



# Liam Nickerson, Grasshopper

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## Commentary

The art classes I have participated in have taught me self-expression, not through what I create but, through the process of creation itself. Mr. States has always allowed me to work as I saw fit. My art has always been about autonomy and Mr. States has given me the freedom to choose not only what I create, but how I feel and the choices I make. Every day I get to experience the sculpting in my life. Art classes I've taken have taught me to enjoy the process of creation and change instead of only worrying about the end product.

## Artist Statement

This piece, Immolation of Self, began as a first attempt at making a bust. As I worked, I started seeing a self-portrait. Its shattering in the kiln is what cemented its nature as a self-portrait due to my inability to keep the bust or myself from breaking down at any given time. In the end, this piece is made to explore my experience with suicidal ideation and the morbid self-reflection alongside it.