

2019 Ohio Watercolor Society  
Hodnett-Hacker Memorial High School Student Scholarship



Caitlin Guttu, Mentor High School



When I was a young girl, I would watch my mom scrapbook for hours. It was her outlet from her busy life. I was inspired by the artistic pages she created and how they came together to tell a story. Each page was arranged in a specific way to convey a memory and an emotion. My parents encouraged my sisters and I to get involved in crafts and art projects. Art was always the thing I fell back on if I was bored or if I was inspired by my surroundings. Over the years, my love for art has expanded into my own outlet. Sometimes it is hard for me to express my inner thoughts; however, art makes it an easy outlet. From every conceptual idea, to every brush stroke, I am able to tell a story, just like my mom did with her scrapbook. Art is a powerful tool. Its ability to bring people together and communicate a story is incomparable.

My painting *Tulips, Clementines, and Beta Fish* was inspired by glass and how it reflects light. It fascinates me that if the angle of the light source changes, so does the shapes that reflect on the glass. Furthermore, if you zoom up on a particular part of the painting, it would be hard to figure out what the object is. This was the first major painting that I have done. The medium that I used prior consisted of colored pencil, pen and ink, watercolor, graphite, and charcoal. All of these media are relatively quick to work with. However, painting has taught me to be patient and to love the art making process. Through this painting, I wanted to portray that you become a reflection of the world around you, and the world around you becomes what you create. My whole portfolio revolves around this concept and my love for the natural world.

