



Dr. Andrea M. McDonough, Master

Williamsport Area High School, PA.

Why I Chose Lemon Jenkins

Lemon Jenkins has overcome a plethora of challenges throughout their high school tenure, maintaining a consistent creative art practice as an anchor throughout. I am fortunate to have known of Lemon's creative ability as a young OMer (*Odyssey of the Mind participant*) and have enjoyed their energy and creativity in the art room space and on remote platforms during their 10th-12th grade years. Lemon is a steady, detail-oriented, artist with an incredible ability to develop novel solutions to prompts and challenges. Looking back through their portfolio of work, it has been consistently impressive, and Lemon has demonstrated so much growth and lived experience through art.

My decision to select Lemon as my Grasshopper for the 2023 Master and Grasshopper exhibit was motivated by their persistent process and the way the work illuminates a more complex story, every single time. I am honored to have this opportunity to exhibit our work together in a gallery setting and I hope that Lemon continues to practice creative self-expression through art after high school graduation.

Artist Statement

Andrea McDonough is a secondary art educator and K-12 art curriculum coordinator for the Williamsport Area School District. She also supports the art and education departments at Lycoming College. McDonough holds a Pennsylvania K-12 Art Education Certificate and a Pennsylvania PK-12 Supervisory Certificate in Curriculum and Instruction.

My current art practice involves the exploration of mindfulness through drawing and experimental works including gel lifts and found materials. Each day and each art-making session is an opportunity to journey inward. The human experience suggests that we are not the same person that we were yesterday, and our emotional landscape will fluctuate with rare replication. As I approach my work today with an awareness that I did not hold 10 years ago, I am able to let go of the telic tendency of traditional painting and explore the process as it relates to present-moment experience. Research on mindfulness and creativity has led me to develop my art as a practice, a ritual, that incorporates the mind and body; brush and breath.