



# **Benjamin Kelly**, Grasshopper

---

Palisades High School. Kintnersville, PA.

## **Artist Statement, "Self Portrait Crossing the Alps"**

I have taken three art classes in my high school career. I took a graphic communications class first, where I learned how to use Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator, as I wanted to delve into the field of graphic design. I also took two levels of drawing and painting, the second of which I made this piece for. These classes allowed me to hone my existing artistic skills, grow as an artist, and learn new strategies and tools for creating art of different mediums. This piece was the most complex and intricate painting I have ever made, and it helped to kickstart me into making more detailed paintings on my own time. This piece brought me out of a sort of comfort zone and afterwards, I took on the challenge of making a detailed 10x10 painting in my own time by myself. Prior to this, I was not as experienced in painting, and the paintings I made at home were merely on 2x2 canvases. My teacher has been a great instructor and guide in my artistic journey throughout high school and the three classes I have taken.