

# Eric Simental Parra

*"Aka Shiba Towne"*

Eric Simental Parra is a 16 year old artist living in Delta, Colorado. He is of Hispanic descent and comes from a line of artists.

Simental spends the majority of his free time making digital art on his computer. His pieces usually consist of bright colors and vivacious ideas. Simental said, "The type of art I want to associate myself with is definitely pop art; stuff that grabs your attention or things that make you question yourself. Just like bright colors and weird looking things all put into one."

Although he always ends up creating something new and original, Simental often struggles with constructing new ideas. "I struggle with ideas because if I want to draw something that is in my head. I can't just put it out on paper, I have to be in the mood." Simental said the thought process behind the work is one of the most vital factors to creating a new piece. If he doesn't have a purpose for the work he is doing, then it won't come out the way he would like it to.

Simental is very passionate about his artwork and even spends up to eight hours on each and every piece.

His sincere admiration and respect for the arts motivates him to be hopeful and excited for his future.

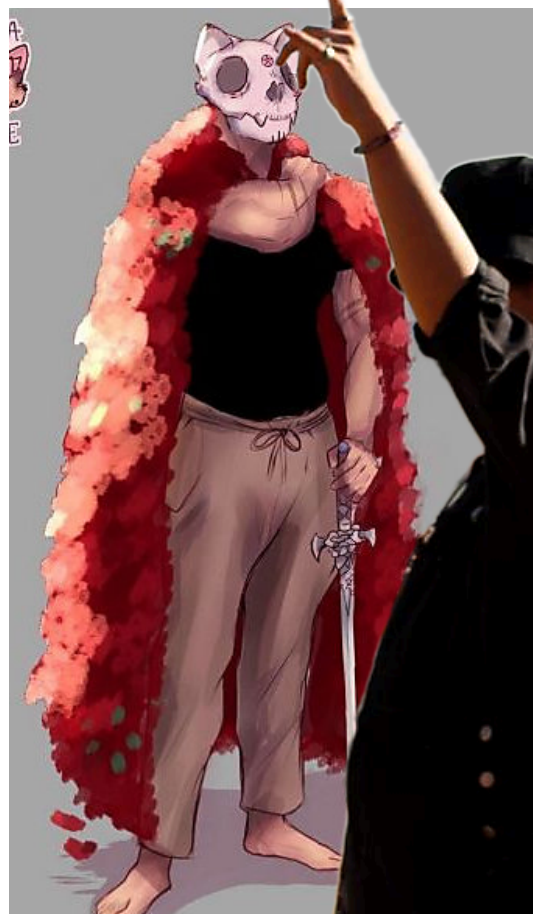
Simental has his heart set on the Rocky Mountain College of Art and Design. He hopes to major in illustration. An illustration degree would open a door to many opportunities, such as graphic design, animation, multimedia art, and even clothing design - his dream project. Simental's professional goal is to become a freelance artist who lives off of his art.

As an artist, Simental often faces criticism such as, "Art is not a real job." This is a common thing that artists hear daily. Simental said, "Art is actually a very resourceful job. It allows for fashion to advance, new building designs, and even the phone you use." Another comment that Simental hears often is, "Art is a natural talent." Simental said that the only thing that artists are gifted with is the desire to create, and the rest of their artistic ability require lots of practice and patience.

Simental is inspired by the desire to bring something new to the table. Simental said, "You always see the same things day in and out, so why not make it stand out? Fear of repetitiveness is the primary reason why I became an artist; to break the barrier of normality."

Customer is allowed to have objects outside of the margin.

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