



HUNTINGTON ARTS COUNCIL

Nightmare on Main Street
October 20th - November 12th, 2023
Artist Statements



With Additional Support from:

Main St. Benefactor Members

Beth and Charles Levinthal

Carolyn Sampson in memory of Cindy Kiebitz

Bette and Paul Schneiderman

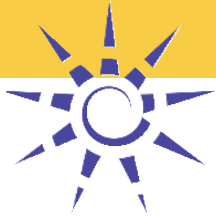
Sustaining Benefactor:

Po Zhang



Council on
the Arts

BLICK
art materials



Holly Hunt | Nightmare on Main St Juror

Artist Statement for HAC Nightmare on Main Street

Fear is one of the seven universal emotions and can stem from real threats or imagined dangers. Many consider fear to be a “negative” emotion, but fear can actually serve an important role in keeping us safe.

Halloween is commonly known for pumpkins, costumes, witches, trick-or-treating, and haunted houses. In the 21st century, simulated Halloween haunted houses are used to frighten willing participants by incorporating actors dressed in costume, fearsome sets and characters, darkness, and sound and fog machines. While some might enjoy the journey through these types of haunted houses, others enjoy entering a location that is rumored to be haunted and exploring in the darkness not knowing what lurks around the corner. Fear can be either an exhilarating and unexplainable thrill or a harmful and harrowing experience.

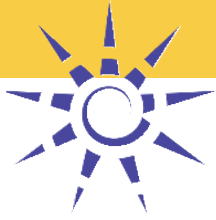
Using the medium of your choice, create an art piece to depict how fear has affected your life in either a negative or positive way.

Artist Biography

Holly Hunt is a New York based photographer whose work consists primarily of self-portraits where she uses darkness and light in unconventional attire and surroundings to represent her personal journey. Her images are inspired by her childhood or forgotten memories that have been triggered through her exploration and discovery.

Holly’s first photograph was captured with a Polaroid and her love for photography started on film. Eventually, she moved to digital format, self-improving and perfecting her craft through research, trial and error, and practice. In 2016, she started her photography business focusing on capturing beauty in abandoned places. Her images of abandonment are widely known and have been awarded by Heckscher Museum of Art and Gallery North.

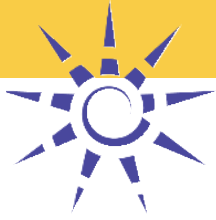
Holly’s artwork has been exhibited in over twenty-five galleries. She is a photography instructor and author. In 2020, she self-published her book, “Exploring Home”.



Alyana Abreu



Big Snack
Watercolor, 14" x 11"
North Babylon High School
NFS



Ava Beck



In The Dark

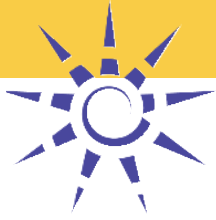
Handrawn and Digital, 750 px x 933 px

Harborfields High School

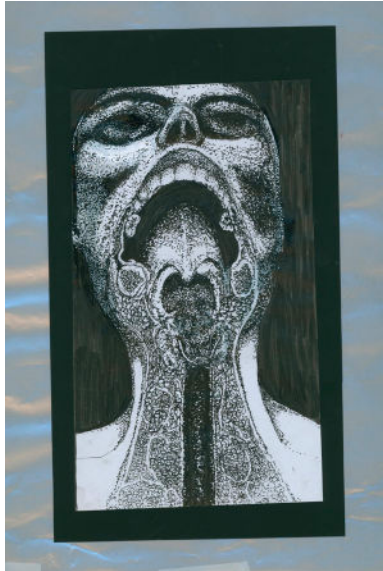
NFS

Artist Statement:

I was playing a horror game when inspiration struck to draw a creepy monster. I drew the drawing on paper before taking it to a digital drawing app and editing it there where I made the lines cleaner, made the eyes brighter, and added a better background. This was made to be scary.



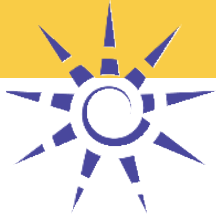
Amelia Bhairo



Resting Man
Ink, 17.5" x 12.5"
West Hempstead Secondary
NFS

Artist Statement:

This piece was made to be overbearing and unsettling. The contrast between the strictly black and white color pallet gives texture. The person in the drawing is shown to be lifeless, while also full of little details that bring the drawing itself to life. The unconformity comes to bring my art together.



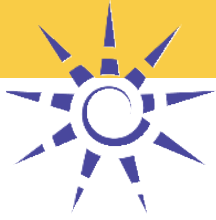
Eden Bonamassa



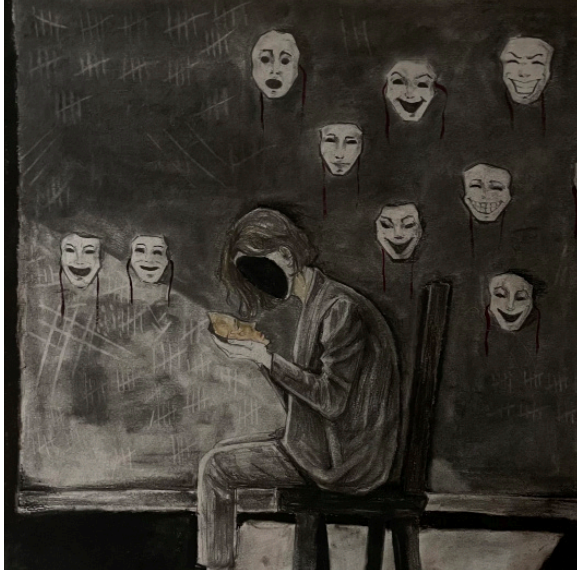
A Moon Peering Through Horizon
Watercolor, 18" x 24" x 1.5"
North Babylon High School
NFS

Artist Statement:

Fear turns you into the very thing you were afraid of. It's true for both figures in the piece in very different ways. Fear can corrupt your actions and compromise your worth out of desperation to escape dread. It can also blind your perception of reality and the way you view the world hence the girls eyes.



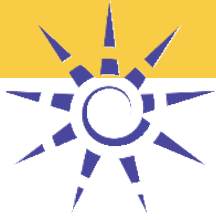
Yuxin Cai



Under Masks
Mixed Media, 12" x 12"
Syosset High School
\$100

Artist Statement:

Us, under masks... I really think this is us currently. In today's society, to survive, everyone needs to wear different masks in different occasions. In this harsh reality, everyone needs to wear masks in order to fit into this society. I believe that everyone is a kind child, but the cruelty of reality has taught them to wear a mask of disguise. Wearing a mask for too long, it becomes my skin.... Wearing a mask for too long, finally, it leads to disguising myself in front of myself. So ridiculous, so frightening that I almost forgot what I was like under my mask, I haven't had it out in so long that it's already breaking. Laughter, is a mask that covers up sadness. On the walls, only happy masks were hanged. I learned to smile with a mask, even though I'm not happy. Why is that so horrifying, but also gives me comfort in a way?



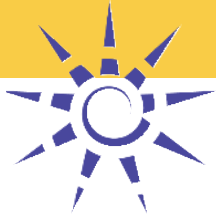
Ava Coco



Fear
Mixed Media, 8.5" x 11"
Cold Spring Harbor Jr/Sr High School
\$20

Artist Statement:

This piece is supposed to correlate with the Fear theme. It shows a scary skeleton/clown figure.



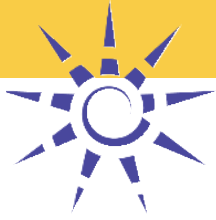
Cassidy Conklin



Darkness Grows
Photography, 16" x 20"
East Rockaway Jr/Sr High School
NFS

Artist Statement:

The inspiration for these pieces was underwater/sunken ship scene. These pieces communicate a mysterious missing treasure story and it gives off a creepy vibe. While photographing these pictures the idea was for it to have cool lighting and things that would make people turn their heads and wonder what they were really looking at.



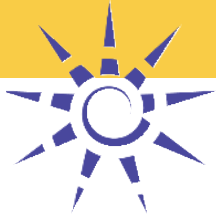
Lindsay Connolly



Grace in Death
Chalk Pastel, 12.5" x 19"
Northport High School
NFS

Artist Statement:

Many people have a fear of death, which I represented with the skull. But to contrast this fear and negativity I made the skull a bright positive color. With the hopeful blue against the dark background we focus on the positive side of the piece. Death can be thought of negatively, but death can also be thought of as beautiful.



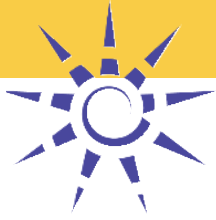
Carly Corcoran



Flowered Silence
Mixed Media, 9" x 12"
Syosset High School
NFS

Artist Statement:

"Hanahaki Disease", a fictional disease which was popularized by East Asia, caused by romantic, unrequited love. People affected begin coughing up flower petals until either they confess their feelings, or they die by choking on the petals. However in this scenario I'd like to think of platonic instead of romantic love. Everyone has their interests, some may be more passionate than others. This drawing is for all of those who are passionate, too passionate. Ones who need to suppress their love for things they care about. The chaotic coloring is a representation of what someone like this has to go through; a series of silenced thoughts. The flower crown represents the hushing of the mind, the vomiting of flowers represents the hushing of the voice, the tight vines a reminder to keep in line with everyone else, to not talk, to not think, to blend in and be normal.



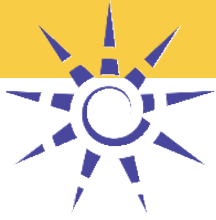
Ryan D'Angelo



Uncanny Grin
Photography, 20" x 29"
Northport High School
NFS

Artist Statement:

I took multiple pictures and I believe this one was the best. To me, the Darkness I was able to Get in the back round really helps the face pop. The Slight smirk on the skeletons face is what made me choose this one, as I believe its just enough emotion to look unsettling.



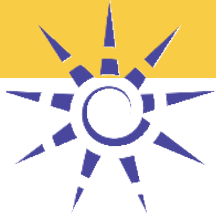
Emily Dahl



Exterior Distortion
Graphite and Colored Pencil, 20" x 15"
Valley Stream North
NFS

Artist Statement:

The inspiration for my piece is how body dimorphism affected my perception of myself. I often found myself wishing to "tear" my face off and theoretically start with a clean slate.



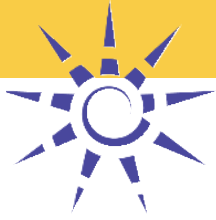
Clare DeSario



A Good Treat
Mixed Media, 10" x 9"
Northport High School
NFS

Artist Statement:

In this piece I wanted to explore the idea of thrill in a positive juvenile experience of fear. I wanted to show a different side of fear that we have as children instead of the typically negative aspects of fear. This piece focuses on the exhilarating memories that fear can bring us. This is reflected through the piece's bright colors and by looking at fear through a child's eyes.



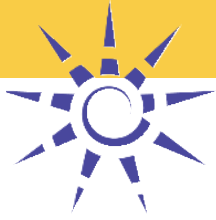
Maya Flam



Speak
Oil Pastels on Paper, 23" x 17"
West Hempstead Secondary School
NFS

Artist Statement:

My pieces come from a deep place in my mind of raw emotion and chaotic concepts. I hope to convey a variety of messages that can change from person to person but still convey the same raw feeling and fear of emotions coming from oneself. In my piece "Smile" I hope to convey the feeling of being pulled apart from putting up a facade and being fearful of the emotions that come with that. I strive to hear different interpretations of my pieces, because everyone experiences feelings differently and art is something that can create a bridge to understand others minds.



Lily Fu



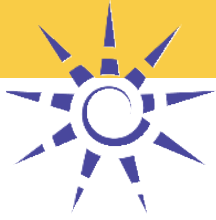
Light-out

Colored pencil and Graphite, 12" x 9"

Plainview-Old Bethpage John F. Kennedy HS
NFS

Artist Statement:

As soon as I saw the word "nightmare", the first thing that popped into my head was what is my greatest fear? And how do I express that common fear that people might have encountered before on a sheet of paper? I'm sure we all had the time when it's our turn to close the kitchen light downstairs but the atmosphere seems to change after the "Light-out". And the feeling of being down there in the dark alone doesn't feel great. Because am I really "alone"? It's funny how I scare myself the most with this question. In this piece, I am focused on the light and dark and how that shapes what I imagine, but not of what I actually see.



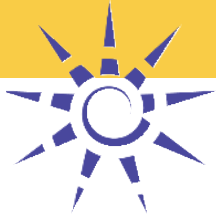
Divya Ganshani



Tangled Moon
Digital Photography, 16" x 20"
Half Hollow Hills High School East
\$150

Artist Statement:

The inspiration for this photo was the idea that when you think scary and creepy you think darkness so that's really where the idea came from. I was able to capture a lamp post from an unusual angle which changed the tone of the image.



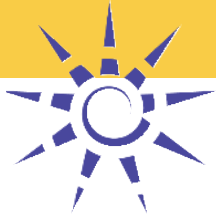
Juliet Ganz



Astrophobia
Guache, 8" x 11"
Half Hollow Hills High School East
\$20

Artist Statement:

This piece was made using gauche. It depicts an astronaut in free fall, their tether cut. This is based on the fear of space, Astrophobia. This fear combines two common ones. The fear of the dark, and the fear of the vast. In space you're falling in every direction at once. You lose all sense of up or down, you just go further and further into blackness.



Sarah-Kate Giarrizzo



Natural Order
Mixed Media, 16" x 21"
East Rockaway Jr/Sr High School
NFS

Artist Statement:

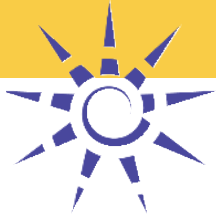
My piece "Natural Order" is a depiction of the chaos that lies in the most balanced areas of life. Through an abstract representation, the painting is a reference to the cells that make up a larger, more complex system. The Fibonacci sequence--a term that mathematicians developed--expresses itself in many plants, creatures, and other forms of life. This sequence is symbolized in red, representing this naturally occurring phenomenon. The use of black netting atop the painting adds a layer of darkness, which can be interpreted as the disturbing parts of life that loom all around us.



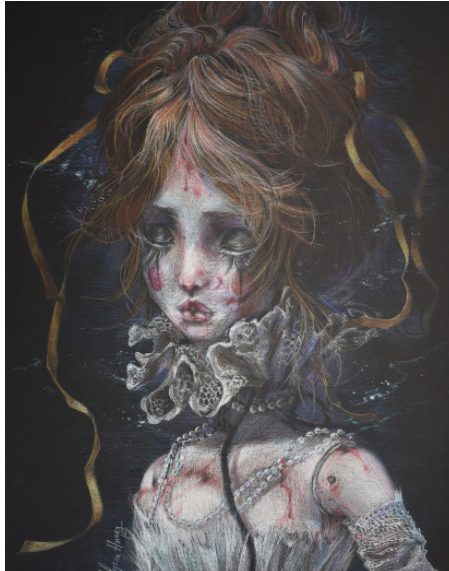
Matthew Holcombe



Frankenstein
Ink on Paper, 11" x 16"
North Babylon High School
\$100



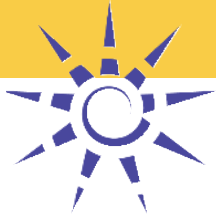
Alyssa Huang



Broken
Colored Pencil, 12" x 9"
Syosset High School
NFS

Artist Statement:

This piece was created to accompany a history project about a story between Anaise, a French woman who is trying to escape from her abusive husband and Arabelle, a witch who helps Anaise to find her truth. This piece aimed to depict the relationship between Anaise, her husband and Arabelle as Anaise hesitates to decide if she should kill her husband or if she should remain innocent.



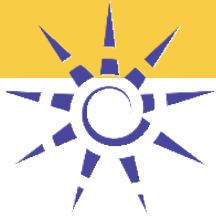
Soraya Jabir



Clown
Colored pencil, 11" x 14"
Syosset High School
\$100

Artist Statement:

Because my reference photos were dark with dramatic contrast and highlights, I chose to use a blackboard as my drawing surface. I used colored pencils to add in highlights while leaving the shadows as the blackboard.



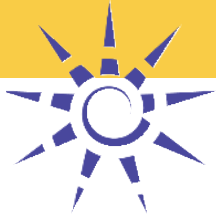
Emma Jacob



Crunchy Leaves
Darkroom Photography, 8" x 10"
Syosset High School
NFS

Artist Statement:

"Crunchy Leaves" was taken during a hike I took in Connecticut after a rainstorm. This photo portrays the idea that even in the broken and ominous looking areas of life, beauty can be found. My inspiration here was to show that even after destructive events, nature still has many different stories to tell. "Crunchy Leaves" is a photo that I took when I heard the breaking under my feet and the sounds of footsteps around me while outside one evening. This photo is meant to capture that idea of hearing sounds in a dark space, and not knowing where they may be coming from. "Crunchy Leaves" was inspired by the common fear of spiders, and was made to show the beauty that they can produce. This photo is meant to convey the idea that when you look close at simple things, you find many more intricacies than ever thought before.



Jada Joseph



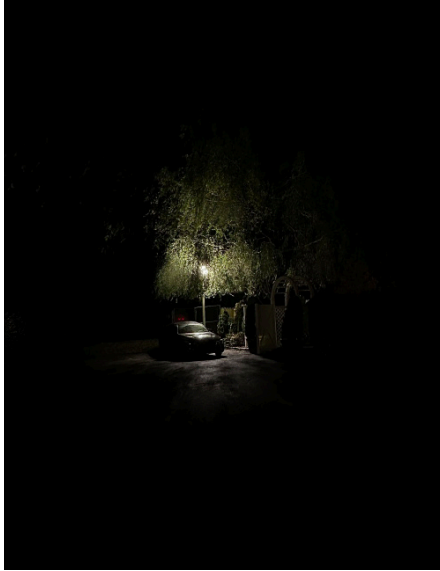
Escape My Soul
Photography, 16" x 20"
Huntington High School
\$50 without frame

Artist Statement:

With this new passion for photographic art I eagerly explored a variety of subject matter. I delved into areas of photography such as portraits, illusions, still life, landscapes, street art, & architecture. Each of these categories of subject matter taught me so many new & different things. Creating illusion that keep the viewer engaged is my primary focus in this haunting series.



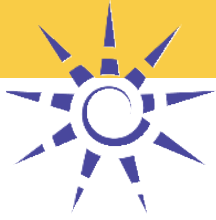
Kashish Kochar



In the Depths
Digital Photography, 16" x 20"
Half Hollow Hills High School East
\$150

Artist Statement:

Art is not something one can mess up. It represents one's emotions, feelings, and thoughts. A piece of artwork is a true representation of its creator. I found inspiration for this photo by looking at deserted parking lots. I added a lot of contrast to make the shadows look deeper and added eyes near the car to display the idea of someone watching.



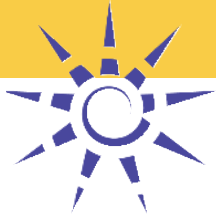
Samantha Koepele



The Angel of Death
Fashion Design, 5' x 2' x 1.5'
Huntington High School
\$200

Artist Statement:

For "The Angel of Death," I wanted to represent the fear that most people have of death and its complications due to religion and other personal beliefs. I started with a very pure image of an angel, but I dyed and distressed the dress I was making to capture the fact that for many, death is one of the worst realities that they'll face.



Jayla Koster



No Fear

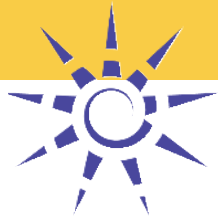
Digital Photography, 10" x 8"

Plainview-Old Bethpage John F. Kennedy HS

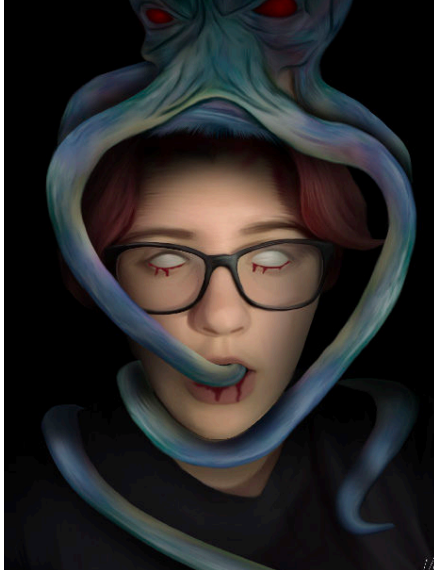
\$50

Artist Statement:

Fear, a word that is unpleasant, frightening, and alarming. Although fear is not all bad, it can protect and keep us safe in certain circumstances. I have experienced fear many times in my life; fear of heights, needles, spiders, and snakes. I have learned overtime to conquer my fears because fear is distracting and leads towards excuses. Conquering these fears left me relieved, less anxious, and a more powerful person. The concepts of art and fear have similarities and differences but both will benefit and improve your life in various ways.



Mattie Krakoff



Ceremorphosis

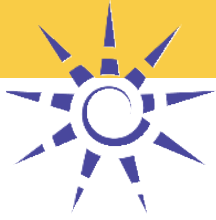
Digital, Printed onto Wood, 21" x 17" x 1"

Massapequa High School

\$800

Artist Statement:

This piece expresses how escapism is not always beneficial to me. While escapism allows me to put all of my focus into one interest of mine, often Dungeons and Dragons, it also can hurt me immensely. I can get so obsessive about the topic that many ties to my reality can be broken. This can cause me to isolate myself from friends and family, ignore my schoolwork in order to focus on my interest, and more. The monster in this self portrait is a creature from D&D that can take control of other beings and use them for whatever it wants. This represents the double edged sword that is escapism in my life.



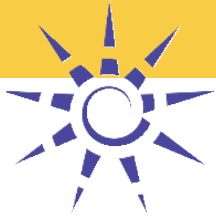
Olivia Lanci



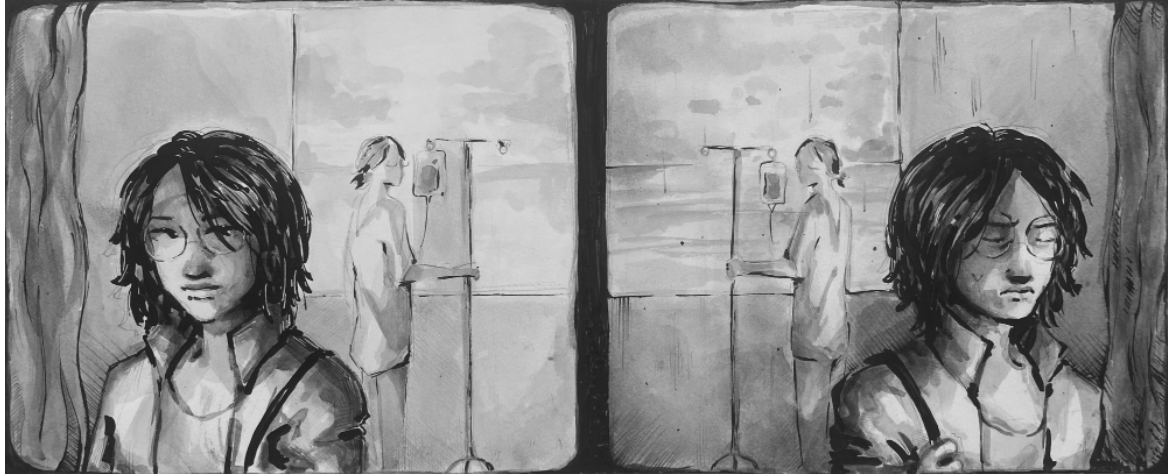
I Care What You Think
Painting on Stacked Paper, 16" x 20" x 0.5"
Commack High School
\$1,000

Artist Statement:

This piece is a large black and white self portrait that I added to using colorful paper and drawings. My inspiration for this piece is my personal fear of being negatively perceived by others, and of some social interaction. I used a previous artwork of a monster that I previously painted with watercolor, and added pieces of it to portray the way I fear being seen by others.



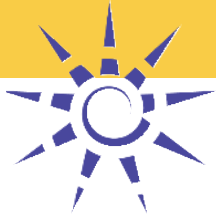
Abigail Laureta



The Film Roll of Life
Ink and Graphite, 7" x 17"
Uniondale High School
NFS

Artist Statement:

Fear can play a role in keeping us safe, physically and emotionally. When fear dictates our actions, we only see the outcome we choose. What if we chose a different outcome? We will never know whether or not the choices we have made were more positive or more negative than our other options. If you chose to leave a friend, would your life be better or worse without them? Maybe there was little difference in either outcome, and one was never better than the other in the first place. As humans, all we can do is hope we made the right decision, think about the past, and move toward the future. Time will continue like a film with no beginning or end, splitting into two every time a choice is made.



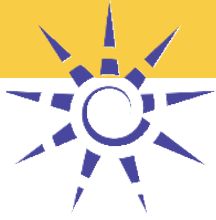
Rachel Learned



The Haunting
Photography, 16" x 20"
Huntington High School
\$50 without frame

Artist Statement:

Through my photography I have been working on a story-telling aspect and in this photo, it portrays the wandering spirits of a forest, and a symbol of the fear of death and what comes after it. The skull represents that fear represented in front of our eyes, but the ghosts represent that this fear can be turned into a beautiful thing! The afterlife can be interpreted as a lonely eternal darkness, or a reuniting of friends and family and in my picture, I chose to show the dancing of two friends. Everyone has a fear of death and what's to come. In my second photo I photographed a girl with a blindfold half covering her eyes showing the steps of blind faith she had to take but she is hesitant to fully trust her situation.



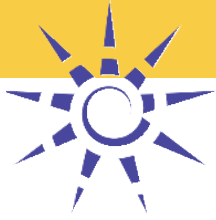
Molly Lebolt



House of Mirrors
35mm Film, Lightroom, 8" x 10"
Syosset High School
NFS

Artist Statement:

As a person with anxiety, fear is an ever-present constant in my life. In my pieces, I wanted to represent the feeling of fear and what triggers that emotion in me. On a surface level, haunted houses do bring me fear and heighten my senses, as I depict in the first image. Climate change is another thing that frightens me, which I represented in the second and third images. However, the feeling of suffocation and helplessness in these images is not only applicable to my environmental dread; the feeling of fear makes it difficult to function, and in the last two images I aim to portray that.



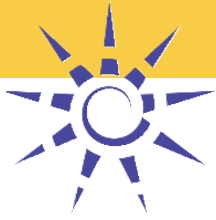
Chamille Malcolm



The Unfortunate Reality of a Black Girl
Mixed Media, 11" x 15"
Valley Stream North
NFS

Artist Statement:

Living as a young black girl in today's society is scary. My artwork symbolizes the adultification and hypersexualization of young black girls, which is scary because it takes away from their childhood as well as their innocence. Black girls routinely experience adultification bias and have been stereotyped to "act" older than their age, causing for them to be expected to be more responsible and mature beyond their age. This goes hand in hand with the hypersexualization of black girls because we are seen as "too grown". The idea that we are more "adult like" is detrimental because it causes for a lot of black girls to be targets of sexual assault. This piece represents the unfortunate and scary reality a lot of young black girls face today.



Giselle Marquez



Can You See Them
Drawing, 11" x 14"
Memorial Junior
NFS

Artist Statement:

There really ain't to much inspiration behind my art piece other than some of the little details in the piece like from movies and monsters that were inspired by it. The message is kind of trying to say "keep your eyes peeled" or looking carefully because in this specific art piece it's all about looking closely for what you can see. In most I thought of this art piece on my own but took some inspiration from movies and different shows for the certain monsters I decided to draw. So overall my art piece is about looking closely because you never know what's looking back at you.



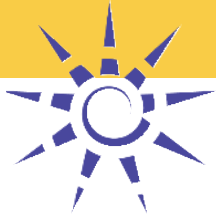
Isabella Mascetti



Purify
Ballpoint Pen, 14" x 18" x .75"
Valley Stream North
NFS

Artist Statement:

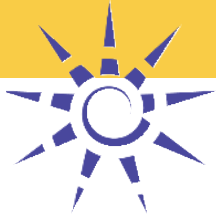
Throughout the history of the catholic church, the brutalization of Native land and culture has been persistent. The justification for the creation of churches on native land and the forced assimilation is that native peoples must follow a holy religion. This belief is morally hypocritical as followers of a holy religion that emphasizes kindness and acceptance believe that they should forcefully destroy another way of life. I highlight this moral hypocrisy by depicting a forest, representing Native land or peoples, destroyed by demons, followers of the church who impose their will onto others, following the church's orders. However, I chose to depict the demons submitting to a church and not a bible because the religion itself is not inherently harmful, the way organizations and people manipulate religion is. Thus, through my piece, I depict the moral shortcomings of religious organizations that harm groups deemed "unholy".



Mairead Matthews



Intentions of Others
Acrylic Paint, 14" x 11"
North Babylon High School
\$20



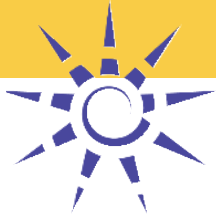
Emily Miccio



Reality Within
Mixed Media, 12" x 9"
North Babylon High School
\$50

Artist Statement:

My demon-like creature incorporates how fear and emotions can take over someone's life. The regular, human side represents what's left of true reality within the girl. Fear is a huge emotion and being scared can lead to plenty of thoughts running throughout your head. The blindfold represents how we are blind to fear and sometimes cannot avoid it.



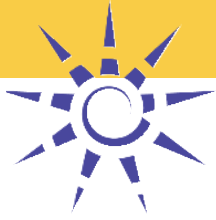
Kaylee Neems



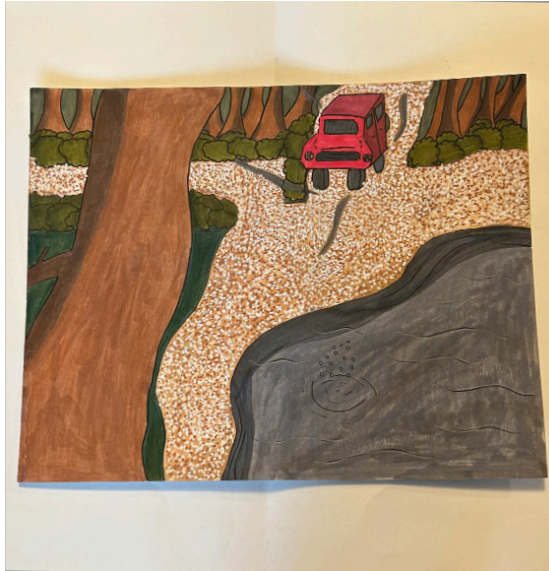
Gypsy Lady
Photography, 12" x 8"
Northport High School
NFS

Artist Statement:

This photo communicates a creepy, scary, dark feel.



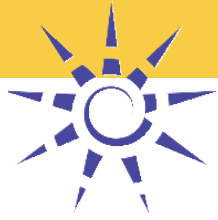
Sulayman Noori



Drowning
Mixed Media, 9" x 12"
Half Hollow Hills High School East
NFS

Artist Statement:

I made this piece because I'm scared of drowning. Even though I know how to swim. I cannot swim for a long time and I cannot swim underwater. When I was smaller I was running around the pool on the deeper side of the pool and I started drowning until my sister saved me.



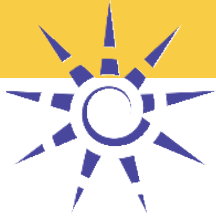
Queen-Lily Orjiako



The Personification of an Adrenaline Rush
Digital, 2100 px x 1500 px
Memorial Junior High School
NFS

Artist Statement:

The mind is a diverse and complex thing, a dance between the conscious, the subconscious, and the automatic. To stay in unison, a link is needed, a feeling that can be understood by all three. The fear response is that link, for no matter what state the mind is in, it can still comprehend the extreme shift of something is happening that needs to be addressed. This can be sadness, this can be anger, this can even be a sense of happiness, or just the ebbing feeling of wrong. With that, the trio can continue their dance in unison, steadfast in preservation.



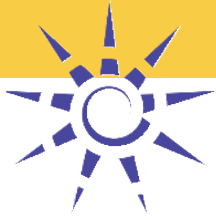
Jillian Ostrow



Progress Not Perfection
Colored Pencil and Marker, 20" x 15"
Valley Stream North High School
NFS

Artist Statement:

My art, is a self portrait depicting me when I fear I have let someone down, the fear of never being perfect getting in my head while I fake a smile trying to pretend that everything is okay. While I know nothing is perfect, the fear of letting people down has taken over my mind in multiple points in my life. During these points I feel lost and not seen, the overall fear causing me to break down.



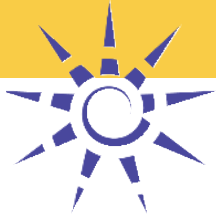
Natalie Parrott



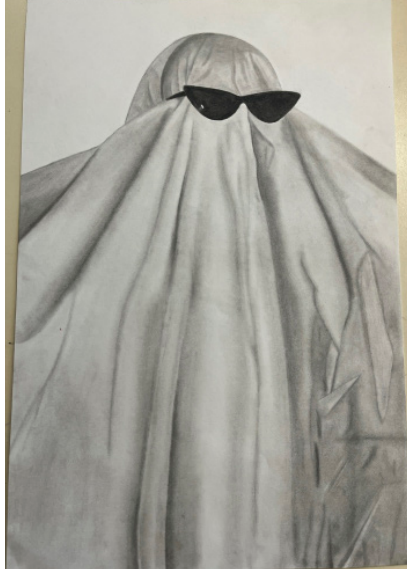
True Danger Lies in the Light
Acrylic Paint on Canvas, 20" x 16" x .625"
Huntington High School
\$80

Artist Statement:

In my piece, I wanted to convey the phenomenon of fearing the unknown and as a result mistakenly letting your guard down to genuine dangers. People frequently have a tendency to fixate on broad fears or unknowns while missing the things they should actually be concerned about. This is represented by my painting. It portrays a woman looking into a pitch black doorway, positioned as to hide most of her body from whatever could be inside. The pitch black is a symbol for the dark, limitless unknown. The woman doesn't know exactly what she fears, but that's exactly why she is afraid. Meanwhile, hands are reaching out to her, about to grab her. Despite the hands being out in the open and illuminated by the light, she is unaware of their presence due to her fixation on the darkness. The hands are a symbol for true danger, silently threatening her. Any moment the hands could take hold of her and she would be clueless, because she is fearing the wrong thing.



Samantha Peace



Boo

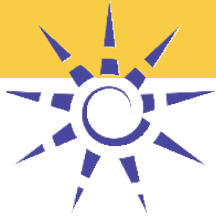
Pencil and Charcoal, 12" x 18"

Plainview-Old Bethpage John F. Kennedy HS

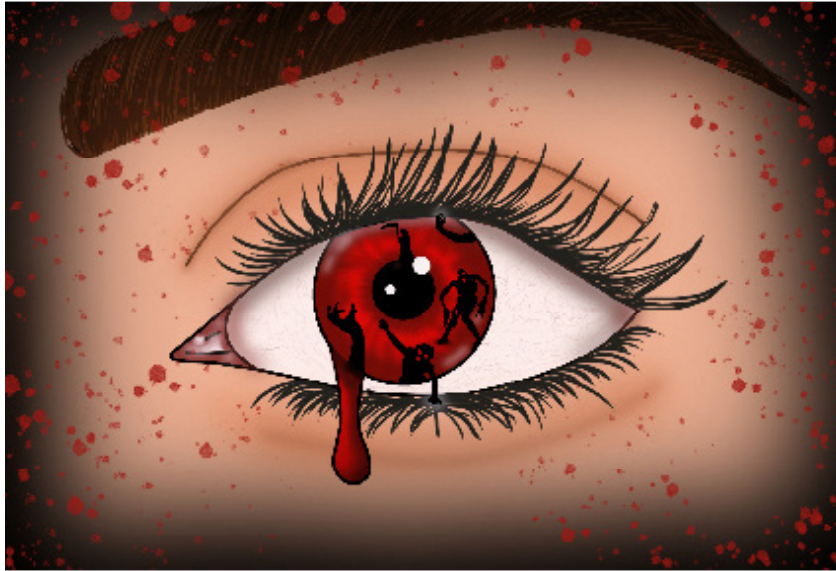
NFS

Artist Statement:

My art is supposed to represent the childish side of Halloween that I will never forget. The inspiration for my piece came from my little brother last year. I have never seen him have as much fun as he did last Halloween. He had a superhero costume that he had been waiting to wear since the moment he got it. Yet that morning, we didn't find him wearing that costume, as a matter of fact, we couldn't find him at all. While we searched the house looking for him, we were interrupted by a sudden "Boo!" It came from someone dressed with a sheet over his head and sunglasses on top, my brother (or as I should say, a ghost).



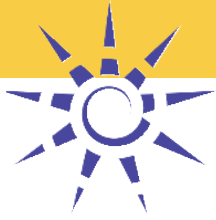
Alexis Rabinovich



Swirl of Monsters
Digital Illustration, 11" x 14"
Cold Spring Harbor Jr/Sr High School
NFS

Artist Statement:

One of my favorite things to draw is an eye. When I heard that we can do any drawing we would like but it has to be scary, I knew I had to draw an eye. I wanted to incorporate monsters and demons into the Iris and wanted it to seem as though the person had killed someone and is scared of what they've done so they are seeing monsters and blood.



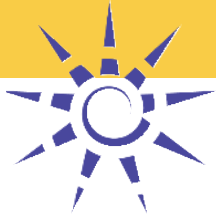
Reece Rene



Think of the Sunburn!
Mixed Media, 11" x 14"
Uniondale High School
\$55

Artist Statement:

I wanted my piece to represent how the drawbacks of fear can sometimes overpower the benefits in certain ways. I feel like although fear has the potential to keep you safe in times of danger, it can stop you from getting over phobias that people your age have already conquered, and cause you to lag behind with development. Even when you've grown up, you can still feel fear breathing down your neck telling you that whatever you feel like doing will cause you to get hurt, keeping you on the sideline while you watch the people you care about enjoying themselves.



Marianna Rountos



Shadow Man

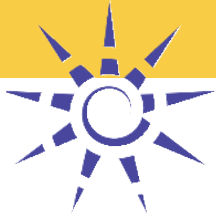
Digital Photography, 19" x 12"

Plainview-Old Bethpage John F. Kennedy HS

\$50

Artist Statement:

I view fear as obscure and mysterious, it is not a desired experience yet is always lurking. In this photograph I utilized multiple elements to create an uncanny mood. By using contrast, it's portrayed that the Shadow Man has a definite body structure, yet everything else lacks detail. Ultimately, he is an enigma; it is only apparent that he is reaching out however, what he wants is unknown.



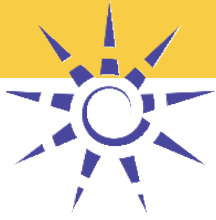
Kendra Saint Louis



Night Cawlers
Painting, 12" x 15"
Uniondale High School
\$60

Artist Statement:

My piece "Night cawlers" is about being scared of the dark. I've always been scared of the dark as a little kid ,especially when I'm walking home. I painted the monsters really kiddish to show the inner kid of the monsters that kind of come with it for me. I put eyes in the sky and little creatures behind the fence because i feel like I'm always being watched outside and i get super paranoid about it. I made the fence to represent my guard always being up and the feeling like something is always coming after me.



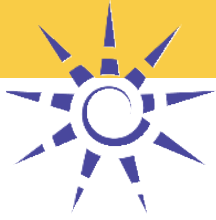
Ava Sarrocco



Paranoid
Watercolor, 20" x 15"
Half Hollow Hills High School East
\$100

Artist Statement:

This piece represents a common fear which is a creepy basement where you get so paranoid that you imagine scary things that aren't really there. I used real wallpaper on the walls and shaded it with watercolor paints. I used a tea light to create a flickering light bulb in the piece that actually works.



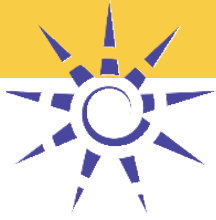
Abby Schiff



Alone
Photoshop, 11" x 14"
Paul D. Schreiber High School
NFS

Artist Statement:

I want to communicate a range of feelings through a fluid environment. The flexibility of the water allows me to manipulate it in such a way that I can form different emotions in different images. In my pieces, both feelings are harsh and sharp. The first shows someone who is being pulled apart, possibly from stress or overworking. The second one embodies loneliness.



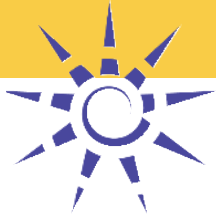
Grace Schoonmaker



Stress
Gouache, 7.5" x 8.4"
Northport High School
NFS

Artist Statement:

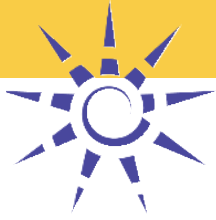
The message my piece communicates is the overwhelming feeling of stress and the fear of failure. This fear has affected my life positively and negatively. The fear of failure is my drive to do well but it also holds me back when it is time to take a jump or risk. The background of my work is filled with all my stresses just like how they fill my head. The intense red and bright orange express that feeling.



Keira Searson



Fear of Darkness
Pastels on Paper, 14" x 11"
North Babylon High School
NFS



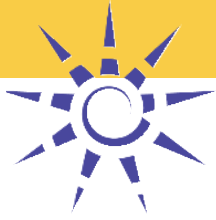
Mickayla Sharkey



Koumpounophobia
Colored Pencil, 14" x 11"
East Rockaway High School
NFS

Artist Statement:

For a couple of years I have been fascinated by phobias and how there are so many different types. I decided to In my art pieces to show how certain phobias are seen in the eyes of people with them and how it makes them feel. I want to make my pieces frighten and show the fear of the person in the pieces.



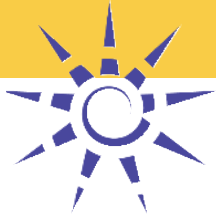
Xavier Tian



Nighttime Paranoia
Gouache, Colored Pencil, 9" x 12"
Syosset High School
NFS

Artist Statement:

Many times when I'm wandering the house at nighttime I get the feeling that I'm being watched or that I'm not alone in the dark. In this piece the subject is looking into their bathroom mirror, while their reflection is distorted and staring back as if they were their own entity. I think many people have a fear of looking into a mirror and seeing someone else looking back at them.



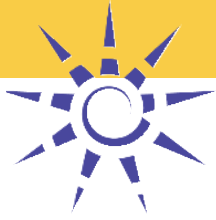
Aleeza Uddin



What Lies Beneath the Surface
Mixed Media, 8.5" x 11"
Memorial Junior High School
NFS

Artist Statement:

My art is based on when I first began wearing my hijab in 2022. I remember the beginning, of how I had to get used to it, how I had to make a commitment to my hijab. I faced a lot of bullying in school as well as out of school. People made fun of my hijab and called me a terrorist. In the piece, you can see that my eyes are crossed out and that there are pictures of eyes surrounding me. I made my piece this way to show that I had to live in the way people saw Muslim girls like me and not my own way.



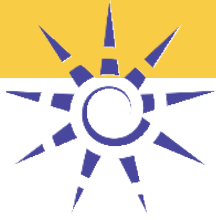
Jessica Wang



Roses Come With Thorns
Acrylic Paint, 20" x 16" x 1"
Syosset High School
NFS

Artist Statement:

All of my pieces connect to nightmares. The first piece I made is the nightmares of trauma and healing and growing from that. The second piece is the fear of failing and the pressure to be put together all while you're actually falling apart. My last piece is the nightmare and fear of death, but combined with the idea that nature persists.



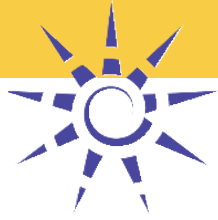
Warren Wei



Hands
Colored Pencil, Charcoal, 12" x 9"
Cold Spring Harbor Jr/Sr High School
NFS

Artist Statement:

When one loses control, damages are oftentimes self-inflicted and emotionally driven. These damages will often bleed into the situations of others (whether or not these might be people). Loss of control is destructive and continuously drains those it affects, until it becomes a flood which washes out life, replacing it with a flat and homogeneous color, exterminating even the "butterfly it originated from.



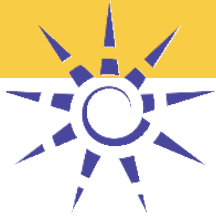
Amanda Weng



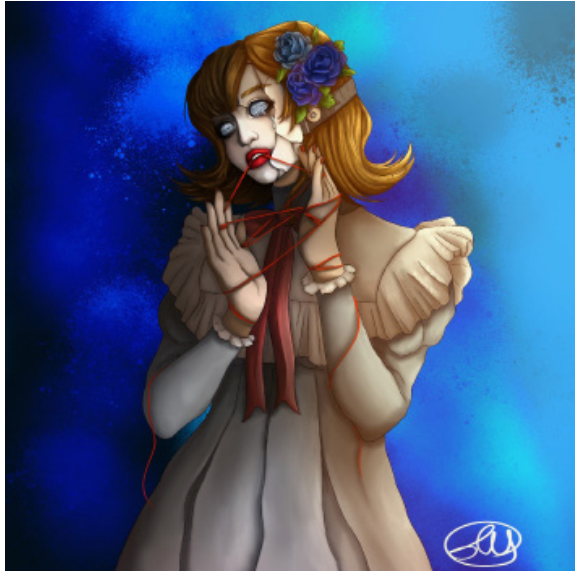
Lurking
Photograph, 11" x 14"
Syosset High School
\$7

Artist Statement:

This year's theme of "fear" can be demonstrated through many ways, directly or indirectly, fear portrayed by the subject or an unsettling feeling that gives the audience a sense of fear through their perspective. As for both of my artworks, I tried to deliver more of an uncomfortable feeling that could make the viewer feel frightened within the range of my neighborhood, and to accomplish this I captured pictures of common scenes one may find in a horror movie at a park. In my piece "Don't Look Back", I took a picture of my subject, Ethan, standing still in the middle of an empty field, in attempts to remind my audience of the classic horror movie scenes where the main character would turn around and see a figure behind them, giving off a suspicious and eerie feeling. Similarly, in my other piece "Lurking", Ethan can be found peeking through the depths of the playground with emphasis on his face, also conveying an eerie and unsettling feeling that there will always be someone watching you, maybe even closer than one may think.



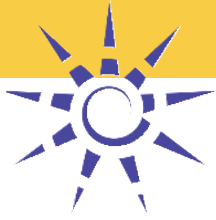
Scarlett Willems



Pick Up The Pieces
Computer Graphics, 16" x 16"
Commack High School
\$100

Artist Statement:

The woman in the piece is modeled after a porcelain doll and she is tied by red string keeping her in place. She wears a porcelain mask that is fragile as the cracks in her mask start to show. Her mask is beautiful but the mask is not real. This artwork is about beauty standards and what feels like an obligation to be perfect. No one is perfect and eventually the fragile mask of perfection you wear will break. The string represents her being tied down by other peoples opinions and standards of her. Her eyes are TV static as a tear runs down her face. She is fearful of other peoples opinions and comments.



Lilly Zarmehrbakhsh



Phantom

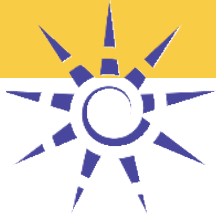
Photography, 4952 px × 3301 px

The Wheatley School

NFS

Artist Statement:

My pieces were all inspired by one location I visited with my family. On the land, there was an abandoned house, and something about it just spoke to me.



Christina Zhong



The Screaming Woman
Colored Pencils and Sharpie, 14" × 11"
South Woods Middle School
NFS

Artist Statement:

The screaming woman shows how you should make good choices so you don't mess up your life. In her left eye, there is a hand with her son's bloody heart with the face of her old and regretful self. In the right eye, the young version of her, a hand of her son's killer holds a dagger, and she was encouraging the killer (before it became a killer) to make wrong decisions. She was a rich and evil person.