

# entering INTO expression

Design by Zora Wakelee

## art in progress

Charlie Wang ('24) describes the process of making a self portrait painting.

Photos courtesy of Charlie Wang

**1** "For my first concept sketch, I used my sketchbook and I just brainstormed some concepts."

**2** "I did everything in my concept sketch in more detail and at a larger scale, in the same size as my canvas."

**3** "I transferred it onto my canvas. I first put down the background, then blocked the colors, I chose complementary ones for this piece, and then started rendering my face."

**4** "I then got started on rendering the stamp and the fish. I also started on the clouds as well in front."

**5** "I thought the fish was too gray so I added more color and then I made the clouds look more cloud like."

**6** "I continued working on the fish to make it more natural looking. I also covered up the stamp to redo it because the blue looked weird."

"In this piece I wanted to incorporate my immigration story that contributed to part of my identity. I moved to China when I was very young and I showed that through symbolism with the entry stamp to the city I lived for six years. I also included a fish because where I lived is known as the land of fish, and the koi fish is native to that region. This whole piece symbolizes China and where I used to live."

**CHARLIE WANG ('24)**

"I touched up everything and continued working on the hair and the stamp. I also tried to make more clouds but they ended up looking like waves, so I embraced that and just made the clouds into waves."



## BEAD beauty

Kylie De La Cruz ('23) talks about her jewelry making process.

Photos courtesy of Kylie De La Cruz Story by Rebecca Doran

One by one, beautiful multi-colored moonstones are individually arranged onto mesmerizing dangling earrings by senior Kylie De La Cruz ('23) on her work desk. She finds inspiration to make her aesthetic pieces online, and by finding new beads at jewelry stores.

Her process also involves time and patience to end up with quality handmade pieces.

"Whenever I start to make any earrings, I find inspiration that could be a photo off of Pinterest, or I'll even draw up a rough sketch of a design," De La Cruz said. "Then I'll pick out my beads."

After choosing her design, she gets started.

"I'll just get out my jewelry making supplies and watch Netflix or whatever show I'm interested in [while I work]," De La Cruz said.

De La Cruz was first introduced

to the craft when she was in elementary school and has loved it ever since.

"I've been obsessed with jewelry since first or second grade and now I have a huge jewelry collection just because I love collecting it, and that influenced me to start creating my own," De La Cruz said.

Now, she has a collection of over 100 earrings, and makes jewelry every few weeks to take a break from school work.

"I can typically create a pair of earrings that's good in a three or four hour span," De La Cruz said.

Currently, she continues to make her jewelry in her room and improve her skills.

"I went through a lot of experimentation which I'm really proud of," De La Cruz said. "I can go back to my jewelry and see what I was making and how my jewelry making process has evolved."

*"I went through a lot of experimentation which I'm really proud of."*

**KYLIE DE LA CRUZ ('23)**

(above) **AT HER DESK**, Kylie De La Cruz ('23) admires her finished earrings. "I was happy with how it turned out," De La Cruz said. (left) **WITH STEADY HANDS**, De La Cruz ('23) works on creating her beautiful earrings. "It was really difficult arranging the moonstone beads just because I would wrap each individually," she said.

As the weather gets warmer, freshman Tali Lehrer and her friends spend the day outside painting.

Photos courtesy of Tali Lehrer



(right) **AT A PICNIC** with her friends, Tali Lehrer ('26) works on painting a landscape. "I like painting because it's a really nice way to relax and is fun to do with friends," Lehrer said. (above) **AFTER COMPLETING THEIR** paintings, Tali Lehrer ('26) and her friends leave their art out to dry.

## SPRING has spring

