

My main vision of presenting my exhibition was putting my art pieces all together. I wanted my pieces from Junior and Senior year mixed together. The overall message I have always been conveying throughout my years in creating my art, is to convey the struggle of facing Bipolar Disorder and Depression. I conveyed these topics in my art pieces but I conveyed it in numerous ways, so my audience can choose exactly which specific painting correlates to them the most, which one can they relate to most? When searching for art pieces presenting Depression or Bipolar Disorder there's a highly noticeable trend in the way they all happen to be conveyed in tones of blacks, blues, usually it's extremely evident that it's a painting conveying Bipolar and Depression but it's too blatant. That's not what I wanted in my pieces, I didn't want it to be extremely blatant. I wanted my audience to not only get intrigued by my art style, but truly analyze and connect themselves with my paintings to sincerely feel, understand the true meaning. To feel the struggle not only myself, but many other people experience as well. Dealing with mental health disorders is such an isolating experience, especially when you feel there is nobody to understand you.

I wanted my pieces to have everyone feel understood. Mental health isn't only conveyed one way, it's presented in numerous ways. I began to sort of explore the idea of mental health, especially after the passing of one of my closest friends. This led into my second project of my junior year, "Limbo." This studio piece sort of was the start point of my exploration of the idea of conveying mental health, but this was more in a general sense. I explored the effects of depression, loss of hope, as well as some inclusion of religion, searching for God in the darkest times of your life. Ending with my last piece of my junior year, "Illustration Project" this marked the ending of my Junior year as well as marking the beginning of my personal development. Within my works, the themes usually have always been stuck with religion and mental health factors. I correlated these two factors so much in paintings.

Towards the middle of my junior year, I began to explore themes of mental health much stronger and layed off the religious aspects a bit. Although, I did explore the ideas of mental health, and depression until it eventually became my entire theme within my art. Beginning of my summer before senior year, I created "The Wonderful Life" and "The Bad Life" I fully understood what my art style was and what I was already sticking to. My strategy in establishing a relationship between my artwork and my viewers was my presentation of my work. When showing my art pieces to my peers and family, I noticed a trend that they were more drawn to my art pieces that were bright, with happy colors and with the bunnies I used as my main focus. I decided to stick with this idea, so conveying art pieces that are bright and happy, caught the attention of people more which made them more intrigued to understand the meaning behind my pieces and it allowed them to develop a relationship with my specific style of artwork.

Arranging my art pieces in the order of my art development not only conveys my growth within my art, it conveys how I am open to presenting multiple and various depictions of what mental health can feel like. Overall, all of my studio works are meant to convey my personal struggles, specifically with mental health. It's meant to be a lens to give insight on what these mental disorders can feel like, as well as simply informing my audience how it defines me and is part of my identity.