

**Q. Can you introduce yourself and tell us a little about who you are?**

A. I'm a student who tends to observe before speaking. I'm drawn to the small details, e.g., how people react, what goes unsaid, and writing is where I try to make sense of those patterns.

**Q. What does the theme mean to you personally?**

A. To me, it's about the push and pull between where you come from and who you're trying to become. Roots can ground you, but they can also feel like something you're trying to grow beyond.

**Q. How did your work connect to your own experiences, identity, or community?**

A. My work reflects a lot of internal conflict, balancing expectations, especially from family, with personal direction. It's not always direct or literal, but the emotions and questions come from real experiences.

**Q. What are you most proud of in your piece?**

A. I'm most proud that it feels honest. Even if it's abstract, the emotion behind it isn't filtered or simplified.

**Q. What do you hope resonates with people when they experience your work?**

A. I hope people feel unsettled in a thoughtful way, like it stays with them and makes them question something they hadn't before.