

2020-21 Sustained Investigation: An Artistic Memoir

Work of Alyssa Healy

The Artist: Alyssa Healy



My sustained investigation for AP Drawing is, “How do I use art to understand my persona?”. My objective is to explore different parts of my life, strengths, and weaknesses, and what art techniques would best communicate those ideas and emotions. Throughout my investigation, I portray the concepts relating to my question through mediums including watercolor, gouache, and digitally on Procreate. I experimented mostly with color story, unique compositions, and ambient lighting in my pieces and tested many different options during the planning stage. Typically, the majority of my work starts with jotting down the general mood and ideas I wish to display along with noting symbols and elements I can incorporate into the piece. Then, after going through numerous thumbnails, I begin the final piece. My investigation changed to include a more dynamic analysis of myself, as my original concept focused on solely my insecurities. I’ve had the opportunity to broaden my understanding of the digital medium and how layers interact with one another as well as using gouache for the first time. While creating these pieces, I’ve pushed myself to be more ambitious with compositions and enhancing perspective.



Into the Storm

watercolor, gouache on
watercolor paper

7x10 in



Befriending the Beast

Watercolor, gouache, and colored
pencil on watercolor paper

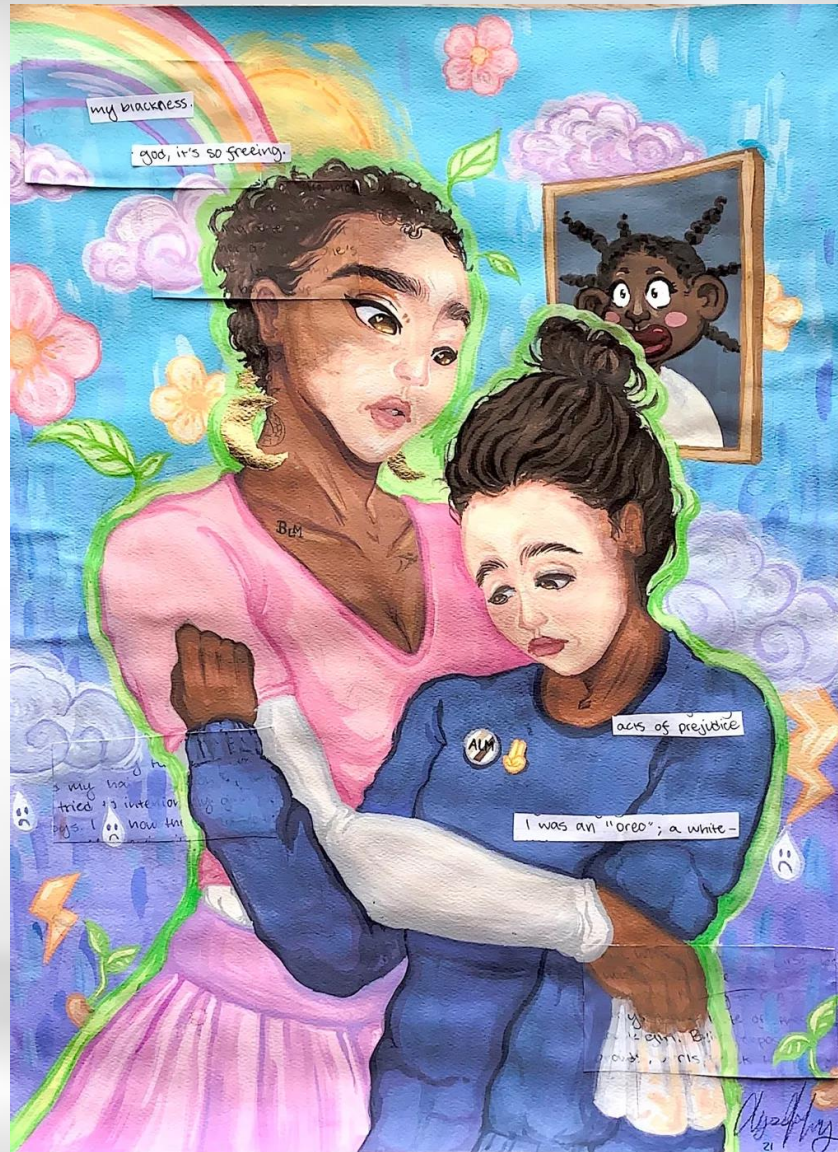
18x24 in



Hobbies / Escapism

Digitally drawn in Procreate

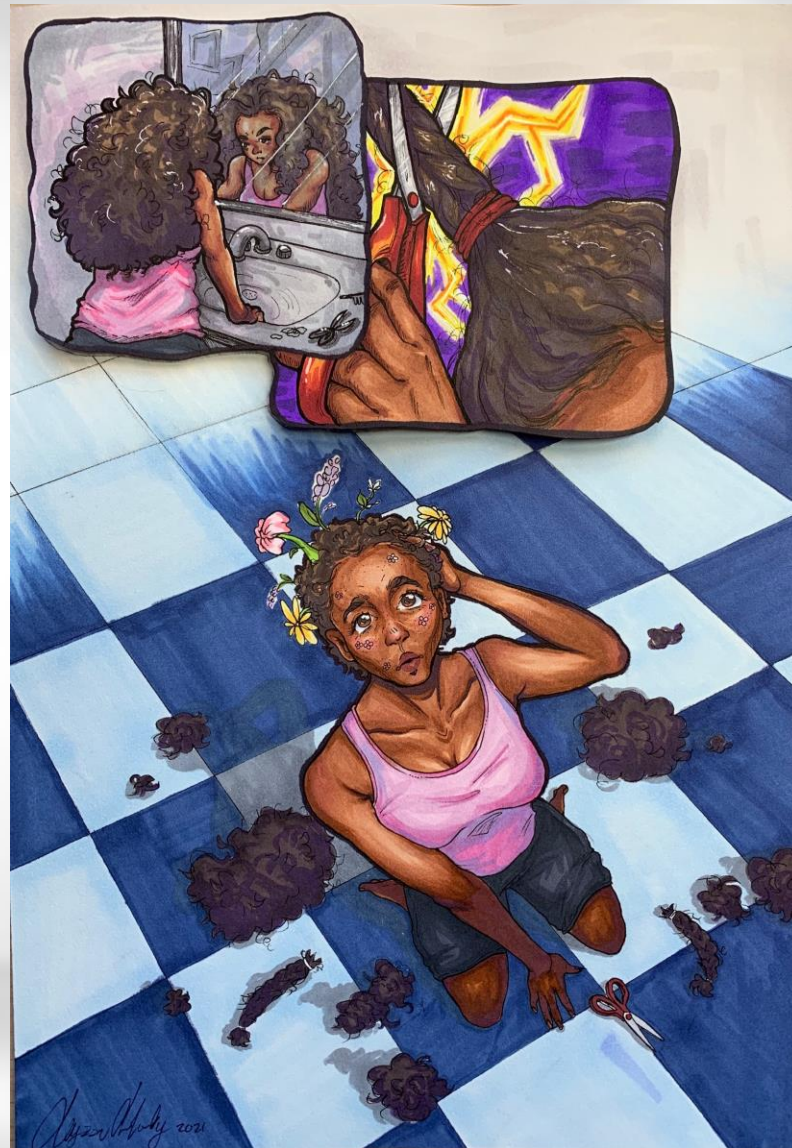
4.5x6 in (physical copy)



Not Whiteface

gouache, gold leaf

12x16 in



Weed-Whacking

alcohol marker

9x13 in



Oh Heavenly Father

digitally drawn in
Procreate

1.8x2.4 in (physical copy)