Julia Bingham

Artist Statement

 The focus of my body of work is centered on human expression of emotion. In my work, I have explored different methods of expressing emotion, especially in the physical forms of body language and facial expression. I also experimented with the effects of color on conveying an emotion. My purpose was to be able to create work that communicates a feeling that the viewer can connect to and identify. My media of preference has included acrylic paints and colored pencils, though I have also used a wide range other media. Monotype printing, paper, clay, charcoal, and chalk pastels are among these experimental media. For each project, I use a new process and technique to try and push myself to explore more methods and expand my skills as an artist. Several silhouette pieces, each made through a different process using paint or paper or a combination, explore body language as a function of emotion. Others, such as a chalk portrait, a charcoal piece, and several colored pencil pieces focus entirely on facial expression and positions of facial features used in expression. I looked to other artists for inspiration and ideas to help better my own work. Some of these influences and sources of research include American artists Cindy Sherman, Ian Ingram, Ann Kullberg, and Kara Walker. Their work provided ideas for techniques that I used in creating my own pieces. My work has progressed in quality as my skills have progressed over the last two years. My major growth has been in developing my techniques and abilities in multiple media, as can be seen when comparing pieces from last year – such as acrylic or silhouette works – to my more recent colored pencil pieces.