

Artist Statement

The main focus of my project was to understand how people with different disabilities and illnesses function throughout their daily lives. People who carry this burden have to go through pain medications, operations, therapy and many more. I have conducted interviews with people who have different disabilities and illnesses and wanted to hear their story. Through my work, I want my viewers understand of what individuals with disabilities go through every day.

My five pieces show the burden of what people with different diseases and disabilities have. The first piece "Medication Ball" is a giant ball with medicinal objects that describe what people have to ingest and live every day for the rest of their lives. The second piece, "Phoenix Lady" symbolizes the legend of the phoenix which states, it rises from its ashes and is reborn. The diseases target certain parts of the body, and they are the brain, lungs, small and large intestines. An arm reaching towards her is trying to help her rise from her burden. The third piece, "Death and Roger" is a representation of a man battling depression, behind him is a ghost trying to capture and force him to commit suicide. Coming from the Death are audio recordings of people who I've interviewed about how dealing with their illnesses/disabilities are a burden to them. The fourth project "I am who I am", and "This does not define me" depicts two arms that each say symbolizing that people shouldn't judge others by how he or she looks. The fifth piece "Drowning Hand", is a hand that is drowning in pills. Showing how pills are essentially taking over people's lives.

In conclusion people should understand what people with different illnesses and disabilities go through. They are just people who deserve to be treated with respect and dignity. One minute they could be here and next they could be gone forever. Not everyone lives healthy lives, but others should learn to understand to treat people with respect. Do unto others, as they would have them do unto you.

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