

Alyson Neighbors  
Kevin Cates  
Intro to Graphic Design  
Art Attendance 1

I went to the Brad Cushman Gallery and viewed the works that were on display for the Annual Student Competitive. There were many works on display by many artists, and an array of mediums were used. I walked through the gallery and took notes on the pieces that I liked or elicited a strong emotion. One of my favorite artworks was the Dream of a Star by Ashley Garrison done with watercolor and ink. The picture is of a very colorful bird, and the more you look at the painting the more you see. The watercolors drip down the page, and the bird has not just 2 wings but what appears to be 8, all a different color of the rainbow. The art itself was beautiful and I loved the use of her vibrant colors.

One of my next favorites was Color Theory done by Sarah Howe. The mediums she used were acrylic paint, modeling paste and gesso. I had not heard of gesso before, so I looked it up and learned that it is used primarily as a primer to prepare surfaces before you paint on them. Her artwork was three circle canvases that when put together appeared to make a tree. She used different complementary colors for each circle the top left circle she used purple and yellow, the top right circle she used blue and orange, the bottom circle (which is the trunk) used green and red. To me this was such a unique way to display color theory.

Another piece that spoke to me was the Chiaroscuro Charcoal Study by Anna Hursey. The reason that it spoke to me was because I had the same professor and had done a similar charcoal study. My creation however was nothing compared to hers. She did a great job shading and rendering each object.

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The last one that I thought was beautiful was Lilly Bee by Fay Austin, done in charcoal. Her artwork was very well rendered. Her bee and flower both appear so real and I love how she did the fine hairs on the bee's body. My only question that I have for the artist is why the flower appears to be wet, drops are dripping from it. Was this supposed to represent that it had just rained?

Another one I really wish I could hear the story behind was called "Watch your Step" by Gabrielle Verner. As an art piece I really enjoyed looking at this. This piece was a mixed medium with what appeared to be strips of torn magazines, glitter paper, spray paint, a torn up map, and beads. I am unsure what the meaning is just by looking at it but I think her overall use of mixed medium worked.

Finally, as a female I feel that I am able to freely talk about the black and white photography by Grace Johnson titled "Periods". I personally am thankful that this image was in black and white and not color, I understand that periods are natural but I personally don't want to see a girl with period blood on her hands and leaking from her panties. I do not understand how this is art, but that is just my opinion. She clearly won awards based on the signs beside it. Maybe there is again more to the story?