



Rosemarie W. Cox, Master

Bald Eagle Area School District, PA.

Why I Chose Gabrielle Perry

Gabrielle Perry is a student who takes the skills and techniques she learns to make artwork that is unique to her individual vision. She pays close attention to detail and her artwork often exceeds my expectations. She amazes me with her focus, determination, ideas, and spirited approach to solving each art-making problem. For me, the value is not only in the visual aspect of each piece (her work is always quite lovely and reflective of her personality and what she holds dear) but also in the student's ability to think of possibilities beyond the instruction given.

Artist Statement

As an Artist Teacher, it is very challenging to find time to create my own artwork during the school year. My pieces began as exemplars for a 7th-grade lesson. They became the first pair in a series of lanterns created to honor and memorialize family members who have blessed and shaped my life. The series is titled "Leading the Way – Lighting our Path". These two lanterns are the pivotal pair in the series. The lantern "Grammy Ocie – Bright Early Morning" was created to honor my maternal grandmother, Ocie Holdren. She gave me my first doilies, which I often use to add texture and decoration to my pottery. There are a lot of allusions to and inclusions of fiber arts within my work – symbolic of common threads, tapestry, etc... I referenced a doily paper pattern to design the "Ocie" lantern. The "Pappy Don" lantern was created to honor my husband's paternal grandfather, Don Cox, who was like a grandfather to me. He was a woodsman who loved the Pennsylvania forests and was well-known for his skills at cross-cutting and other lumber skills. These two lanterns are the pivotal pair in the series and light the darkness in our backyard during the summer months.