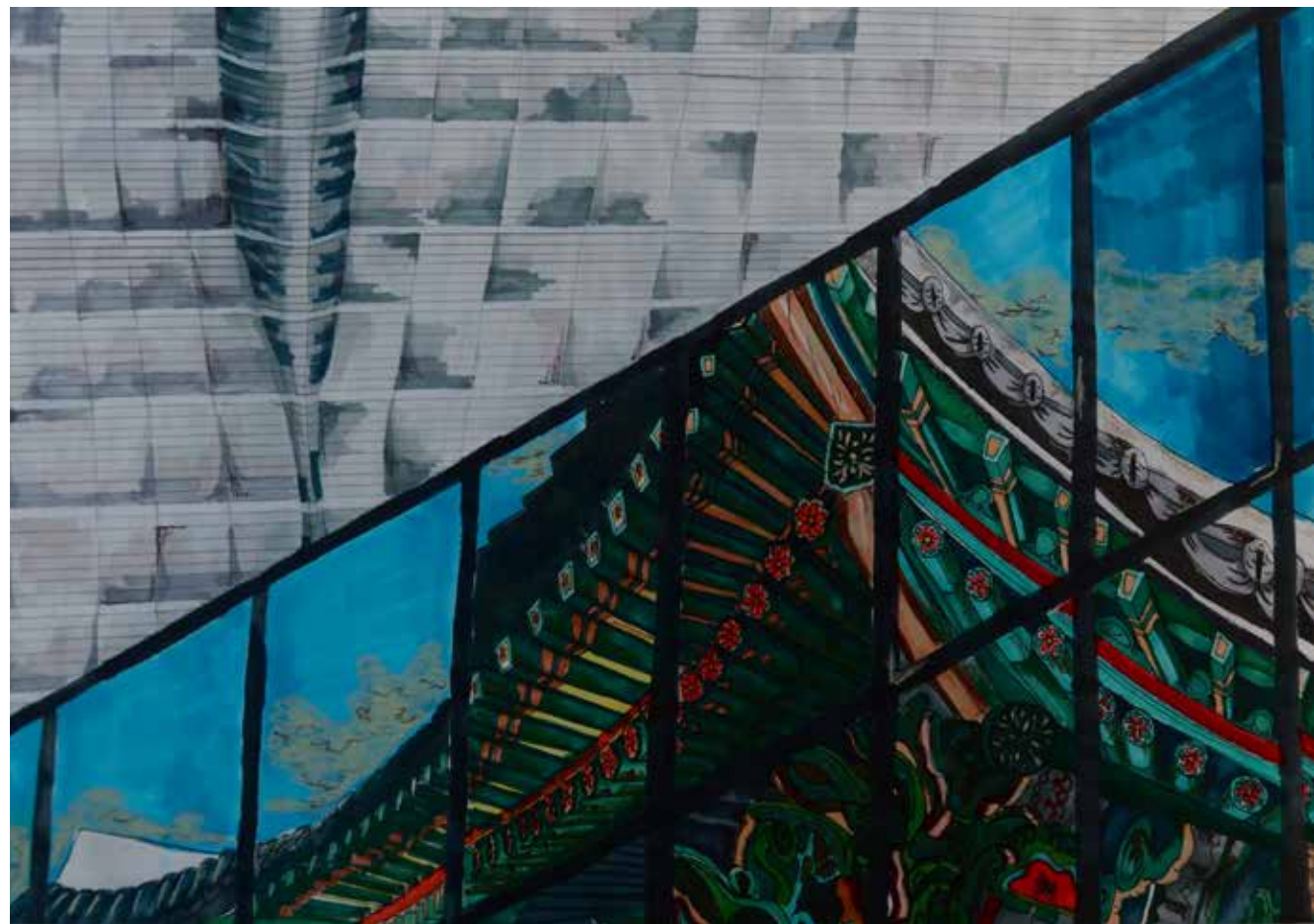
Weaving the Threads of Two Worlds

As I grew up in Korea, while simultaneously being exposed to American and world cultures, my identity has been shaped in many ways. Rather than having two separate worlds, I have been able to see the coexistence of traditional Korean culture and Western modernity within my own identity.

Traditional Korean symbols, such as the tiger and magpie, are represented in my art through the use of modern materials like markers and colored pencils. I have also combined traditional Korean architecture with modern buildings in Korea to illustrate the impact of globalization and the country's rapid pace of modernization. I have also used stitched hanbok and Western clothing as symbols of generational connection and the combination of cultural identity in another piece of my art.

As I have demonstrated through traditional and digital media, the coexistence of traditional and modern elements has shaped my identity in many ways.





SYLVIA LEE



Fragments Of The Past

My body of work explores the significance of memory and the ways it shapes our emotional experiences. I became interested in this topic because I tend to hold onto moments that have already passed, finding it difficult to say goodbye to places, objects, and people.

I work primarily with oil paint, experimenting with color and technique(s) to recreate specific memories and moods, blurring and glowing illumination to create dreamlike qualities, similar to how memories can feel softened over time. Lighting and shadow create strong contrasts, illuminating a subject to emphasize how certain moments stand out in memory. Hidden imagery within symbols and objects encourages viewers to look more closely, reflecting the layered nature of memories.

Through creating this work, I reflected more deeply on the memories I continue to hold onto and their emotional impact. I hope viewers will consider their own memories and appreciate their significance.





ALEXIS OH

Shifting Tides Of Identity

Water serves as the primary guiding metaphor throughout my portfolio. Just as water naturally shifts form and adapts into new spaces, I view my identity as fluid-constantly adjusting, evolving and responding to the surrounding world.

My work centers on visualizing how my identity, like water, has flowed through a variety of geographies and accumulated their characteristics like a mosaic.

Each artwork has a variety of dense blue tones, capturing the way memory transforms over time. With the mediums of acrylic, oil and watercolor paint, I translate my personal history with symbolic imagery, including jellyfish, whales, and imagined spaces like Atlantis. Specifically, a cyanotype panel drawn from my childhood photographs taken at different bodies of water also portrays my intimacy with water. I chose cyanotype for its deep, shifting blue, which effectively mirrors the ocean that set the scene for many of these pictures. These elements act as visual markers and symbols for memory and nostalgia, weaving together the environment and experiences that have shaped my sense of self.





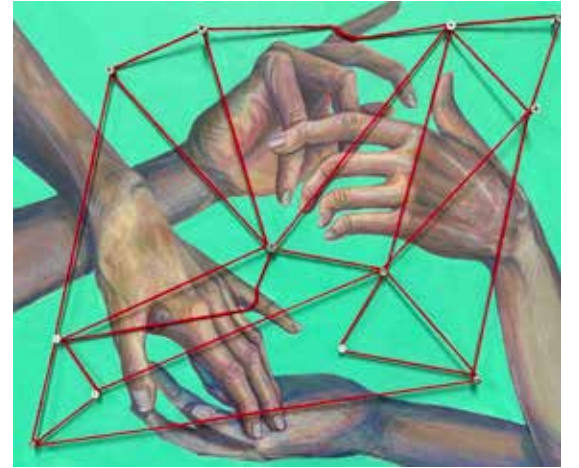
HAJIN LEE

I Belong

Your life is shaped by the connections you form with others. The relationships you have with the people around you help shape and define where you belong within a community. These connections provide a sense of belonging in a world that sometimes feels like you are alone. My artworks focus on feelings of attachment, isolation, and longing that arise from trying to hold onto the few connections you have, or from being completely disconnected from others.

I use symbolism, color, and emotions to create contrast in my work. Woven red yarn representing love and connection, the embrace of possessive tentacles, unrealistic flesh hues to create uneasiness, playful pastel-hued folded cranes representing freedom. Although my artworks focus on the theme of disconnection, I hope that viewers will be able to connect with the imagery and weave their own meanings.





LISA KIM



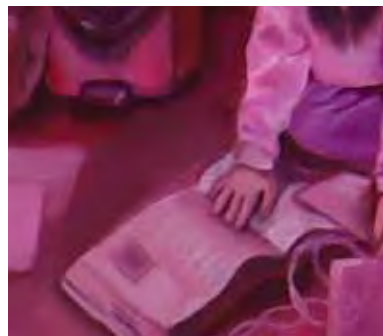
Colors As a Lens

Colors both persist and transform, shaping the way we remember the world around us. Rather than recalling every vivid detail of a memory, I often remember a moment by recalling the hues associated with it. Color becomes a lens through which our experiences are perceived, remembered, and interpreted.

By blending in or contrasting colors within works, I emphasize how they mark the passage of time depending on the atmosphere of a certain moment. Uses of desaturation to capture loneliness or exhaustion, the spectrum of color to represent emotional shifts, and color to represent the uniqueness that comes from temporary moments. Not only do my pieces explore color, they also explore how different colored mediums convey states of mind—happiness, uniqueness, nostalgia.

Ultimately, I communicate how colors are not simply a natural property but an important way to perceive and capture moments.





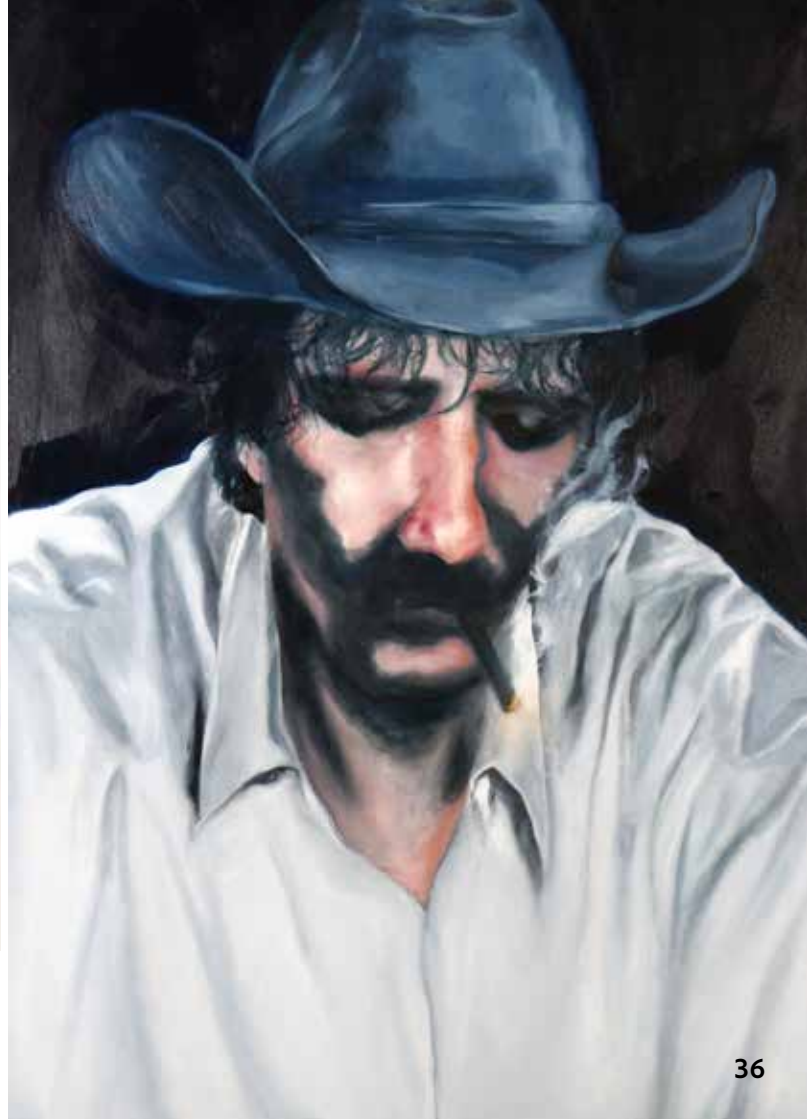
AUDREY KIM



Looking Does Not Guarantee Seeing

Emotional complexity is a fundamental part of what makes us human; my work conveys how color can be used to evoke or distort these complexities within a scene. I explore emotional juxtapositions by dancing between spaces of love, desolation, and expectations while using color to enhance such themes. Oil allows me to center my focus on how to stylize and exaggerate colors to shift the emotional meaning of my subjects. The contrasting hues and saturations allow color to function as a psychological language over a more realistic one. My paintings often depict moments where contradiction of emotions can coexist: longing and isolation, or intimacy and distance. While the context varies, my works are connected through how internal emotions can alter the way a scene is perceived. By manipulating color, I aim to blur the crossings between visible reality and the inner turmoil they may conceal, all in hopes to reshape how the viewer interprets the mood and meaning of a scene through their own experiences.





ALINA LEE

Human Resilience in the Face of Conflict and Violence

War and conflicts are destructive and cause many to suffer. Their vast scale and the cost of sacrifice often leave societies scarred and struggling to rebuild. Despite these hardships, humanity finds a way to recover and move forward. My artwork strives to depict the meaning behind conflict and the different dimensions in which it could be portrayed, reflecting on how the society that we live today is greatly shaped by the sacrifices made through war. While acknowledging the pain and struggles endured by victims of war, my work also highlights humanity's resilience and ability to endure. I use acrylic paint as the main medium in my works. I often use strong contrasts in color to juxtapose the devastating outcomes of warfare while also representing endurance and human strength. The repeated symbols of light and nature suggest hope and renewal, while blood and weapons represent the sacrifice and loss experienced during times of war.





AP 3D Design

Dyne Kim

Christie Hwang

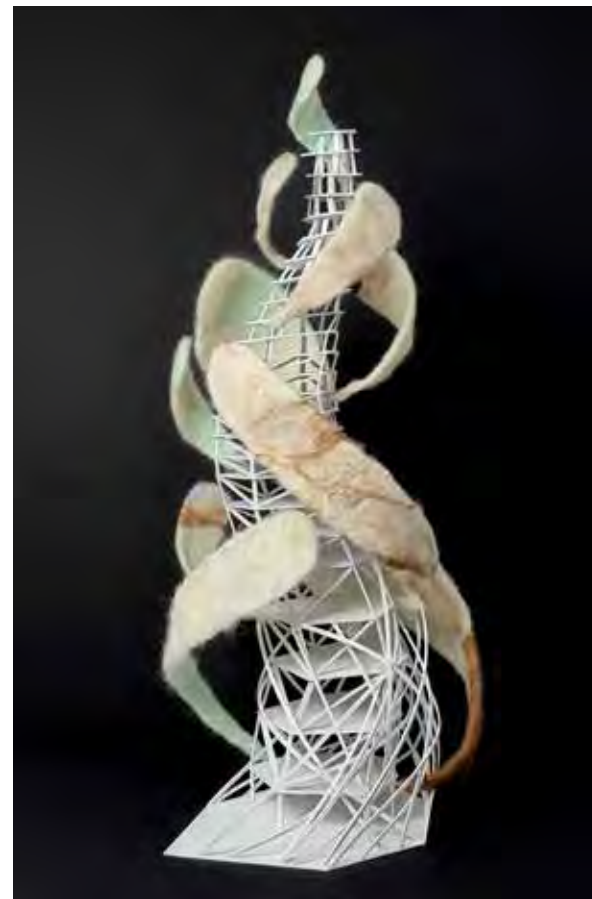
Alexis Oh

DYNE KIM

Rooted in Resourcefulness

My works explore the role of nature and natural resources in supporting growth in developing countries. I focus on how communities use locally available materials to build structures and opportunities for development. In my work, I often use natural materials such as balsa wood, yarn, and wool to symbolize resourcefulness and connection to the environment. I build architectural and sculptural forms that reflect both the challenges and potential for growth in these regions. Through processes like crocheting, weaving, needle felting, and constructing frameworks with simple materials, I explore how natural resources can shape communities and support progress. Overall, my works of art combine organic forms with structural elements to show how nature and humans can work together to create systems of support and development.





CHRISTIE HWANG

Biophilic Refuge

My work explores how biophilic forms can create a sense of refuge that reduces stress and restores emotional balance. These forms draw inspiration from patterns found in living systems. Natural structures such as cocoons, petals, fungi, and canopies guide my research because they protect fragile life while allowing growth. Through sculpture and wearable forms, I explore how these protective systems can surround or interact with the human body.

Materials such as wire armature, mulberry paper, beeswax, wood reeds, fabric, and light help balance fragility with natural structure. Many of my works incorporate light, which glows through layered or translucent materials to demonstrate life and renewal inside protective forms. As a whole, these works expand from small enclosed objects to larger structures that allow the viewer to immerse themselves within them. They create environments of refuge that promote psychological calm and restoration through biophilic design.





ALEXIS OH

The Duality of Water

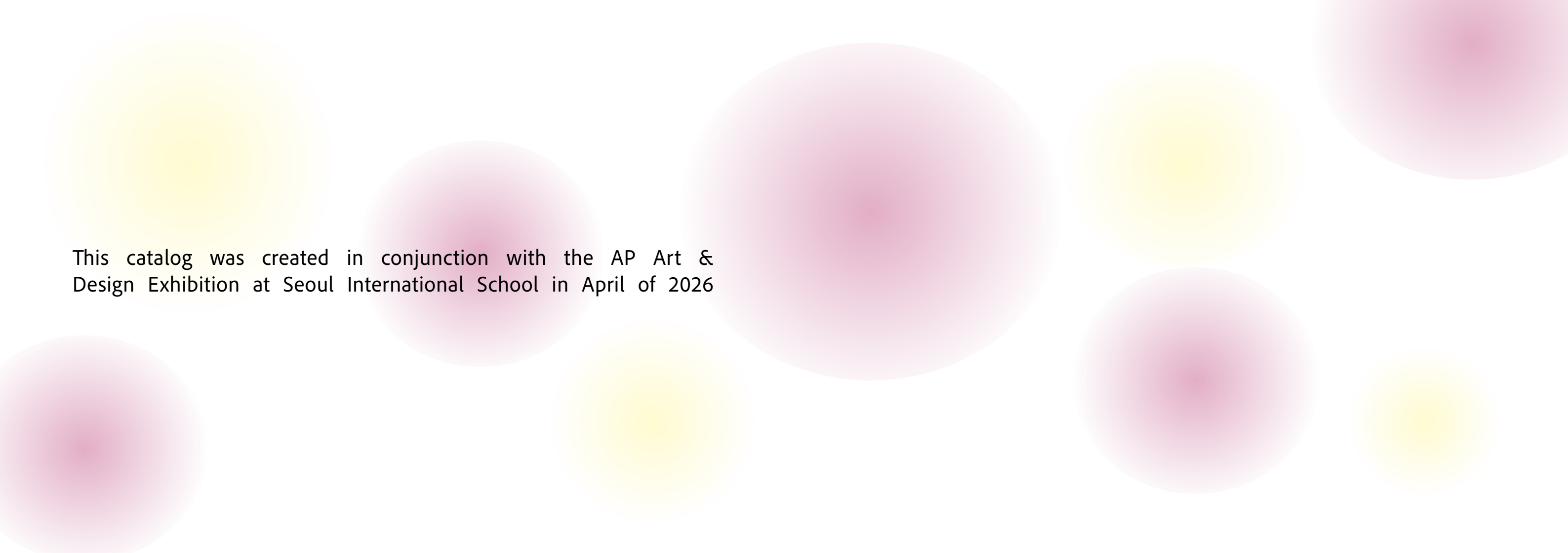
Water, in its constant movement and malleable texture, becomes the central metaphor of my portfolio. Just as water shifts shape and flows into new spaces, I see my identity as responsive and ever-adapting.

My portfolio further explores the shifting of space in my life through symbolic imagery such as nets, whales, and clocks. The concept of whale fall represents the oceans duality of nature - both an ending and a source of renewal. This idea reinforces the duality of nature, using water as a symbol of regeneration and transformation, suggesting that cycles of time are inevitable and often space for new beginnings.

My works externalize my identity as something anchored in the past memories, examining experiences that accumulate and shape the present. Together these images of water reflect how my life has moved like the tides, ebbing between moments of serenity and solitude.





The background of the image features several overlapping circles in two colors: a pale yellow and a light purple. The circles are of varying sizes and are positioned in a way that they overlap each other, creating a layered effect. The text is centered horizontally and positioned in the middle of the image, overlapping the circles.

This catalog was created in conjunction with the AP Art &
Design Exhibition at Seoul International School in April of 2026