



NyAnna Beeman, Grasshopper

Athens Area High School, PA.

Artist Statement

Mrs. Ellis began teaching me not in an art setting but in elementary school as my 1st-grade teacher. Therefore, it was a pleasant surprise when she took over classes in the high school my senior year. Having her as an art teacher has helped me stay involved with the arts this year and made me happier for it. Mrs. Ellis is encouraging as much as she is critical, something which really motivates me; she listens to ideas and feeds back different ones, always offering different ways of looking at art or new perspectives on problems I may run into. I can't imagine taking an art course without having her as my teacher, supporting me through my processes.

My landscape piece "Sunset on Sparkler Field" was my first attempt at such a large colored pencil landscape; my reference for it was only used for the figures, and even that image was blurry and taken in the moment. The main goal of the piece was an exploration in color and mood. I spent about as much time experimenting with techniques and different palette options as I did working on the actual artwork. The meaning is in the emotion- for me, the image brings me back to the summer before my senior year, celebrating with friends in a much bigger world than I could possibly hope to capture on paper.