

When presenting this body of work, my vision was to express different elements from my life and their influence on me. The overall goal was to show my emotions during various stages of my life and how they affected my viewpoints on the present and future without explaining them and letting the art speak for itself. This was challenging at first because I struggled to open up with my emotions, especially around sensitive topics like my dad's death, but I was inspired by how it affected me. I wanted to challenge myself by expressing how I truly felt and allowing myself to open up to audiences I did not know personally. Throughout this process, I used materials that I felt comfortable with but still allowed me to challenge myself by trying new techniques. Before starting the IB program, I had only used colored pencils and acrylic paint for different artworks, but the program helped me become more creative and try new materials. Most of the bodies of work were created using oil paints and colored pencils. These materials allowed me to test new approaches and try different art styles while being comfortable, making the process less stressful. The ideas explored were various challenges in my life and how they affected me. I would use my injury from dance as inspiration for a new body of work. Self-expression was the theme explored throughout my exhibition. When first starting the series of works, I wanted to create whatever I felt inspired by. Around this time, it was either my injury from dance or my dad's death. The feeling of expressing myself without words felt opening; it allowed me to express my emotions without talking about them. I then deepened how I thought by showing different aspects of my life and how these issues affected them. I showed how my injury affected my dance career or other memories that I remembered from my dad and the practical side of them that I did not know about until recently. This allowed me to create what I wanted without following a specific theme, which made the process easier. I wanted my different bodies of work to open up and express myself in ways I usually don't. I typically find it hard to express emotions that I find hurtful, like my dad's death or my injury affecting dance. The IB process allowed me to expand on my different ideas, and this allowed me to create different bodies of art I feel connected to compared to when I was coming up with ideas. I wanted to develop a relationship between the viewer and the different bodies of work to show how the various experiences affected my everyday life and why I am who I am. When setting up my exhibition, I arranged the different bodies of work in categories of what ideas inspired them. I wanted everything to go together and not feel like I just placed them wherever. I started by placing my different landscapes by themselves because I liked how they looked side-by-side. I then put all the various bodies of work with myself or other human figures next because I felt it fit best there. I moved on to all my works inspired by dance and hung those up next to each other. The last section was different pieces inspired by my dad's death. This section was my favorite because the bright reds matched and brought attention to them. I intended my audience to feel drawn in to learn about different aspects of my life. I wanted them to be taken in into my looking at my different bodies of work and walk away having learned the meaning behind that piece and how it is important to me. Each piece was created with a personal value that the average viewer might only understand once learning more about the body of work.