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Mrs. Medio

AP Studio Art

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Artist Statement

Throughout this year, my concentration has explored the expression of human emotion through portraits of my friends, family, and myself. I have always been interested in the different ways humans express themselves. Faces seem to be the most noticeable form of expression that I am able to recognize; especially in the eyes. The main reason why I chose this topic is because I do not like to show certain emotions. I prefer to keep how I feel to myself unless my feelings are positive.

In the first image, I chose to express my nervous feeling; when I am nervous, I crack and squeeze my knuckles. In images 1 through 4, I began my exploration of my concentration by drawing only friends and their feelings. In the 4th image, I saw my friend with his hands over his face and asked him to stay there so I could photograph him and work from those images.

As time went on, I considered what emotions my family were expressing. My brother Mikie, from image 7, is four years old and always smiling. In the piece number 8 of my dad, the furrowed brow and the position of his head make it obvious that he is angry, which captures his expression because he is always yelling.

Over time, my idea has become more self-oriented. Recently, my younger brother was diagnosed with Leukemia. Since he was diagnosed, I have been focusing on how I feel throughout his recovery. In my piece *Hospital*, I included the room my brother was staying in because I have been spending a lot of time with him there. In my piece *Stressed Out*, I showed how I have been feeling since he was diagnosed. While I worked on my final few images, I used my artwork as a distraction from the scariest parts of Mikie’s time in the hospital. While working on these images still makes me upset, I am glad that I had my artwork to get me through this time.