

Moving Forward

Teresa Blake

“Moving Forward” seeks to tell a person’s story through the use of still life. With this piece I take my own spin on the portrait by depicting a close friend using objects and plants. My goal is not to be as accurate as possible but to leave my work subjective as to let the viewer make their own story depending on their relationship to these objects. Despite this, each plant and object have a deeper meaning. The use of ferns symbolizes my subject's youthfulness and confidence while the amaryllis flowers symbolize their pride and strength. The mirror symbolizes a desire to fit in and be liked. The alligator eye is there to represent fear but also healing in the life of my subject. I kept my color palette cooler to be more sentimental and memorable. "Moving Forward" is a five-color crayon reduction made by using paper cutouts placed under the screen to create texture and movement.