

2021 Online High School Visual Arts Contest



WHITE BEAR
Center
for the
Arts

Creating Community Through Art

Welcome to the 2021 Online High School Visual Arts Contest

Welcome to the 6th Annual High School Visual Arts Contest. White Bear Center for the Arts is grateful to continue this tradition online, despite challenges due to COVID. The show continues to be an amazing showcase of students' work, and the number of schools participating continues to grow. All of the selected work is exceptional and we hope you will enjoy!



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Creating Community Through Art

Cover Image: "The Theater," Madeline Riley

Judges



Alex Chinn grew up in rural western Massachusetts in an old farmhouse with his mother, an artist. He was exposed to many forms of art, including clay, from early childhood. Clay became his primary artistic outlet while studying with Ron Gallas at Macalester College. For more than 15 years Alex Chinn has kept an active studio at the Northern Clay Center and a home, and garden, with his family in Saint Paul. Alex makes forms that are considerate of their intended use and are interesting to view and touch. Nature is often a source of inspiration as are the daily needs around the house and garden.



Candice Davis is a conceptual artist from San Antonio, Texas and working in Minneapolis. Her practice is focused on the use of digital media, installation, and performance as a means of witnessing for the experiences of marginalized people, with specific emphasis on her experience as a Black woman in the United States of America. She has exhibited and performed collaboratively at the Walker Art Center, Gluon Gallery, Public Functionary, and Why World Gallery and individually at the Boulder Museum of Contemporary Art. Davis is a recipient of a Metropolitan Regional Arts Council Next Step Grant for the year 2019. She is currently a Northern Lights Artist on the Verge 11 fellow and a resident of the Weisman Art Museum's Target Studio for Creative Collaboration.



Erica Spitzer Rasmussen is an artist who creates handmade paper garments and small editions of hand-bound books. She received her BFA and MFA at the University of Minnesota (Minneapolis), which included coursework in Mexico and Greece. Her current work explores issues of identity and corporeality. Rasmussen is a recipient of the 2018 Minnesota Book Artist Award and various grants from the Minnesota State Arts Board (1999, 2015, 2018). Rasmussen teaches studio arts as a full professor at Metropolitan State University in St. Paul, Minnesota.

Awards

Best of Show Award

Hunting in the Night, **Luke Carlson**

Director's Award

Utopia, **Jayne Mapstone**

Awards of Excellence

Urban Upset, **Elizabeth Kaari**

The Knife, **Meg Petersen**

Awards of Merit

Sun Symphony, **Ava DelCastillo**

Worrisome, **Anna Nguyen**

Abandoned Bathroom, **Olivia Wenner**

Honorable Mentions

They Went Looking for the Gods and Died in Lonely Places, **Ava Barrett**

Soaring Free Like a Bird, **Megan Thao**

Unraveled, **Jackelyn Ong**



[Click to Watch Award Ceremony](#)

Judge's Choice Awards

Judge: [Erica Spitzer Rasmussen](#)
Greed, **Ryan Weiss**

Judge: [Alex Chinn](#)
Rose With Dewdrops, **Olivia Nienaber**

Judge: [Candice Davis](#)
Tooth Fairy, **Eloise Koltun**



Best of Show

Luke Carlson

Hunting In the Night

Digital photography with Photoshop

Mahtomedi High School

The work I present in front of you has been done as part of AP Portfolio for AP 2D Design. My main theme this year was to create a portfolio based on differing perspectives about the world, and even though I could not share all ten pieces I have made so far, I believe these are some of my best pieces.

Director's Award



Jayne Mapstone

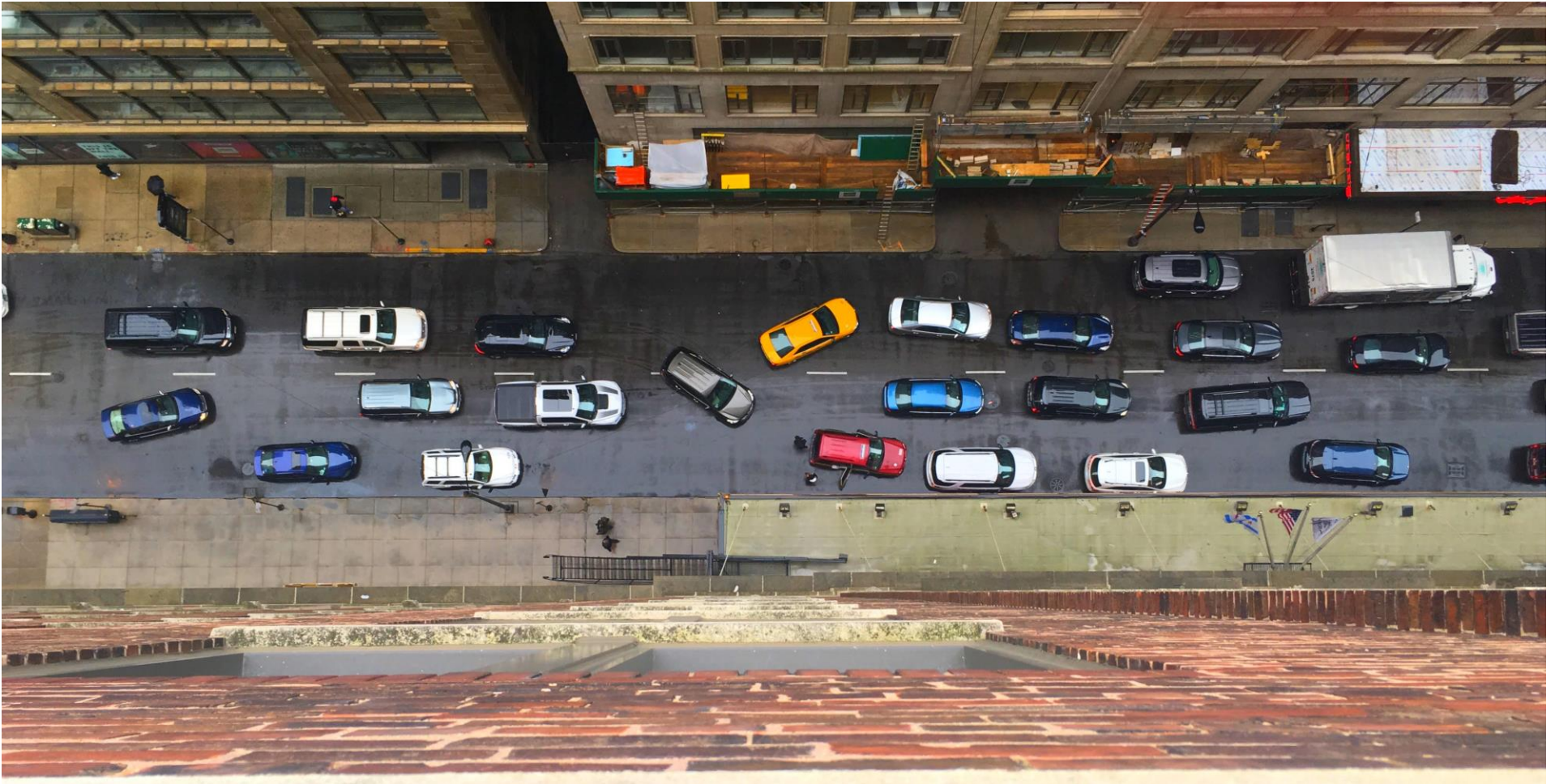
Utopia

Acrylic, yarn, paper

Stillwater Area High School

From such a young age, I have been drawn to art. All of the art I am submitting follow the same message of change and evolution, as that is what I have been focusing on this year. This is the first art show in high school that I have submitted my work in and I'm super excited.

Award of Excellence



Elizabeth Kaari

Urban Upset

Photography

St. Croix Preparatory Academy

Since a young age, art has always been necessary for the expression and communication of my feelings. From painting to photography to linoleum printing, I have been able to capture moments in pieces that will last forever. I appreciate working with a diverse variety of mediums and experimenting with whatever may come my way. Art has been, and will continue to be, a core aspect of who I am.



Award of Excellence

Meg Petersen

The Knife

Graphite, gel pen on paper

White Bear Lake Area High School

Using paints, pens, and pencils, Meg captures the overlooked details of everyday life. She often explores what it means to be human through her artwork, specializing in portraits. She mostly spends her days sketching, painting, and running her small business, The Wee Peach.



Award of Merit

Ava DelCastillo

Sun Symphony

Acrylic

White Bear Lake Area High School

I am a senior at White Bear South Campus, and work at ACR Homes. I paint what I know, and memories I hold close



Award of Merit



Anna Nguyen

Worrisome

Ceramic

Clay is a medium I do not have much experience with, but when I was working on these pieces, I realized how working on something 3D can have many possibilities.

Stillwater Area High School

Award of Merit



Olivia Wenner

Abandoned Bathroom

Polymer clay, wood, wire, beads, plastic, acrylic, spray paint, mixed media

Mounds View High School

I made *Abandoned Bathroom* because I decided that the bathroom is the most interesting room in a house. I wanted anyone to be able to look at it and imagine what the rest of the house might look like.



Honorable Mention

Ava Barrett

They Went Looking For the Gods And Died In Lonely Places

Watercolor, ink pen, paint pen on artboard

Stillwater Area High School

At the end of the day, my aim in my work is to give myself joy. I love to tell stories, and that definitely carries on into the caricature of my art. The juxtaposition of peace, violence, the often chaotic mental landscape, and raw identity has been my favorite subjects recently. That being said, art is always changing, shifting, and moving all the time. I am more excited than anything to experiment more and tell new stories.



Honorable Mention

Jackelyn Ong

Unraveled

Colored pencil, pencil on paper

Mahtomedi High School

My artwork shows the progression of falling out of love with a passion, represented by flowers and vines. I love to draw using pencil, but I have been pushing myself out of my comfort zone lately. I have been experimenting with color and trying out new compositions. As a result, I have learned and improved significantly as an artist, and I hope to continue to do so in the future.



Honorable Mention

Megan Thao

Soaring Free Like a Bird
Paper

Stillwater Area High School

Candice Davis, Judge's Choice:



Eloise Koltun

Tooth Fairy

Watercolor

Stillwater Area High School

Alex Chinn, Judge's Choice:



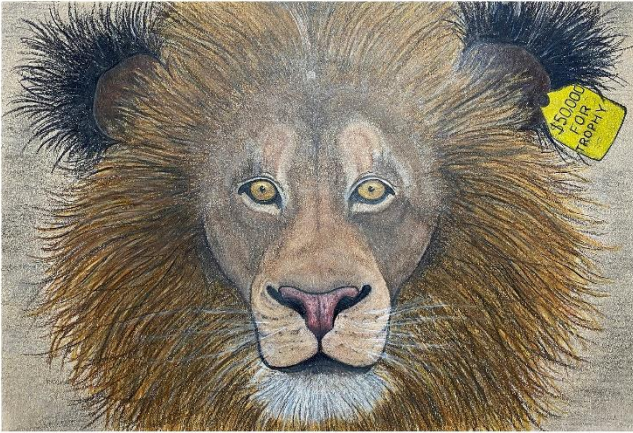
Olivia Nienaber

Rose With Dewdrops

Photography

Homeschool

A common theme of my photography is nature and wildlife. I often focus on a small aspect of something rather than the object as a whole. Photography is one of my favorite mediums because it is a way of stopping time for me; and I can capture the beauty of nature and how it is ever-changing. By manipulating photos, I can create a different look or mood, which I enjoy.



Erica Spitzer Rasmussen,
Judge's Choice:



Ryan Weiss
Greed
Colored pencil

Stillwater Area High School



I have had a passion for art my entire life. In recent years, my art has focused on subjects like mental health and the environmental issues our world faces today. My three part series is focused on issues like extinction, poaching, and trophy hunting.



Catrielle Barnett

I Am My Own Glass Slipper

Jewelry metalsmithing, copper enamel

Minnesota Connections Academy

I am motivated to make artwork that addresses hope, change, and individuality. When creating, I incorporate Surrealism and technically provoking construction. I make artwork because it is a universal language. Artwork allows me to express my views tangibly and visually. When I look at my work, I am pushed to make pieces with unconventional materials. Combining metal, fiber, and paint helps me create a sense of depth and add to my work's dimensionality.



Ava Barrett

Hope

Watercolor, paint marker, India ink, pen ink on artboard

Stillwater Area High School

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Stella Best

Human Food for Human People

Digital

In my work, I like to corrupt natural perceptions, and question what things are and how they work. I use what is available to me, including digital, ink, graphite, acrylic paint, gouache, clay, metal, and jewelry.

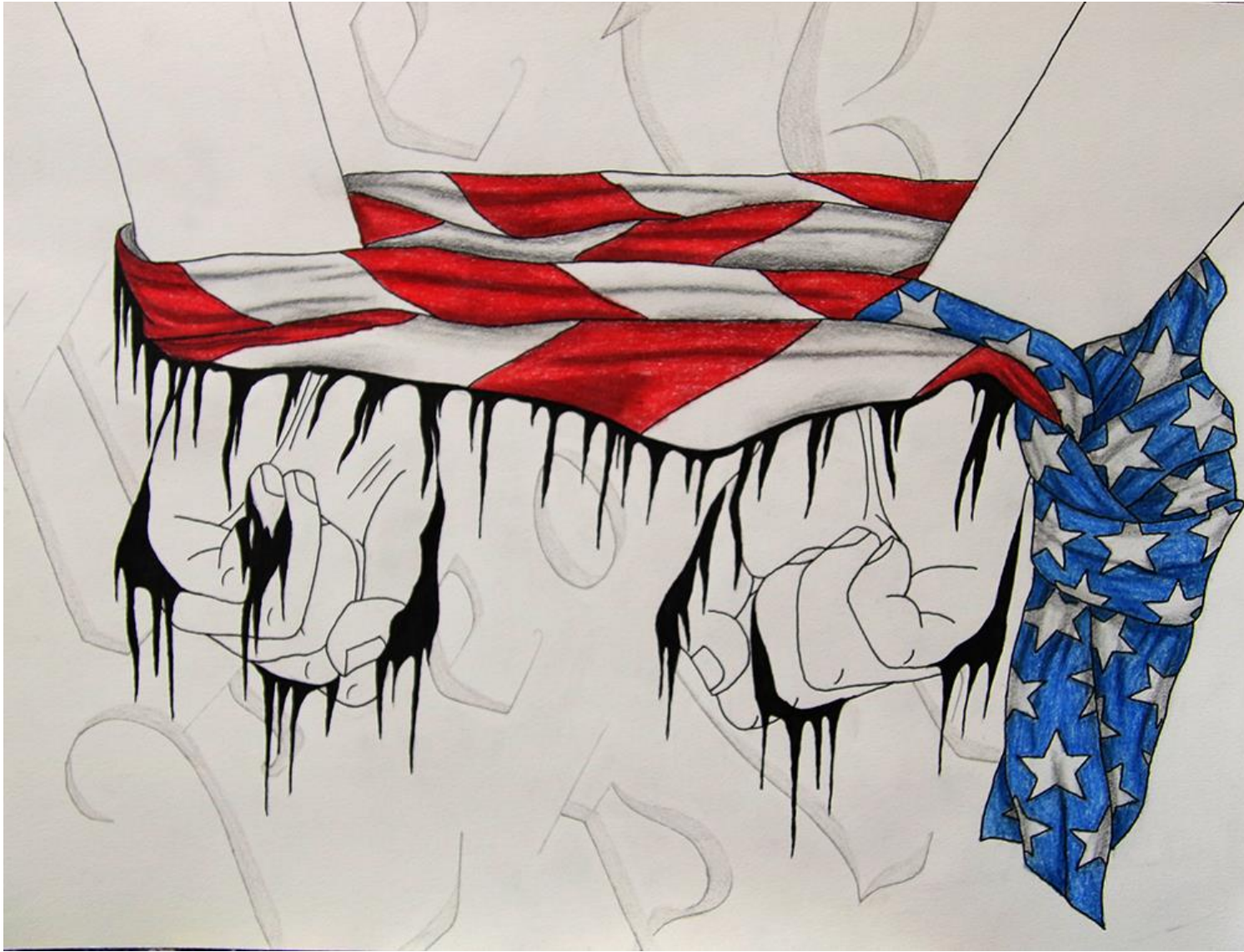
Stillwater Area High School



Stella Best
Girl is Gone
Digital

In my work, I like to corrupt natural perceptions, and question what things are and how they work. I use what is available to me, including digital, ink, graphite, acrylic paint, gouache, clay, metal, and jewelry.

Stillwater Area High School



Abigail Brown

Politics

Pen, colored pencil on paper

Mahtomedi High School



Kaelyn Chen

The Passionate Peacock

Watercolor, ink, graphite on paper

Mahtomedi High School

This piece symbolizes one of the different personas I take on, in particular a proud performer who dances her heart out under the spotlight of the dark stage. I spent a vast amount of time planning and thinking about the symbolism. I love drawing and mostly focus on the contrast to make a certain aspect of my artwork stand out.



Leonardo Corral
Mouths to Feed
Ceramic

White Bear Lake Area High School

It was my first time working with clay and acrylic this year. I was grateful for this opportunity for I had always wanted to create art, but could not due to financial reasons. It is because of the free supplies that were given to me that I was able to create these pieces of art. The frogs are a set. It was originally one, but I felt it looked lonely, so I made a family.



Ava DelCastillo

Joey's Dogs Sunbathing

Acrylic

I am a senior at White Bear South Campus, and work at ACR Homes. I paint what I know, and memories I hold close to me.

White Bear Lake Area High School



Chloe Diez
Old Fashioned
Photography

Mahtomedi High School

I've loved art, especially painting and photography,
since I was very young.



Lucas Fisher

NA

Acrylic on paper

Stillwater Area High School

I go to Stillwater. I really like making art, music and clothes. I really like abstract art that is kind of scary and angry, but also draws you in. These paintings were made for my art class and I'm very proud of them because they all have little details that are fun to look into. A lot of my influence comes from punk music and that area of things and I just want to keep making art.



Lucas Fisher

VIRAL REVOLUTION

Acrylic on paper

Stillwater Area High School

I go to Stillwater. I really like making art, music and clothes. I really like abstract art that is kind of scary and angry, but also draws you in. These paintings were made for my art class and I'm very proud of them because they all have little details that are fun to look into. A lot of my influence comes from punk music and that area of things and I just want to keep making art.



Link Fleming

I'd Close My Eyes (if I Could Trust You to Look Away)

Charcoal

White Bear Lake Area High School

My father once made a girl cry in his portraits class and it inspired me to work hard. I hope that with practice I'll never end up in a situation like his.



Samantha Forgosh

Flower in the Wind

Watercolor

Mounds Park Academy

I started painting with the help of my teacher, Ms. Sonka, and love it! It's a fun way to relax and be productive. I really enjoy the freedom and expression I can convey in my paintings.



Frida Garcia

Daydreams

Colored pencil

Stillwater Area High School

Creating for me is freedom; it is endless opportunity to make my dreams and imaginations a reality.



Olivia Henson

Relapse

Acrylic on paper, pages from a book, thread, graphite, water

Stillwater Area High School

In my work, I try to create pieces that tell a story others can relate to. I do this to help others feel less alone in the struggles that are romanticized, ignored, written off or not properly portrayed in the media, which is where everyone of this generation is getting their information. I hope that through my art, I can show the beauty and journey, struggles and all, of experiences that make people feel alone.



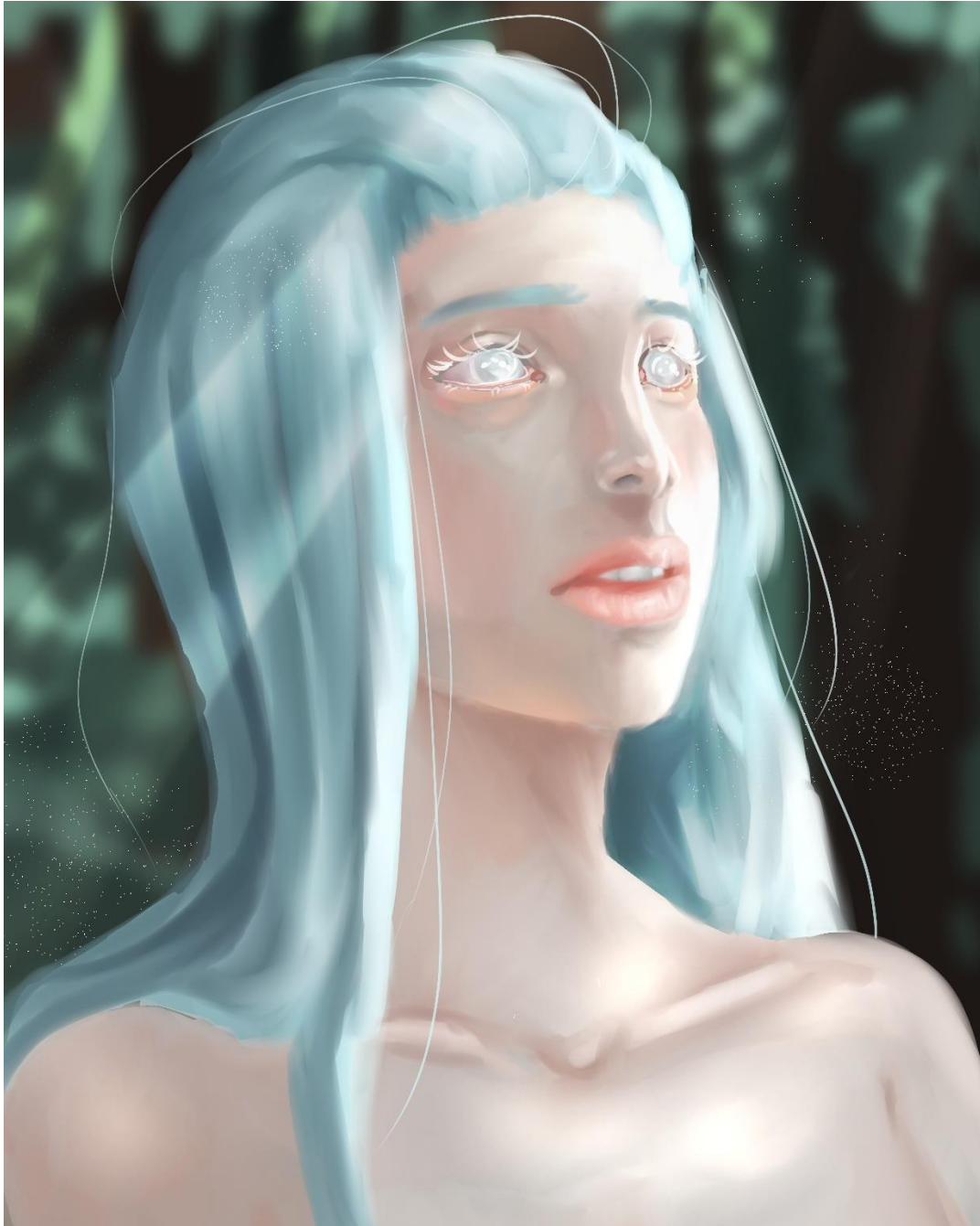
Katie Irwin

Tree of Life

Acrylic

Stillwater Area High School

My artwork represents the world's emotions. The cool colors in my painting represent the sadness and hopelessness. The warm colors in my painting represent the joy and happiness in the world. The tree is growing out of the sadness and reaching into the happiness.



Alyssa Jacobs

I See Now

Digital

Stillwater Area High School

As an artist, most of my works explore expression and illustrative techniques. Pulling from a family background of geeks, I have a passion for fantasy and the creation of characters. This then further inspires me to paint freely and expressively with color, and I work to let this guide my pieces and embody different tones between each one.



Elizabeth Kaari

Print of St. Michael's

Linoleum Print

St. Croix Preparatory Academy

Since a young age, art has always been necessary for the expression and communication of my feelings. From painting to photography to linoleum printing, I have been able to capture moments in pieces that will last forever. I appreciate working with a diverse variety of mediums and experimenting with whatever may come my way. Art has been, and will continue to be, a core aspect of who I am.



Eloise Koltun

Here

Ink

Stillwater Area High School



Madeline Larson

Take Them Until They Take Me

Mixed media

Stillwater Area High School

Throughout my work, I try to explore how different colors, textures, and patterns can make any viewer uncomfortable at any moment. I also aspire to have my viewers think about my pieces far past looking at them. Although I know what each of these pieces represent to me, I like the deeper meanings to be up to individual determination, that way any one person can look at it and relate it to their personal situation.



Jayne Mapstone

Gris

Acrylic, yarn, paper

Stillwater Area High School

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Anne Messelt

Power

Digital

Stillwater Area High School



Anna Nguyen
Flower Vase
Ceramic

Stillwater Area High School

Clay is a medium I do not have much experience with, but when I was working on these pieces, I realized how working on something 3D can have many possibilities.



Olivia Nienaber

Glass in Stone

Photography

Homeschool

A common theme of my photography is nature and wildlife. I often focus on a small aspect of something rather than the object as a whole. Photography is one of my favorite mediums because it is a way of stopping time for me; and I can capture the beauty of nature and how it is ever-changing. By manipulating photos, I can create a different look or mood, which I enjoy.



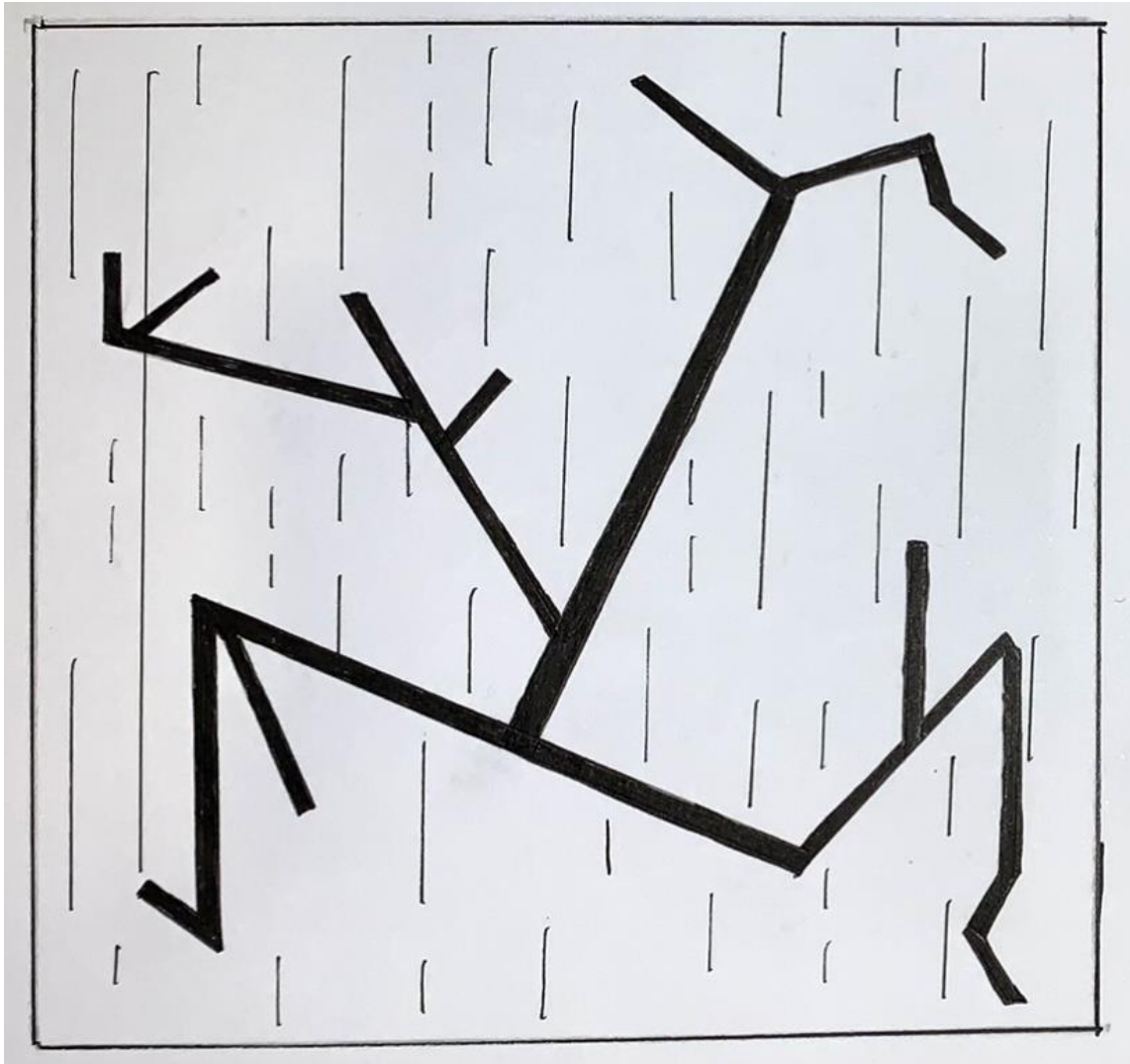
Meg Petersen

Peaches

Acrylic on paper

White Bear Lake Area High School

Using paints, pens, and pencils, Meg captures the overlooked details of everyday life. She often explores what it means to be human through her artwork, specializing in portraits. She mostly spends her days sketching, painting, and running her small business, The Wee Peach.



Grace Pompilio

Deception

Felt pen on Bristol board

East Ridge High School

My name is Grace and I am a senior in high school! I have always loved art and enjoy doing it as a hobby. I enjoy creating a variety of pieces with different mediums. While I plan to major in nursing after graduating, I will always enjoy the creation process and the feelings that can be expressed through art.



Quinn Pyka

Escape

Colored pencil, acrylic, watercolor on paper

East Ridge High School

Life is often unyielding. Every day holds a new challenge, a new conflict. A person can choose to be consumed by the negative, hidden in a dark night. Or they can also choose to see the positive, electrifying sky open with light. The girl in the image escaped. She found this light and saw the beauty in it. And the light saw the beauty in her. The beauty that burst into a wondrous rose.



Madeline Riley

The Theater

Photography

Mahtomedi High School

I try to reckon with my views on America through my photography, taking slightly different approaches to the same theme of post-modern America. I love interesting textures and try to bring a gothic sense of positivity as someone becoming an adult in 2021.



Smriti Samtani

Cloud of Destruction

Graphite

Mahtomedi High School

My name is Smriti and I am 16 years old. I am on my school's Swim and Dive team and I teach dance in my free time. I enjoy all types of art; however, drawing is my absolute favorite. Although scrapbooking is a close second. I gravitate towards doodling and coloring whenever I am stressed and my favorite feeling is the sense of accomplishment when I finish a difficult piece.



Smriti Samtani

Yuktika

Graphite

Mahtomedi High School

My name is Smriti and I am 16 years old. I am on my school's Swim and Dive team and I teach dance in my free time. I enjoy all types of art; however, drawing is my absolute favorite. Although scrapbooking is a close second. I gravitate towards doodling and coloring whenever I am stressed and my favorite feeling is the sense of accomplishment when I finish a difficult piece.



Claudia Stow

Ghost Touches

Digital

Stillwater Area High School

I am a digital artist and animator. I try to push myself by mainly focusing on limited, yet emotional and impactful color palettes. A lot of my art this year has revolved around my life in a long distance relationship along with my past adventures before COVID-19 began.



Daisy Vanderwood

A Lady

Acrylic on canvas

White Bear Lake Area High School

My name is Daisy Vanderwood. I'm 17 and I love making art. I experiment with painting, drawing, digital art, collage and jewelry making. Once I graduate high school, I'm planning on going to an art school and pursuing art as a career.



Ryan Weiss

Unwanted Attention

Colored pencil

I have had a passion for art my entire life. In recent years, my art has focused on subjects like mental health and the environmental issues our world faces today. This piece focuses on personal ordeals I have faced in my life.

Stillwater Area High School



Olivia Wenner

Wendell the Mouse

Polymer clay, fabric, yarn, wood, pastels, acrylic

Mounds View High School

I made *Wendell the Mouse* because I love the characters from stop-motion animated movies and wanted to see if I could put that much personality into a little clay figure.



THANK YOU
MINNEAPOLIS COLLEGE OF ART AND DESIGN
&
WET PAINT
FOR PROVIDING ADDITIONAL PRIZES!

**The 2021 High School Visual Arts Contest is
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VHACF



Strengthening our Community

VADNAIS HEIGHTS AREA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

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PLATINUM



NewStudio | architecture

Schwieters Pottery



GOLD



SILVER



Kathy & Lisa Madore,
Edina Realty



JANE BACCHUS
The Bacchus-Ecklin Group

Edina Realty



Cotroneo's Wine & Spirits
White Bear Lake Lions Club
B&G Products Company



Crowley, White
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BRONZE

Abbott Paint & Carpet
Auto Glass Express
Bill Weigel Signs
Blue Ribbon Bronze
Brave North Technology
Brookdale North Oaks -
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Cities Credit Union
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Wet Paint
White Bear Eye Clinic
White Bear Glass