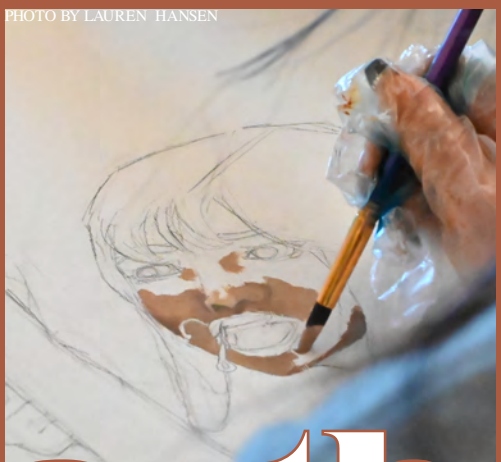


APPROACHING DEADLINES: Andrea Lee '23 is working on a piece for her AP Art course during class as the year reaches the end. The course required the students to create different types of pieces to show different aspects and talents of their work. "My artistic process is first starting with an idea, I have a theme for my portfolio, so it gives me a kind of guideline and a starting point for all of my pieces," Lee said. **STAYING PRACTICAL:** Technical ability and composition is being shown in Andrea Lee '23's most recent piece for her art course. She worked on this piece for a long time and has created a final result. "The kitchen one is less meaningful than other pieces. I was just trying to capture a new perspective of being on the counter and it's just like a practical daily scene," Lee said. **BELITTLING BEAUTY:** As Lee works on the concept for her AP Art portfolio, she considers the beauty standards women in China. One of the standards is called a 'Catfish Face' and Lee painted a woman caught on a hook similar to a catfish. "She is essentially trapped, trying to break free of that standard," Lee said.



authentic artistry

ANDREA LEE '23 CREATES AN AP ART PORTFOLIO IN RELATION TO HER CULTURE

The aroma of acrylic paint and hard work floats around the room as Andrea Lee '23 works on her AP Art portfolio. By the end of the year, students taking the AP Art course are expected to have compiled a collection of art pieces that demonstrate their creativity and ability.

"I wanted to do a still life that demonstrates my ability because part of the portfolio is showing technical skill, so this one is just a still life of a kitchen and a fish. It's what inspired me was having to demonstrate my ability," Lee said.

The AP Art course has high expectations of its students and they have to do whatever they can to show their skills. Lee says that the hardest part of the piece she most recently started is the style and detail in the piece. It is something completely new for her to learn and create.

"It's like a room so it's more than just one subject; there's a background and you have to deal with things like the distance and perspective and other things so there's a lot of aspects to it. Like a lot of my past ones have been single subjects and a plain background, but this one is multiple subjects with a background," Lee said.



While Lee works on this piece, she also has many other pieces to complete for her portfolio. When conceptualizing pieces, she considers her portfolio's theme.

"It's about my Asian culture and how I experience it as an Asian America. I chose to display it through food because that is a main aspect of our culture," Lee said.

In total, she has made six pieces for the course so far and has been very busy throughout the class. She switches between pieces that are at school and at home.

"The mindset of switching between pieces isn't difficult. I can just get back to different pieces if I need to, it's just the hassle of bringing supplies," said Lee.

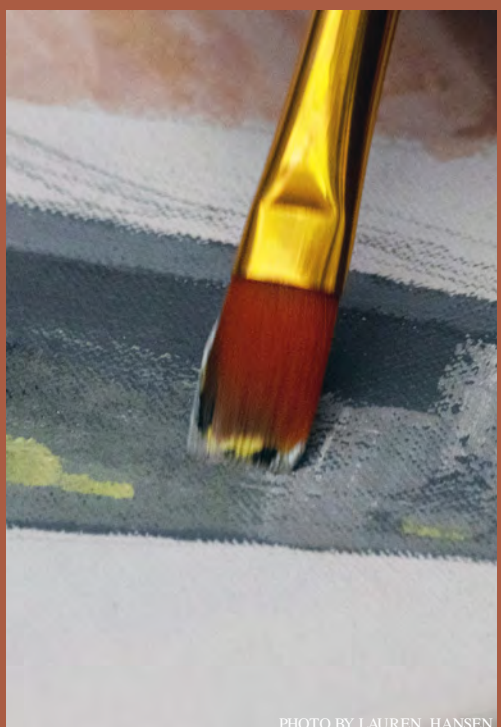
She uses the same paints and supplies for every piece, so bringing supplies to and from school causes the most annoyance for her throughout working on her portfolio.

Lee is continuing to work on pieces until her deadline in May for AP courses, and will continue to learn how to show what she can do and develop her art skills.

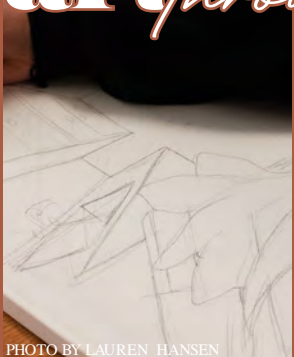
written by s. roberts



DRAFTING THE FUTURE: Andrea Lee '23 sketches the basic outline for her new piece. She spent little time on the sketch and jumped straight into the details. "Once I have an idea I sketch it out super quick. I throw them away right after, but it's just so I can get an idea for composition. Once I know what I want to do I just start," Lee said. **SMOOTHING OUT THE EDGES:** As her piece comes together, Andrea Lee '23 reflects on her progress. Lee was satisfied with the outcome of a majority of her pieces. "My pieces never look exactly how I want them to be in my head, but as I keep going, they get better. I trust the process a lot," Lee said. **STICKING WITH IT:** Andrea Lee '23 continues her long art career throughout her senior year. She has always had an interest in art, often encouraged by those around her. "My grandma graduated from art school and she lives with me so she's always just taught me to do art and stuff like that," Lee said.



art through the ages



february 7

"Growing up, my grandma always made us whole fish like her mother taught her in Korea," Andrea Lee '23 said.

february 16

"My American friends would always be grossed out by it, but it was one of my families favorite meals," Lee said.

march 10

"Cooking whole fish is a super common food for us so I wanted to show it in my portfolio," Lee said.