



Elizabeth Ellis, Master

Athens Area High School, PA.

Why I Chose Grace Lamb

I have known Grace as her Ceramics teacher in both Introductory and Advanced Ceramics Classes for three years. I have also worked with her for one year as her Advanced Drawing and Painting teacher. Throughout her high school career, I have watched her become a skilled artist with a passion and talent for scientific illustration. I recently asked that she complete an acrylic grisaille still-life as a required project. Although this was not something she particularly wanted to do, she set to the task with skill and perseverance. I am very proud of her ability to shift gears with this project.

Why I Chose NyAnna Beeman

I first met NyAnna when they were a first-grade student in my elementary classroom. They were kind, curious, and always enjoyed learning. Now, I am so grateful to get the opportunity to work with NyAnna again as a graduating senior. I watch their artistic process in awe of the way they patiently plan, test, and sketch all aspects of their work from composition to color scheme. I loved watching this work develop. NyAnna's work and process was an inspiration to me and the underclassman observing and learning from them.

Artist Statement

This year, I have found myself out of my comfort zone due to shifting from teaching ceramics to teaching 2-D arts. I find myself brushing up on many mediums and consistently fulfilling the role of a lifelong learner. As I prepped for a painting unit with my students, I felt it was important to “practice” my process as well. Therefore, I began this portrait of my daughter Sophia with several purposes. Practice prior to teaching always allows me to remember the struggles and problem-solving that need to occur while creating. The second was to capture the moment she had captured in this selfie. I loved the way the Nevada wind blew her hair and the light illuminated the wisps of hair floating through the sky.