

Senior Projects

2018

The Senior Project is the culmination of a student's learning experience at Ross School. Through the execution of their Senior Project, students embody their passions in a process and product that integrate such Ross School principles as multiple intelligences, cultural/historical context, personal reflection, application of technology, and pursuit of excellence. The main components of the Senior Project are the Process Folio, the Final Product, and the Presentation. The relationship between the student and his or her Senior Project mentor is critical to the evolution and realization of the project. The mentor, a Ross faculty member, serves as facilitator, advisor, editor, critic, and advocate. At the conclusion of the Senior Project, students have deeper insight into themselves as learners and producers.



R O S S S C H O O L

Grant Amerling

Untitled

Mentor: Kieran Ryan

Domain: Visual Arts

Faculty Grader: Michele Passarella

For my Senior Project, I built a fixed-gear road bike. From a young age I was very into biking and building bikes. This project gave me a perfect opportunity to build a bike that I have been wanting to build for years. While coming up with ideas for my Senior Project, I knew I wanted to build something that was some form of transportation. A bike was the most realistic and sustainable option I could think of. This bike is sustainable because the only source of energy used to operate it is whoever is riding it. With the pollution crisis happening right now all over the world, I think It is very important to contribute to becoming a more ecofriendly Earth.

Falon Attias

Confiture Authentique

Mentor: Gary Skellington

Domains: Wellness, World Languages and Literature: English, Mathematics

Faculty Grader: Jessica Pollina

I knew from the start that I wanted to relate my Senior Project to France in some way. Being lucky enough to own a chateau in France, I knew I wanted to incorporate that into my project as well. For my Senior Project, I formulated a business plan for a jam business in France. The business is based at one of the gatehouses at my chateau in northeastern France. Confiture Authentique is the name of the business. It translates to “authentic jam.” Confiture Authentique provides a healthier alternative to jam because there are no pesticides included. There is a website where the three flavors of jam can be purchased and it will also be sold from the gatehouse and imported to be sold at local farmers markets in the Hamptons.

India Attias

It's Not Lichen, It's Lichen

Mentors: Ivan Salcedo, Paul Gansky

Domain: Media Studies

Faculty Grader: Sam Yarabek

For my Senior Project, I am creating a short narrative-based comedy film. The story follows three teenagers who are on a camping trip because one of the characters, Sam, decided to go there so she could take pictures of a specific type of lichen. Her brother Scott and his best friend Mark, who happens to have a crush on Sam, go along for the adventure. Early on in the night, the characters accidentally eat brownies that they didn't know contained cannabis. As the brownies begin to hit them, they are put in a situation they would never expect to happen . . .

Adriana Becerra

Mexican Chocolate

Mentor: Ivan Salcedo

Domain: Media Studies

Faculty Grader: Kyle Helke

For my documentary, I want to teach people about the chocolate industry and fair trade chocolate. I want to show the journey that chocolate takes from cacao beans to people's mouths. Behind the delicious bar of chocolate there are thousands of things and people: different jobs, machines, ships, and planes, and many places around the world, including where they grow the beans, where they extract the pulp, where they dry them, and where they pack them and export them in ships or trucks. Then, after that process, there is another entire process: the process of liquefaction where they turn the chocolate into powder, then into chocolate liquor, and then they blend it with sugar, milk, or many other ingredients, which brings in many other different jobs and places to the whole process. Then there is pressing, blending, placing in a mold, tempering the chocolate, and then molding it and packaging it, which involves many other components, like the design of the packaging and the manufacture of the packaging, and then the process from the factory to the journey that it takes to get to a store and then to you. Therefore, I created a documentary film about Mexican chocolate and chocolate trade. My film takes place in Tabasco, the chocolate state on the south of Mexico, where most of the cacao that is from Mexico is produced. The reason why I decided to make this film for my Senior Project is to show people where Mexican chocolate comes from, its roots, and its journey throughout the world, from when the Aztecs discovered cacao beans through when the Spaniards turned it into the sweet indulgent chocolate we know all around the globe today.

Rainier Benard

The Story Behind My Music

Mentor: Kieran Ryan

Domains: Performing Arts, Visual Arts, Science

Faculty Grader: Jessica Pollina

Music has been a part of my life for as long as I can remember. For most of my life, my sisters and I were fully immersed by our parents in lifestyles centered around music. We have been taking music lessons since the age of 3, and we attended Mannes College of Music since the age of 7. Although my siblings and I have received similar training, we eventually all parted ways on our journeys of musical discovery. My sisters chose to study instruments—one studies piano, one guitar—but I chose to study musical composition and how it affects people. I have developed the ability to easily and effectively compose music for countless different types of instruments, which is something that not many people can do. However, instead of embellishing my own musical talents, I am choosing to help others develop this talent themselves.

For my project, I created a piece of music that tells a story about my history and life. To run parallel to the song, I am making a video that will provide in-depth analysis of the piece, showing how I made each sound, and also describing their significance. This will provide insight to my complicated thought processes when making music, allowing for viewers to better understand music creation in general.

I have chosen this project because of my interest in music and human psychology. I have been surrounded by music since a very young age, and it has become an essential part of my development as an adult. As a musician, a composer, and a producer, I strive to understand how people interpret music. This interest in human perception and interpretation is what sparked my fascination in psychology.

This project is relevant to culture because of how much music is integrated into our everyday lives. Ironically, the vast majority of people fail to understand the significance of the countless different elements in every single different piece of music. Due to its involvement in our lives, it is critical for humans to understand music, and my project aims to shed some light on the subject.

Ben Bijur

Planets

Mentor: Paul Gansky

Domain: Media Studies

Faculty Grader: Michele Passarella

Have you ever wondered what happens after you throw away your beautiful, new, expensive sneakers? Well, there are 300 million pairs of shoes sent to landfills per year, and yours are probably among them. Since I was a young boy, I have always had a significant love for sneakers and the planet. I knew that, for my Senior Project, I needed to do something that could combine the two.

For my project, I made a pair of sneakers completely from scratch out of ecofriendly, sustainable, and reused materials such as recycled plastic bottles from Haiti, rubber tires from old cars and reused leather from various different sources. I did intensive work, all by hand, in a private shoe-making space in Williamsburg, Brooklyn, where I learned all the necessary skills to make shoes by hand and make them as stylish as possible.

Caroline Breitweiser

Healing Reins Therapeutic Riding

Mentor: Greg Drossel

Domains: Science, Wellness

Faculty Grader: Mark Strong

For my Senior Project, I will be learning about equine therapy and therapeutic riding. As part of my project, I have also made an instructional brochure and an activity kit on therapeutic riding for the special needs rider. The activity kit has useful things that would be needed by private barns to teach therapeutic riding to children and adults with special needs. The reason why I chose equine therapy as the topic of my Senior Project is because I have always been extremely interested in horses and the relationship between horses and humans. This project has taught me so much about the therapeutic benefits of riding and the emotional, physical, and psychological interconnection between horses and their human riders. It has been a challenging and interesting topic for me to intensively study since I am a high school student with dyslexia and/or my own learning differences. Nevertheless, since I have ridden horses since I was a toddler and benefited from my own lifetime experience of riding, I knew this project would be rewarding and a perfect fit for me to study. I love riding horses and helping others learn to love horses, as well. Undoubtedly, my project illustrates the beneficial connection between rider and horse.

Georgia Briere

Mandalas of the World

Mentor: Jennifer Cross

Domains: Visual Arts, Cultural History

Faculty Grader: Therese Lichtenstein

For my Senior Project, I created a flat map of the world, with regionally specific mandalas superimposed onto each of the continents. Each mandala is my own personal design, using imagery that is culturally appropriate to the different regions. The mandalas demonstrate the cultural significance of the continents, including their indigenous art styles, symbols, and motifs. By researching the meaning of the symbols and motifs associated with each continent, I gained further understanding of various cultures and their significance.

Lucas Brown

Hamptons Bonfire Co.

Mentor: Jon Mulhern

Domain: Mathematics

Faculty Grader: Sam Yarabek

For my Senior Project, I am creating a business called Hamptons Bonfire Company. The start date for my company will be this upcoming summer. My company will make it possible for my clients to have an enjoyable beach party without risking harm or potential fines for improperly following local laws. Hamptons Bonfire Company will also be a service that ultimately protects our beautiful beaches and community.

Rosa Carmichael

Self-Portraiture Tarot Deck

Mentor: Alexis Martino

Domains: Media Studies, Visual Arts

Faculty Grader: Jessica Pollina

For my Senior Project, I created a full set of 78 individual tarot cards. Tarot cards have a rich history. They first surfaced as a set of playing cards in the fourteenth century, then evolved into a form of divination; each card has a theme and a narrative behind it, which is used to measure potential outcomes and evaluate personal situations. Inspired by this, I created a deck of tarot cards using self-portraiture, illustration, and graphic design. Each card illustrates through visual imagery and graphics the story behind the card. I also did research on the history of tarot cards and the changing of their meaning over the last 500 years. There are many, many different forms of tarot cards, including French suited tarot decks, German suited tarot decks, Italo-Portugese suited tarot decks, non-occult Italian suited tarot decks and occult tarot decks. However, instead of choosing just one style to recreate, I pieced together elements from many decks to achieve a personalized touch. The deck on which I focused the most heavily was the 78-card tarot deck, derived from the Book of Thoth and themes related to ancient Egypt. With that said, my cards still hold their own differences, one of which being that they focus contemporary surrealism. Throughout my project, I looked to understand the ideas of reading tarot cards and the significance that is hidden behind each card, while creating my own interpretations of this.

Karsten Chan

Drone Control with the Mind

Mentor: Gregory Wilson

Domains: Media Studies, Science

Faculty Grader: Kim Borsack

For my Senior Project, I connected a brain-wear headset to a drone. What this does is create a unique way to control the drone. The emotive Insight headset reads the electroencephalograph (EEG) of our brain. It allows the user to detect facial expressions and train mental command. Essentially, the user can just think to move the drone. I believe that future technologies will revolve around brain-computer interfaces. This is why I want to take this opportunity to test things out.

Hansel Chang

Teist

Mentor: Gregory Wilson

Domain: Media Studies

Faculty Grader: Michele Passarella

Streetwear today plays a major role in the fashion world as it has restyled from hip-hop from the '80s to Supreme and Palace. It has influenced many popular brands to change their style to fit the current trend, two of which are Louis Vuitton and Gucci. I personally believe it is a big industry, especially since people are willing to spend hundreds to thousands of dollars on cotton.

My Senior Project is heavily inspired by the world of streetwear. While researching and getting to know more about streetwear, I've noticed that there are a lot of people who make really good pieces, but they don't get any attention, as the whole world focuses only on big brands like Supreme. I developed an online magazine blog called Teist (pronounced "taste"), which has a printed version to it as well, to promote startup brands which I personally think have potential in the big world. Most of them have really nice designs but are just unfortunately shadowed by the bigger brands.

Zhanye (Mario) Chen

Cultural Differences in Chinese Cities

Mentor: Kyle Helke

Domains: Cultural History, Visual Arts, World Languages and Literature: English

Faculty Grader: Greg Drossel

I have always been interested in culture differences in different Chinese cities, so I decided to make a magazine that could introduce the differences. My magazine is mainly focused on the rising Chinese hip-hop. 2017 is the year that Chinese hip-hop raised from underground to mainstream. In different cities, people also represent the hip-hop culture in their own way. Not only is hip-hop different, but also food, languages, and customs are different. Those are all topics my magazine is focusing on.

There are so many cities in China, and I cannot write about all of them. I decided to only write about the cities that I have been to in China. My magazine has eight cities: Jiangmen, Chengdu, Chongqing, Guangzhou, Hong Kong, Xi'an, Beijing, and Nanking. The final product will be a printed magazine.

Mary Chernovisova

Ex Nihilo—“Out of Nothing”

Mentor: Gerard Doyle

Domain: Performing Arts

Faculty Grader: Sam Yarabek

For my Senior Project, I have created a performance piece for which I wrote a story with a psychological theme and a few poems; composed a piano piece; and made a short film and decorations. During my performance, I am going to tell you the story of the Nihil, an imaginary creature created without gender, physical form, or emotions. It is going to take you on its emotional journey, in which it is going to learn that we are in charge of our own destiny. That it does not matter where, when, and how we were born and raised. That if we ever get lost, only we can help ourselves to find our way back. We are much more than just one thing. We have unlimited possibilities. We are everything we want to be.

Dennef Chiriboga

United as One

Mentor: Kieran Ryan

Domains: Media Studies, Visual Arts

Faculty Grader: Michele Passarella

For my Senior Project, I want to create awareness about how the ending of DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals immigration policy) could affect us as a country. DACA was created by Barack Obama to help young immigrants have a better future by letting them study and have some equality to Americans citizens. Born and raised in Ecuador, I believe that everyone should have the same equalities because we are all humans. Helping immigrants get an education allows the United States to advance as a nation and also makes our economy better. The project will include T-shirts, stickers, and posters for people to create awareness that everyone deserves a chance and that the United States can improve with immigrants living in this country. This project is also about raising money for donation to the young immigrants that want to continue to study and have an education. We can all unite and advance as a nation and help each other because none of us were born to hate a race or color.

Tommy Choi

Mind Therapy: Empathy Through Rock Music

Mentor: Adam Judd

Domains: Performing Arts, Science, Media Studies

Faculty Grader: Paul Gansky

For my Senior Project, I have composed five tracks of emotional rock music and produced an EP (extended play record) album in CD and digital recording on online music streaming sites (iTunes, Spotify, Amazon Music, and Google Play) with my record label, Choisters Records, and band, Choisters. The theme of my music is “empathy,” and my objective was to indirectly convey it through the lyrics and cure listeners who are suffering from inconvenient mentalities: anger, depression, and anxiety. The tracks are constituted of band instruments such as vocals, guitars, bass, software drums, and synthesizer and are produced into “Intro,” “Outro,” and three songs with lyrics in different perspectives: myself, others, and us. I have used an acoustic guitar for general compositions and directly recorded electric instruments and vocals through audio interface on Apple music production software Logic Pro X. With this

music, I have conducted a show with my band Choisters at The Stephen Talkhouse and donated its admission fee to the charity organization Music for Relief to help mentally disabled and victims of catastrophes. The sales from CD and digital records will also be donated. With this project, I want to empathize with issues of psychological troubles and help listeners with the power of music.

George Cortes

Sustainable Paint

Mentor: Kieran Ryan

Domains: Visual Arts, Science

Faculty Grader: Michele Passarella

For my Senior Project, I created a line of sustainable, all-natural paint. Throughout all my years at Ross, we have touched on the topic of sustainability. I have done projects on it and even visited other countries such as Taiwan, New Zealand, and so on to study this topic. Once we got the prompt for Senior Projects, I knew I wanted to incorporate art and sustainability. After brainstorming a few ideas, I decided to go with creating homemade paint. Modern paints are filled with toxic chemicals that are bad for the user's health and the environment. I wanted to see if these chemicals are actually necessary to create a professional paint. I created paint using materials found and grown locally, bottled it, and then applied the paint to a canvas to show the different colors and textures.

Nina Damiecki

Kind of Punk: Kind of the Jam

Mentor: Paul Gansky

Domains: Media Studies, World Languages and Literature: English

Faculty Grader: Therese Lichtenstein

My Senior Project is "Kind of the Jam," a 30+-page script for a television pilot. If my script were to receive the green light from a production studio, it would kick-start a sitcom called *Kind of Punk*. The show charts the exploits of five teenagers: Sylvia Greenwood, Kat Farhelson, Philip Farhelson, Declan Murray, and Sid Jenkins. They live in a vacation town in Massachusetts. The characters navigate complicated issues including gender, sexuality, and ethnicity through the medium of punk. I structured my potential television series—and the pilot script—around these issues due to the lack of Asian representation in Western media, as well as my personal experiences as a Chinese girl adopted and raised by American parents.

Albert Darchiev

Covering the Cosmos

Mentor: Kevin Snyder

Domains: World Languages and Literature: English, Wellness

Faculty Grader: Howard Brown

Sports have been a major part of my life since I was a small child. I have participated in sports for as long as I can remember, but as I grew older, my interests in sports developed from just enjoying playing sports to also watching and talking about what was happening. This, combined with my passion for journalism, was the beginning of my Senior Project. For my project, I took on the beat of Ross School athletics. I created a blog where Ross School sports

teams, athletes, and coaches would be highlighted and their efforts would be documented. The blog consists of game wrap-ups and scores from each game played during the fall season, as well as statistics of players on each team. I have also worked to develop my sports journalism portfolio by writing profile articles on Ross's coaches and players.

Oleg Dashanov

Tea in Russian Culture

Mentor: Charles Hollinger

Domains: Cultural History, World Languages and Literature: English, Visual Arts

Faculty Grader: Paul Murray

In the future, I would like to work in the financial area. Therefore, I wanted to link my project to something connected to my future profession. Tea was used as a trading system at one moment, that is, it is connected to the idea of the ancient economic system. My Senior Project is divided into two parts: the physical and the writing. I have built a copy of a "samovar," similar to a teapot, but used in Russian culture decades ago for heating the water. It became a huge part of the tea ceremony in Russia. As well as building it, I thought of its origins. So I decided to write a research paper about the history of tea.

Chengxi Fan

"Life"

Mentor: Matthew Aldredge

Domains: Cultural History, World Languages and Literature: English

Faculty Grader: Jennifer Buklad

I have been at Ross for four years and I am finally reaching the end of my high school experience. Last year, in the 11th grade, I became very interested in the concepts of Sigmund Freud's dream theory and post-traumatic stress disorder. In my Senior Project, I wanted to try something new, something I would truly enjoy, rather than science projects, which I have done my past three years at Ross. I chose to write a fictional book relating to history, connecting the mid-20th century and the present. The content of the book is in English, but I also include some sentences in Chinese to express my thoughts more clearly. The history part of the book happens in the dreams of a character who lives in the present. This section is related to my personal imagination, while the part about the present is based on a combination of my experience and my imagination. In addition, I include my personal understanding of society, the world, and the meaning of life.

Rodrigo Ferraz

I Wish You Rocks

Mentor: Carleton Schade

Domains: Wellness, Media Studies, Mathematics

Faculty Grader: Nilder Giraldo

My Senior Project involves the ecommerce of Brazilian crystals and stones that have healing properties. Through a website I created, I am offering a lasting alternative to the ordinary gifts given to loved ones, friends, and acquaintances for special occasions. Rather than the cliché of flowers and chocolates, I offer as a substitute crystals

and gemstones. For Valentine's Day, for example, I offer various crystals and stones in the shape of a heart. Each crystal will come in a box with a small note describing its healing power.

Tali Friedman

A Disordered Brain

Mentor: Kim Borsack

Domains: Media Studies, Science, Visual Arts

Faculty Grader: Sheryl Hastalis

The brain is such a vital organ—solely responsible for sending the electrical impulses to the entirety of our bodies, allowing our heart to beat without us having to put thought into the action, allowing us to form memories, and even allowing us to experience consciousness and interact meaningfully with our world—and yet so few know exactly how this amazing component of our bodies has evolved over time to become the powerhouse that it is today. For my Senior Project, I wish to change that! I am curating a museum-esque setup of the history of the human brain, along with its anatomy and the function of each individual lobe. I will also be showcasing a detailed display of five neurological impairments, with 3D-printed models of brains to illustrate these neurological diseases and the typical deficits which they present. As a part of the display, I will also show how these neurological conditions affect the rest of the human body. Information regarding how these neurological diseases can be prevented—if at all possible—as well as the biological reasoning as to how they are caused will also be provided. In this day and age of tech addiction, an interesting addition to this display will be a section describing the science of how today's technology is affecting the human brain. Along with the various displays, I also wish to raise both awareness and money to help fund research toward brain cancer. As my dance teacher's husband is currently battling this dreadful condition, I wish to be a part of funding the research that is so vital to finding a cure.

Grace Fu

Monochromatic-ish

Mentor: Therese Lichtenstein

Domain: Visual Arts

Faculty Grader: Shelby Raebeck

My Senior Project consists of six monochromatic oil paintings that focus on color as a personal expression of emotions. I experiment with different genres and colors.

The first painting for this project is a realistic still-life painting of a spoon. The main color for this painting is black. It emphasizes the object, which is in the center of the painting and produces a strong combination of emotions. The interpretation is up to the viewer.

The second painting is a *trompe l'oeil* painting and it creates an intense illusionism. This is a landscape of a plush house, and the main color of this painting is white. It is also an experiment in light and shadow. This painting creates a lot of different and complex emotions. People might feel calm but confused, or a sense of peace inspired by the active weather represented in the painting.

The third painting is an impressionist depiction of a church; the main color is blue. This painting is challenging because it shows a gorgeous feeling in a single color as well as changing a realist painting into an impressionist one.

The remaining three paintings are portraits. The portraits that I reference are paintings of Marilyn Monroe by Andy Warhol and the paintings by Henri Matisse. Both artists use bright and clear colors. In Andy Warhol's paintings of

Marilyn, there are no shadows or details. He uses one color to represent one part of a facial feature and also some parts of the shadows. However, my portrait differs from Warhol's because it is monochromatic. I use the same color for every part of the facial features but paint them in different shades.

Laíssa Guimarães

Dream World

Mentor: Therese Lichtenstein

Domains: World Languages and Literature: English, Visual Arts

Faculty Grader: Jennifer Biscardi

Fairy tales are stories that combine imaginary creatures with human characteristics and human beings. These tales provide life lessons. My Senior Project focuses on reading stories (myths that are transformed into fairy tales) to children at the Lower School from different grades. The children create alternative endings to the fairy tales and also produce drawings inspired by the fairy tales. The entire Lower School gathered for an assembly in which each grade shared their drawings and discussed their favorite characters, as well as the lessons they learned. The final aspect of the product is a handwritten book including all the drawings and all the stories that were read. I am also writing my own fairy tale, which I will share with students in the Lower School. I am also writing a short research paper on fairy tales.

Sunny Guo

Mongolia: The Horses Are in My Soul

Mentor: Alexis Martino

Domain: Media Studies

Faculty Grader: Therese Lichtenstein

For my Senior Project, I am creating a non-narrative film that portrays Mongolia through the use of cinematography, sound design, and drones. Through the landscape, the color, and the people, my film is about the visceral experience of Mongolians and their land. This project has served as a way for me to explore my interest to create a visually impactful film.

Neo Huang

The Model of Shanghai World Financial Center

Mentor: Ned Smyth

Domain: Visual Arts

Faculty Grader: Therese Lichtenstein

My Senior Project is making an architectural model of a skyscraper in Shanghai, where I live. The reason why I choose to make a model is that I did a wooden model of the Brooklyn Bridge for my Modernity Project. I wanted to make an architectural model because I already had some experience with it. On the other hand, unlike my Modernity Project, my Senior Project requires more precise measurement and more exact cutting skill, so it is more challenging. Fortunately, I especially enjoy the process of making things with my hands.

Melissa Ibrahim

Enigmatic Cadences

Mentor: Paul Gansky

Domains: Media Studies, Performing Arts

Faculty Grader: Gary Skellington

Being a musician, I chose to build a game to help users learn music theory in an interactive, narrative-driven setting. I created an engaging narrative that can be scripted into decision-making code. I ultimately made a side-scroller video game with a 3D interactive scenario. The narrative is about a creature, Struvous, who lives inside a piano and is extremely sensitive to three keys. The goal of the game is to help Struvous destroy those keys. The approach is to use the soundtrack of the game as a template for the notes you have to destroy. The answers are playing in the headset, but the player has to correlate that to the setting of the game, the keyboard.

Hitomi Irie

Ukiyo-e Printmaking

Mentor: Jennifer Cross

Domains: Media Studies, Visual Arts

Faculty Grader: Mami Takeda

For my Senior Project, I decided to research the Japanese style of printmaking called ukiyo-e and learn the technique myself. I also created an oil painting triptych inspired by the ukiyo-e printmaking style. I chose landscape as my theme, using photos I took near my grandparents' home in the countryside in Japan. Through this project, I wanted to learn Japanese culture more deeply and develop my skills. I also wanted to express my belief that we can find happiness even from small things, and we should appreciate the beauty that is all around us in our ordinary lives.

Jayden Jing

Mahjong Mahjong!

Mentor: Kieran Ryan

Domain: Visual Arts

Faculty Grader: Richard Connor

For my Senior Project, I am doing a famous Chinese traditional card game called Mahjong. I attempted to design and make mahjong tiles for my Senior Project. They will be different from traditional-style mahjong. Also, they will be totally handmade. A whole set of mahjong has 138 tiles. I would make all of them or choose some of them in larger size. I have also planned to introduce the rules of how to play this game. This could be a video, a Powerpoint or other kinds of media. I will also share some cultural background about mahjong.

Clover Kim

Cultural Interconnection

Mentor: Jennifer Cross

Domain: Visual Arts

Faculty Grader: Christina Schlesinger

I believe that when multiple cultures meet together, they create something amazing that people never thought about before. I come from Korea, and I know that Korean culture has been modified since we opened to other cultures. For my Senior Project, I particularly wanted to explore the influence that Korean traditional costumes had on fashion of the West. For my final product, I created an installation that includes my fashion sketches and outfits I designed and sewed that merge traditional and modern styles.

Sharon Kim

BEAUCOUP!

Mentor: Therese Lichtenstein

Domains: Visual Arts, Cultural History

Faculty Grader: Kieran Ryan

For my Senior Project, I am building a pop-up store that displays a series of abstract-shaped sculptures/products. These sculptures/products are not functional but are the guideline for a critical concept of mass production and the shift from the 2nd and 3rd industrial revolution to the 4th. I fear that humans are going to lose certain characteristics of their humanity as a result of technology, and that what we thought would bring wholesome lives actually will bring a continued loss of individuality and uniqueness. I decided not to utilize technology (beyond the use of Photoshop) since my main goal here is to enforce the idea of keeping a sense of humanity. Instead, through the use of handmade products, I am visualizing the significance of creativity and critical thinking. In terms of process, I am taking mass-produced objects, altering their shapes, and transforming them into ambiguous but unique forms by using various materials such as clay, acrylics, and plaster. Then I am producing multiples of these unique objects (with slight variations), turning the unique back into the (inevitable) mass-produced.

Chun Ming (Henry) Ko

Magic Performance!

Mentor: Ivan Salcedo

Domain: Performing Arts

Faculty Grader: Peter Roberts

My Senior Project is a magic performance, and I got my inspiration from a magician named Lu Chen. He is a Chinese magician and is one of the best magicians in Asia. In 2015, I watched his performance videos on YouTube, and I started to practice magic. I love doing magic tricks, so my greatest talent is my quick "sleight of hand." These are the types of tricks that I am going to perform.

I start doing magic tricks two years ago. My favorite is card tricks because they are the iconic symbol of magic. During the summer, I practice three to four hours a day. During the school year, I train one hour each day.

My first live performance was at company banquet in front of my mom's 30 coworkers. Without warning, my mom volunteered me to do a live performance. Why do moms do that? I was so nervous that my "sleight of hand" became

more like “sleight of trembles.” If I made a mistake, then it would be so embarrassing for me and my mom. I kept rehearsing before my turn to go on stage, but that did not stop my heart from trying to jump out of my chest. During my performance, my whole body was shaking, especially my legs. I was so glad that magic tricks are done with hands!

Fortunately, the show went well and the crowd loved it. Receiving the applause and comments after the show helped me understand why my magic heroes, such as David Copperfield, dedicate their life to this art. I am making magic trick videos and tutorials for my YouTube channel. Maybe one day I will be famous on YouTube. When I reach 50,000 followers, I will know that I have succeeded.

Karen Kwok

Love Is Love

Mentor: Therese Lichtenstein

Domains: Visual Arts, Cultural History

Faculty Grader: Jennifer Cross

My Senior Project is about supporting gay rights and equality for homosexuality (LGBT). Nowadays, even though some countries see gay love as legal, there are still many people who think gay people should not exist. Some of these people even murder them only because they are gay. Since I support all kinds of human rights, and think gay people should be treated as equal to all other human beings, my artwork expresses the love, questioning, struggle, sense of helplessness, and other emotions that gay people feel and face. My work consists of eight drawings and paintings, including various portraits, fragments, and whole figures that express different emotions and implied narratives. I work in mixed media, combining charcoal, pencil, pastels, ink, watercolor, oil paint, and acrylic to create powerful moods in order to communicate my support for gay rights and to raise social awareness.

Finn Li

Untitled

Mentors: Paul Gansky, Ivan Salcedo

Domains: Visual Arts, Media Studies

Faculty Grader: Alexis Martino

Within stylized documentaries and films that depict events “based on a true story,” it’s not a relatively new idea that the editors and creators behind these projects are actively manipulating visual and auditory triggers to instill intentionally specified emotional reactions from their viewers, with the purpose of creating the most compelling narrative arc possible. In the context of fictional narrative films, however, this topic is much less broadly discussed, and this is in part due to the fact when a major studio release (which is the general public’s definition of a “movie”) “gets it right,” it’s supposed to be unnoticeable. The film I have created for my Senior Project aims to show the sometimes indiscernible control of the creator through deconstructing genres, juxtaposing pace and tone of sequences, and making the viewer question why exactly they are being shown what’s in front of them, all while attempting to not break the illusion of cinema. The complete creative process behind the making of this film, or any film of this nature, for that matter, is too lengthy and extensive to summarize in this space without leaving out important information or making broad generalizations, but this project and filmmaking as a whole are something I could not be more eager to get into discussions about in person.

Jessie Li

Fashion Design and Textile of Music Festival

Mentor: Carol Crane

Domains: Visual Arts, Media Studies

Faculty Grader: Heather D'Agostino

My mother is a professional fashion designer, and she influences me a lot. She teaches me how to do fashion and arranges for many designers and garment workers to help me and give me experience. My father is a famous artist skilled at traditional Chinese painting. They provided me a great artistic atmosphere growing up. I want to be a fashion designer in the future and study design and some management in college. I want to create my own company after I lend a hand to my mother's company. My project is fashion design about music festivals such as Ultra, EDC, and Tomorrowland. I started by creating some mood boards by cutting and pasting pictures that I found online. After the boards provided me with the major color, atmosphere, and elements, I sewed small textile designs based on my personal artistic vision and insight. I combined different fabrics with their different textures and colors, demonstrating my understanding of fabrics and how I handle them. I also took pictures to record my process. I designed two garments, using mannequins to get the basic idea of my garments and take pictures. My final products are a series of fabric and garment designs that demonstrate my technical painting and sewing skills.

Katrina Li

Exploring in the Nudes

Mentor: Jon Mulhern

Domain: Visual Arts

Faculty Grader: Catrina Maj-Britt Heimann

For my Senior Project, I decided to do a series of artworks using mixed media such as sewing, felting, pencil drawing, wire sculpture, and watercolors. I found body figures attractive when looking at organic artworks from different artists that inspired me. Also, since I will major in fashion design in college, learning women's body proportions and appreciating body structure and gestures are helpful to me in the future. Body gestures intrigue me because they teach me how our body parts function at the same time.

Yuki Li

The Beauty of Traditional Chinese Embroidery

Mentor: Therese Lichtenstein

Domains: Visual Arts, Cultural History

Faculty Grader: Heather D'Agostino

My Senior Project was a totally new experience for me. I created four pieces of embroidery based on my own designs and creations. All of my pieces relate to flowers. For the first piece, I made a maple leaf. The second piece was inspired by the Armeniaca mume. For the third piece, I made an azalea. Finally, for the last piece, I created a litchi blossom. These flowers became more meaningful to me after I researched their symbolic meanings in the Chinese tradition.

Sabrina Liddle

Through My Eyes

Mentor: Alexis Martino

Domains: Media Studies, World Languages and Literature: English

Faculty Grader: Sheryl Hastalis

For my Senior Project, I will have a total of 15 photos and short quotes. Each quote will go along with the meaning of each photograph so my viewers can connect them and understand my interpretation of the photo. I will include one extra photo of myself with a longer quote. I chose to do photographs because one picture can tell a huge story, and to overcome the feelings I have because of my childhood. Showing my photographs will help me get over and finally leave my past behind.

Di Lin

Secured Chatting Website

Mentor: Gregory Wilson

Domains: Media Studies, Visual Arts

Faculty Grader: Kieran Ryan

For my Senior Project, I programmed an online chatroom. The chatroom is made with a technology called WebSocket and encrypted by RSA. WebSocket was established in 2015, and I wanted to implement it because of its convenience. The chatroom was also wanted with traditional programming languages including Java, Javascript, HTML, CSS, and PHP. The user interface of the chatroom was made using material design and flat design. I also created the ability to change the background image of the chatroom. For the future, I plan to test the maximum number of users of this chatroom. In order to make this project suitable for a business context, I will keep working on this project.

Marlon Liu

The Engine Within

Mentor: Jon Mulhern

Domains: Visual Arts, Cultural History

Faculty Grader: Kieran Ryan

For my Senior Project, I have created three scale assemblage mixed-media works that represent the beauty of modern sports car engine design. My passion for cars started when I was a little boy. When I was young, I thought cars were cool because of their shape and external design. After I started to grow, I learned it was not what is on the outside but what is on the inside that really matters. My body of works uses the ideal and focuses on the beauty within the design of these now-famous engines, cars, and manufacturers' designs. I researched designs from Nissan GT-R, Ford Mustang, and Benz G-Class. I chose those three cars because they are classic and all have very strong engines. Also, those three cars are from three different countries. I will use assemblage, painting, drawing, wintergreen prints, and metal to show people mythical designed cars using these classic engines. I hope this project will show people more about the beauty within engines, machines, and technology.

In the future, if I have enough time, I want to build a real car engine. Also, because I love engines a lot, I plan to study engine engineering.

Yifang (Judy) Liu

The City That Deserves to Be Known: Zhengzhou

Mentor: Jennifer Cross

Domains: Visual Arts, Cultural History

Faculty Grader: Peter Roberts

As an international student, people are always curious where I come from. Some of them may ask me specifically which part of China is my hometown. When I reply that I am from Zhengzhou, most people shake their heads and say that they have never heard of that before. Zhengzhou deserves more recognition for its unique culture and specialties. Therefore, for my Senior Project, I decided to make a handmade book about Zhengzhou, combining text with images made with different forms of media including drawing, painting, collages, and photography. There are four sections in the book that address different themes: history, food, landmarks, and modern Zhengzhou. Through my Senior Project, I learned more about bookbinding and design, and more about the culture of my city.

Annabel Loke

Elysian

Mentors: Mike Abney, Paul Gansky

Domains: Media Studies, Visual Arts

Faculty Grader: Hameer Deo

I have always been interested in personal care and entrepreneurship. My business is called Elysian, a Greek word that means “divinely inspired, peaceful, and perfect.” My business sells natural soaps and candles. I have chosen to make soaps and candles because everyone needs to take care of their bodies to create a better physical being that can affect their mental well-being. All of my soaps and candles are handmade by myself. I have used healthy and organic ingredients because I want everyone to be able to use it, no matter their skin type. The goal of my project is to understand how a business functions and experience the hardships of owning and running a business.

Feifan (Lucky) Lu

“While We Are Young”—A Song from the Soul

Mentor: Adam Judd

Domain: Performing Arts

Faculty Grader: Therese Lichtenstein

Waking up in the morning, I found the sun had already shone on my face through the gap of the tent door. I climbed out of it and walked on the beach that was repaired by the sea. The bonfire ignited last night was not extinguished, but the lyrics that I wrote on the sand were washed out. Spontaneously, I hummed the song that still lingered in my mind.

Since I was a kid, I have liked to improvise songs to express emotions, read books to interact with late great men, and write journals to talk with my inner soul. As I improved my literacy and wrote thousands of words for my autobiography, *My Youth*, I discovered that songs, containing highly refined words and varied tones, were the best way for me to express myself and resonate with others.

I love to write songs, especially when aroused by my emotions. At the beach, I wrote, watching the waves wash away those worries of youth and soothing my wounded soul. In the moonlight, I wrote, letting the moon evoke endless

reminiscences of the past and the people who had played an important role in my life. In the dark meadow, I wrote by the faint light of a candle, forgetting the usual distractions of life and searching the still place inside me.

Writing songs for me is a summary of past stories, a description of moods, a vision of future life, and an amazing journey that helped me hone my creative thinking. I wrote my first original song, "While We Are Young," to record the adolescent period where I struggled with confusion, frustration, and loneliness and grew stronger toward my dream.

Without any professional training in writing songs, I had never expected that I could have the opportunity to show my work. I will continue to write songs to embrace life and to fill the world with positive energy.

Xavier McCormack

A Carbonless Imprint on Printmaking & Environment

Mentor: Charles Hollinger

Domains: Visual Arts, Science, Media Studies

Faculty Grader: Kieran Ryan

Warning! Our Earth is reacting to the impact of human lifestyle. Such reactions are the Earth's attempt to communicate to us. Our land and natural surroundings are to be respected, not abused, because it's these resources that lay the foundation for us to exist and survive on Earth. Greater consciousness can and has been raised through art. My printmaking is an artistic expression of the environment today and how it is deteriorating from originality to conformity. To capture this occurrence in real time, I went on several scenic trips to photograph natural and artificial beauty. Thereafter, I integrated my pictures in Photoshop to emphasize a certain underlying message about how human conditions impact local beaches. Lastly, I made a series of transfers from computer, to acetate sheets, to copper solar plate, and then finally to paper. I have chosen to utilize this project to further explore my interests in printmaking and environmental science as well as media art. I hope to not only develop my areas of study in college but also learn more about my home environment and art community.

Kana Mikami

Metal

Mentor: Kieran Ryan

Domain: Visual Arts

Faculty Grader: Anna Castellazzi

My Senior Project is a study in metalworking by creating a three-dimensional replica of my family's dog in Japan. I chose this project because I was fascinated with metal sculpting as a medium; it proves to be uncommon with most artists in today's world. I value the hands-on aspect and physically intensive work you need to exert in order to create a strong piece of artwork of virtually anything you want. Metal is unique, and at Ross I wanted to take advantage of the opportunity of challenging myself with such a fascinating art form. While creating my sculpture, I plan on using various sculpting techniques and working with tools that can manipulate metal in the ways I want. Through abstract shapes/pieces, form, and style, I will have created a sculpture that portrays my dog Anri in a metal form seen throughout the craft. This specific type of form depicts objects as robot-metal-looking types of creations.

Christian Miller

The Collective Loss of Innocence and Other Mischievous Acts That Ensue

Mentor: Ivan Salcedo

Domain: Media Studies

Faculty Grader: Paul Gansky

I intend to create a short film that uses all aspects of film production to tell a story of a human state of being and evoke interest and deep thought in the viewer. I would like my film to feel experimental while telling a cohesive story that viewers can open their minds to and come to a conclusion for themselves based on how they feel viewing it. With everything in the film (e.g., composition, editing, lighting, cinematography, story) I want to evoke emotion in the viewer, for better or for worse.

Dambite (Ted) Morency

The Art of Fundraising and Its Impacts

Mentor: Kevin Snyder

Domain: Cultural History

Faculty Grader: Sam Yarabek

In "The Art of Fundraising and Its Impacts," I focus on building fundraisers that deal directly with the communities they take place in to help the nonprofit Wings Over, and I accomplish our goal of building a school in Ranquitte, Haiti. Beyond creating the fundraisers, I focus on furthering my understanding of the nonprofit and Haiti's educational system. I demonstrate both through a long-form article and an open discussion with the local community.

Milo Munshin

Inner Self Through Photo

Mentor: Alexis Martino

Domain: Media Studies

Faculty Grader: Therese Lichtenstein

My project depicts the ideas of inner self through photography. The photos are meant to describe the contradiction between the image we project to the world and how we are internally. I worked with a long exposure to capture as much of the moment as possible. Through a series of shoots with different models and locations, I've created a group of images that visualize the idea.

Yi (Bevis) Pan

Untitled

Mentor: Alexis Martino

Domain: Media Studies

Faculty Grader: Paul Gansky

For my Senior Project, I took series of pictures and made a documentary film about the Chinese working class. I started with a broad range of documentary photos that display Chinese workers' daily life and living conditions. I feel like there is an intangible barrier between the working class and other classes. Throughout this project, I was able to

experience how they lived and what their life is like. Through my storytelling, I hope in some ways I am able to give people a new way to look at the workers. I want to use storytelling as a way to bridge the gap between different classes in China.

Kai Parcher-Charles

Neon

Mentors: Ivan Salcedo, Paul Gansky

Domains: Visual Arts, Media Studies

Faculty Grader: Gary Skellington

For my Senior Project, I am making a short narrative film and producing the soundtrack for it. More specifically, I am going to use lighting, cinematography, and sound to not only tell a story but create an experience for the viewer. I will create a soundtrack influenced by retro '80s synth-wave music like that heard in movies from that time period as well as the show *Stranger Things*.

Vanessa P. V. Pitchon

Cultural Fashion

Mentor: Carol Crane

Domains: Visual Arts, Cultural History

Faculty Grader: Jessica Pollina

For my Senior Project, I created a line of customized clothes inspired by the Brazilian Carnival. In my own perception, the art of customizing is a way of expressing yourself and transforming something simple into a creative and unique thing. I have always had a huge passion for fashion and for my country; for this reason, I decided to combine one of the biggest Brazilian cultural icons—Carnival—with fashion. My goal is to show through fashion the culture of Brazil and how you can wear Carnival artifacts every day.

Peng Hao (Sam) Qin

Path to Success

Mentor: Howard Brown

Domains: Media Studies, Wellness

Faculty Grader: Heather D'Agostino

I have played basketball since I was 9 years old. It has been an important part of my entire life. However, I realized that I have reached my full potential as a basketball player. I am 5'7" tall and have stopped growing. Although I can still play, there is little room for self-improvement because I spend less and less time training myself.

I am grateful to have the opportunity to spend time doing something related to basketball. I wanted to try to make other people better. With my experience in basketball, I would like to train a person and see if I could have a positive influence on them. I will use the training to evaluate my teaching techniques. The website I created is a platform for people to use as tool to train and develop better skills to learn and improve their basketball performance.

Mendi Abigail Reed

Misunderstood

Mentor: Hazel Wodehouse

Domains: Science, World Languages and Literature: English, Media Studies, Cultural History

Faculty Grader: Greg Drossel

Sharks are misunderstood, and that is my inspiration. For my Senior Project, I set out to spread awareness about sharks. The media have misrepresented shark species as killers, when in fact they are vital to the global ecosystem. To accomplish this, I created a large display of photographs and composed paragraphs linking them to the ideas of shark conservation. I hope that education will influence consumer and commercial choices as well as views of legislators. The research taught me about different cultural perspectives on sharks and where I stand myself.

Augie Schultz

Dear Phone:

Mentor: Paul Gansky

Domains: Cultural History, Media Studies

Faculty Grader: Shelby Raebeck

After looking up from a Snapchat I had just received one day in the doctor's office last year, it occurred to me that what was going on around me wasn't normal. Grandparents, toddlers, and everyone in between had their heads down, enchanted with whatever stimulation they were consuming from their devices.

I decided to make a documentary about cell phone and social media usage because my generation is the first to grow up at the hands of this phenomenon. I see myself addicted to my phone; it's a development in our world that affects everyone. By interviewing my peers, I've been able to convey and analyze their thoughts about living in a world where it's normal to spend seven hours a day on your phone.

I was in the position to create an insightful and polarizing documentary because of my unique age and perspective on such a prevalent topic. My project has taught me that because our cell phones and social media accounts are so intertwined with our way of life, no matter what our opinion of this issue is, there's no way out right now. I've now realized that my issue with the experience I had at the doctor's office last spring wasn't because everyone was on their phones, it was because it was normal.

Nickolas Swanson

808s and Shyne

Mentor: Maureen Isbister

Domains: Performing Arts, Visual Arts, Media Studies

Faculty Grader: Paul Gansky

Since a young age, I have always been interested in and have shown great talent in music. For my Senior Project, I took advantage of this talent and chose to produce a nine-track-long album. I was in charge of composing, engineering, and coming up with the media for my album. I tried to do something unique and nontraditional while making my album, which ended up becoming an ambient and dreamlike product. The contrast between the intense drums and the unique chord-filled melodies give the listener an experience like no other. The title of the album, *808s and Shyne*, is a play on Kanye West's *808s and Heartbreak*. "Shyne," a word I came up with, is the best way I could

describe the feeling of the album while also including “808s” in the title to let listener knows they would be hearing a hip-hop album.

Ruishi Tao

My Lego Reflection

Mentor: Jon Mulhern

Domains: Media Studies, Visual Arts

Faculty Grader: Peter Roberts

My project is in the field of Visual Arts and Media Studies. I got inspiration from a quote learned in English class. The United States is like a salad bowl. In the bowl, there are all kinds of mixed vegetables and fruits. Together, they taste good and healthy. But none of them loses its originality as a contributing ingredient. I was inspired to rethink my own uniqueness and decide to make a stop-motion Lego figure animation for my Senior Project as an analytical and creative reflection of my rites of passage. The process of building the blocks is like when we establish our physical and mental development. The video pushed me to rethink how I conducted myself after being exposed to new places, people, and cultures.

In my movie, a Chinese girl wearing a red Play-Doh costume starts her exploratory journey in New York. The contrast between her style and the western-styled Lego makes her feel different, timid, and isolated. Once alone, she tears away her red costume to look the same as those around her. However, she finds out that her heart is also made of red Play-Doh. After giving away all she had, she is still a red Play-Doh Lego figure. Embracing who she truly is, she learns to love herself again and re-establish her confidence in her individuality.

I hope my animation can inspire those experiencing the same feelings of losing themselves in the ocean of a new environment. I chose Lego as the medium to reflect the process of building and rebuilding. Nothing is permanent; our journey through life should be viewed frame by frame so that we are not afraid to change from one moment to the next.

Pong Tulyathan

The Reset Button

Mentor: Ivan Salcedo

Domain: Media Studies

Faculty Grader: Anna Castellazzi

For my Senior Project, I am making a short sci-fi drama film using cinematography, sound design, and character development. The story is about a 30-year-old man who is filled with regrets and made mistakes in his past. The man looks back to when he was in high school, and now that a time machine has been invented, he decides to travel back in time to fix his regrets. The goal for the audience is to entertain while they enjoy watching the short film.

Valentina Vaney

Food Print

Mentor: Kim Borsack

Domains: Science, Media Studies

Faculty Grader: Kieran Ryan

During my summer internship in the Amazon forest, I saw with my own eyes how much cattle ranching has destroyed the Amazon forest. The soil that once sustained millions of organisms has now turned barren and unable to ever return to what it once was. Inspired by what I witnessed, I decided that for my Senior Project, I would develop an app that is able to calculate your carbon footprint based on the things you eat. This app also calculates whether your diet is sustainable; it acknowledges the intake of calories as well as the amount of CO₂ emitted when that specific food was produced. With this app, consumers will be more conscious of the impact of the food they consume, which in turn could lead to a substantial decrease in carbon emissions.

Bill Wang

The Return of the Prince

Mentor: Gary Skellington

Domains: Visual Arts, Mathematics, World Languages and Literature: English

Faculty Grader: Kim Borsack

I have always dreamt of making a game of my own. Looking back at my failed attempt in junior high school, back in China, sparked my inspiration to make a board game for my Senior Project. For my Senior Project, I created the board game The Return of the Prince. During the process of making my board game, I successfully established rules, designed the board, and tested the game multiple times with my friends. This project has given me the opportunity to experience the fun of logic and use different tools in designing the board.

Yijun (Danny) Wang

The Development of the Chinese Economy

Mentor: Kyle Helke

Domains: Mathematics, Cultural History

Faculty Grader: Adam Judd

I have always been interested in business and economics, especially the rise of the economy of my home country of China in the late 20th century. For my Senior Project, I chose to explore the shifting dynamics of the Chinese economy by analyzing the most representative company, the Wanda Group. In order to fully understand the causes of modern Chinese economic development, the project also examines the historical changes of the Chinese economy. The final product of this project is a case study that examines the significant changes in the Chinese economy over time and demonstrates a personal understanding of the fundamental structures of the modern Chinese economy through the lens of a major Chinese corporation.

Jake Weinstein

The Hamptons Runner

Mentor: Kyle Helke

Domain: Mathematics

Faculty Grader: Paul Gansky

This past summer, my brothers and I opened The Hamptons Runner, “your on-demand errand running service.” After a wildly successful summer, my brothers and I were eager to legalize, formalize, and expand the business for the 2018 summer season. My Senior Project is formalizing The Hamptons Runner by writing a comprehensive business plan and installing the necessary legal and insurance framework. I found and have worked with attorney Damon Hagan in order to form the company as a New York state–registered S corporation. In addition, I have worked with business insurance startup Pogo Insurance in exploring cost-effective coverage options. Finally, I have consolidated the ideas, goals, and history of the business into a comprehensive business plan. I look forward to sharing the product of my hard work with all of you on Senior Project Night!

Luke Weinstein

Cost-Benefit Analysis of a Solar-Oriented Sustainable Power Plan for the Ross Campus

Mentor: Carleton Schade

Domains: Science, Mathematics

Faculty Grader: Paul Gansky

I aspired to develop a comprehensive cost-benefit analysis of a sustainable energy plan for the Ross campus. With an abundance of rooftop surface area and a progressive curriculum that acknowledges the severity of anthropogenic effects on the global ecosystem, a sustainable energy plan using solar power is highly feasible. My project hopes to address the clear shortcomings in Ross’s attempts to live well in their environment. I firmly believe in the academic mission of Ross School and want to help make it a green campus, paving the way for other organizations and homeowners in the area to transition to solar power as well. I chose to undertake this tedious project because I am passionate about catalyzing the global shift to sustainable power sources, and I believe creating—and hopefully implementing—my second solar project is an important next step in this mission.

Sihang (Chris) Xu

Dreamlifter

Mentor: Ned Smyth

Domains: Visual Arts, Science

Faculty Grader: Jessica Pollina

For my Senior Project final product, I decided to build my own design of a futuristic airplane. I chose this project not just because I love dealing with planes, but also because I am confident in making things with my own hands. When I was young, I had the idea of wanting to study design to be able to create a brand new plane of my own conception. My goal is to create a plane with a novel appearance. I spent some time in the summer doing research and found some books or magazines for references. I used sheets of blueprint papers and sketched out the basic outline to show what it would look like. After figuring out the appearance, I drew the plane in multiple dimensions. I also included the interior design of the plane such as a bar, restrooms, dining rooms, first class, and business class. I

hope my plane design can suggest a new way for people to benefit from the plane and also hope that it can save a lot of energy and be environmentally friendly.

Joseph Zanchelli

Troma Trauma

Mentors: Ivan Salcedo, Paul Gansky

Domain: Media Studies

Faculty Grader: Sam Yarabek

Throughout my high school career, I have had an ever-present interest in film and media production in general. So for my Senior Project, I decided to make a horror comedy film. I was tasked with writing a screenplay and shooting and then editing the footage into a cohesive short film. With my interest in cheesy '80s movies, in style and tone, I decided to make a project hearkening back to that odd era of cinema: a time filled with cheap practical effects, over-the-top violence, and bizarre happenings.

Sam Zanchelli

Through the Hoop

Mentor: Gregory Wilson

Domain: Media Studies

Faculty Grader: Kim Borsack

My Senior Project is a combination of video content and a website that explains how basketball has helped people from various different backgrounds overcome things using basketball. The focus of my project is not how good these individuals are at basketball but the life lessons and experience they have gained from playing basketball. Basketball has been a big stress reliever for me since I was young, which inspired me to create this website talking about how basketball has helped me as well as many others. I have chosen to post enjoyable and entertaining interviews with action shots of all of these individuals. I hope to show that something that might seem just a hobby could be a big stress reliever as well as teach life goals to anyone who plays, watches, or coaches the game of basketball.

Andy Zeng

Modernization of Shenzhen

Mentor: Heather D'Agostino

Domains: Cultural History, Visual Arts

Faculty Grader: Mami Takeda

In my Senior Project, I am doing an exhibition that shows the process of modernization of my hometown. My hometown is Shenzhen, which is not well known. The reason why I want to do the exhibition is because I want people from all around the world to know the story of my hometown: the transformation from a small village with a few thousand citizens to one of the most important cities in China with 30 million citizens. I am collecting data and images from each decade since the modernization first started in the 1970s, and writing a description for them. Then, I am printing out those images and decorating them for the final exhibition. This exhibition includes objects from Shenzhen that represent specific time periods.

Weiqin Zhang

English Mandarin Virtual Art

Mentor: Sam Yarabek

Domains: World Languages and Literature: English, World Languages and Literature: Mandarin, Visual Arts

Faculty Grader: Therese Lichtenstein

My Senior Project is about Daoism. I am writing a book of poetry that is about and inspired by Daoism for my final project. My book will have both Chinese and English translations. There will be a total of 20 poems. In addition to the poetry, I will include calligraphy and art to accompany the text on the pages of my book. The book will also have an introduction to Daoism so that my poems are read in context. As a side project, I have made three hooded sweatshirts that represent my Daoism theme. I have made a label and graphics for the hooded sweatshirts that connect to the theme of Daoism. These hooded sweatshirts are a connection between Chinese tradition and youth culture.

Dawn Zhao

Insects Save Humans!

Mentor: Mami Takeda

Domains: Science, Wellness

Faculty Grader: Carleton Schade

As the environment is changing and natural resources are becoming scarce, people will eventually have to accept insects as food. Besides, eating insects is beneficial for the environment and human health. Many countries such as China, Brazil, Mexico, Japan, and some African countries eat bugs. Some developed countries like the United States may not be open to the ideas of eating bugs yet. However, as the land, water, and other natural resources become limited for farming to feed a growing population, it is important as a global citizen to consider farming insects for food.

To introduce the concept, I will make snacks using insect flour so that people who are turned off by the visual of whole insects in their food would at least try and eventually accept the idea of eating insects. My special insect snacks will be presented in a package I designed. In addition, in order to inform people and promote products, I will create an information board about the benefits of entomophagy.

Wenxuan Zhao

Not Just a Cookbook

Mentor: Eugene Lee

Domain: Wellness

Faculty Grader: Michele Passarella

People enjoy their food, but it is hard to control your body weight if you are enjoying gastronomy too much. Many people have health issues because their calorie intake is not proportional to calorie consumption. The main focus of my cookbook is health. Half of my cookbook is traditional Chinese cuisine, and the other half is well-chosen exercises. This combination could benefit people who are overweight or malnourished.

Yifei (Danny) Zhao

Sharing Stationery

Mentor: Gregory Wilson

Domains: Media Studies, Mathematics, Cultural History

Faculty Grader: Linda Hanrahan

For my Senior Project, I am going to make an online interaction program that will bring out a new way to bring the whole campus society together, to make school life more convenient. The aim of the program is to build an operative online system that allows students to lend and borrow surplus items from others. Students can feel free to borrow stuff such as calculators or pens, which have to be donated by other students to provide a circulation of resources in the network. There are also rewards for students who contribute the items. In such a way, the application can provide a shortcut to let students get what they want as soon as possible to avoid problems such as when you forgot to bring a calculator to your math quiz. The online application will be made to update items simultaneously in order to allow students to have the firsthand information of the items' status when they check it. This project is going to make a huge impact on how technology will be connected with our daily life on campus, so I really look forward to this program being accepted by people on campus. Most of all, it will make our school life much better.

Eric Zhou

Architectural Model Design

Mentor: Ned Smyth

Domains: Visual Arts, Science

Faculty Grader: Hameer Deo

For my project, I am going to design my own house in the Modernism style on a cliff in Point Dume, Malibu, California. I am also going to finish the floor plans and the model of the building.

Joyce Zhu

Flip Books!

Mentor: Jennifer Cross

Domain: Visual Arts

Faculty Grader: Greg Drossel

For my Senior Project, I produced a series of flip books. I first researched the history of flip books, as well as other devices that produce moving pictures, such as zoetropes. To make my flip books, the first step was to create storylines and characters. For example, I was inspired by the traditional story of Little Red Riding Hood. However, I believe that even the scary monster may have a warm heart, so in my story, the monster helps the little girl, and they become friends. Throughout my project, I practiced a lot to make sequential images to show movement and to draw vivid characters. I have designed six small flip books, several zoetropes, and a flip box for my final project.