

Yolanda Leung

Narrative

Growing up, I constantly told my parents that I wanted to be a dentist when I grew up. However, when I was almost finished high school, I told my parents that I wanted to pursue a career in 3D Modeling. I already knew that my parents (mostly just my mother) had very high expectations that I would complete university with a bachelor degree. So when I told them what my plan was, my father was supportive but my mother was skeptical and disappointed. Not because I was not going to pursue a career in dentistry, but because the school I wanted to go to was a training school and not a university. What made it even worse was that my oldest sister dropped out of university a month before she would have graduated. To pile onto that, my other older sister is not enrolled into a university and her plans on going do not seem to be going anywhere. So me, being the youngest, I had to hold up the wish of my mother; for one of her children to graduate university. What I dreamed to do and what my mother wished did not mix together well. She believed that getting a degree/ bachelors first then focusing on what I want to do was the best option, while I believed that going straight into studying what I wanted to pursue would be better. I decided to show my mother what I wanted to do by bringing her to a workshop. However, it ended up with her telling me that I was terrible and I should choose a different career. Thanks mom.

I wanted to make this piece to appear slightly out of focus, but also focused at the same time. Symbolizing the path that I wanted to go is being pushed out of my mind. To further emphasize my dreams being pushed aside, I made the girl have one eye closed to symbolize giving up. However, I also wanted to show determination of not giving up by having the other eye open. The bird marionette was to represent having freedom tied down and forced to accept the given situation. Moreover, symbolize that someone else is directing how my life should. The birds in the background were to show all those that are able to do what they choose to do, while in comparison to me which is being controlled. Lastly, I tried to make the drawing appear backlit to make the girl appear dark to represent that this was not my happiest moment in life, since I do not enjoy being directed into a different career than what I planned to pursue. As well, to show all the other people (birds) going towards the direction they want to go (light), while I am stuck in the dark.