



Katie Ptaszynski, Grasshopper

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Commentary- "*What Art Means to Me*"

Since middle school, I've been exploring my artistic abilities through the use of varying media. This was due to the classes I have taken at my school that pushed me to fully explore what I am capable of. From these classes, I was able to benefit by being able to push what I think I can do much farther than my original thoughts. With this, I have been able to create dynamic and intricate pieces that break the normal confines of flat artwork. This has allowed me to create some of the best pieces I have made so far this year. My high school art classes have taken me to new heights with developing skill and technique.

Through these classes, I have benefitted from being able to let emotions out through shapes, colors, and design. My art has strong connections to how I feel and how I want others to feel. My teachers have helped me to express this in ways I have never been able to before. I have found that this has improved my mental health quite a bit and has become an effective way of controlling how I feel. Art classes have effectively allowed me to accept critique in a constructive way and use it to my advantage. These are just a handful of the ways I have found my art classes have benefitted me through my creativity and motivation.

Artist Statement

My artwork is typically dynamic and 3D most of the time and contains found objects as well as a variety of media. Another thing is that I love to repurpose items and give them new life whether this be bones and insects or old medical equipment. I have taken my dad's medical equipment from cancer treatment and wielded it to express a solemn but meaningful piece. With everything I wield it in a way that will pull emotions from others.