

A picture is worth a thousand words

Junior uses art to express herself

by senior Payton Sherwood

Sore and exhausted, junior Rain Winkelpleck arrives home after an 8-hour shift at Wendy's which followed an 8-hour day at school. All she wants to do is eat and sleep, but she can't- she has homework to do.

"It's really easy for me to become overwhelmed and stressed with all of it," said Winkelpleck.

In need of an escape, Winkelpleck picks up a pencil and draws.

"Art makes me feel alone but not alone," explains Winkelpleck with a slight smile.

This complicated relationship with a pencil began years ago.

"I was in a really dark hole at one point, and I drew a face spiraling in," said Winkelpleck. Drawing became her way to reach out, a way she uses to express herself still today. "(My art gives others a) sense of who I am, things I can't say verbally," said Winkelpleck.

Winkelpleck has loved art since she was in elementary school, always getting recognition from her peers and teachers for her skill.

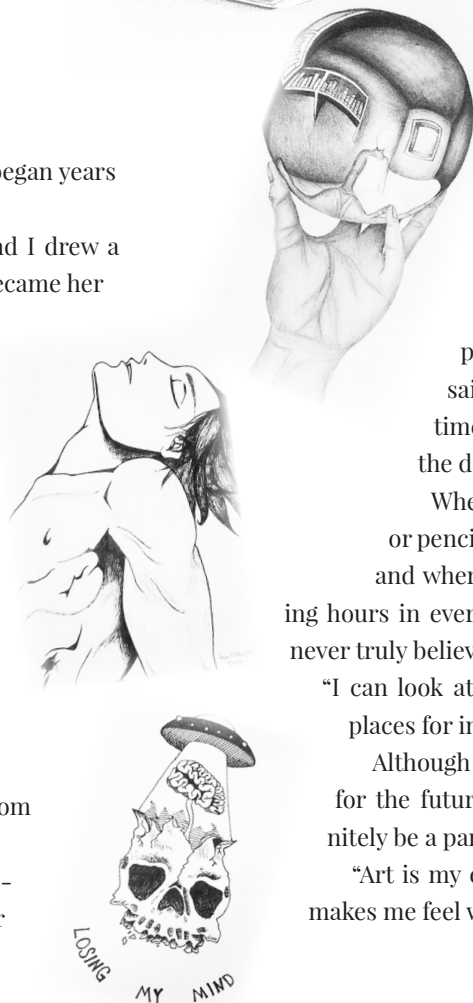
"It's unique, a talent that most people don't have. I can use my imagination never having the same thing as someone else."

-Winkelpleck

In 7th grade, Winkelpleck found that her passion for art might be hereditary when her mom

showed her works from her late father.

Art then not only became Winkelpleck's escape but the only connection she had to her father, who died in 2002 when she was just 3 months old.



Her art has not only brought her closer to her past but has also helped her embrace the present.

"I've gained a new perspective on the world and noticed parts of it that I didn't before," said Winkelpleck, who now takes time to notice the bark on a tree or the details on each of its leaves.

Whether it be through acrylic paint or pencil, Winkelpleck does art whenever and wherever she can. Even after investing hours in every little stroke, this perfectionist never truly believes a piece is finished.

"I can look at my old pieces and always find places for improvement," said Winkelpleck.

Although she doesn't yet know her plans for the future, she knows that art will definitely be a part of it.

"Art is my entire life," said Winkelpleck. "It makes me feel whole, and without it, I'd be lost."



by junior Harley Schley

Senior Caden Youngblut shares of his experience in moving from Oregon to Iowa.



by junior Tara Jochimsen

Q: How are people/life different in Iowa?
A: Living in a small town is a much more community-based environment. It feels like everyone in the town knows and cares for one another.

Q: How is school different in Oregon?
A: I was part of a class of over 500 students in a school of over 2,000 and now I am one of 43. With a lower student-to-teacher ratio, a more personal and productive experience for both the student and teacher comes to life.

Q: Why did you move to Iowa?
A: I have always planned to go to a university here, and this was the first step in making that happen. I also wanted to test my luck in potentially playing collegiate soccer, and given that by moving here I could play a second senior season of soccer, I figured that was a great opportunity as well.

Q: What are some of your favorite hobbies or activities??
A: A few activities and hobbies that define me are fishing, hunting, playing competitive soccer, producing music, and volunteering whenever the opportunity presents itself.

NEW KID on the BLOCK
 by senior Payton Sherwood
 junior Ethan Holton

His family unit:
Mom: Carissa (Oakridge Realty), **Dad:** Mark (Mediacom), **Siblings:** Ben (8th Grade), Kate (5th Grade), and Zach (Scheels)

What he likes most about HHS: "I like how nice everyone is. Even though I was new, people acted like they had known me for years."

Likes:

- wrestling
- soccer
- Advanced Bio
- music
- writing

What he wants everyone to know about him:
 "I am an open book."