

Circus

A Creative Odyssey
By Shasta Sovereign
Fall 2026



Participants

Big Valley High School

Allison E 4

SaraRose S 5

Dunsmuir High School

Aden H 6

Ava A 7

Haley P 8

Jemma S 9

Natalia P 10

Sara U 11

Fall River Mills High School

Luna K 12

Golden Eagle Charter School

Alexis H 13

Arrow W 14

Jade M 15

Laynie T 16

Leo I 17

Tasmyn I 18

Theo B 19

Mountain Scholars School

Nicolle S 20

Northern United Charter School

May M 21

Tulelake High School

Haiden W 22

Yaneli C 23

Weed High School

Alana 24

Elle W 25

Jada 26

Kayden T 27

Laney 28

Matthew 29

Tiffie 30

Yreka High School

Anwen N 31

Aurora S 32

Elizabeth C 33

Grace 34

Hazel B 35

ItzNorth 36

Karlee L 37

Logan L 38

TOaST 39



Dear Reader:

We are pleased to share our most recent high school art show. We were fortunate enough to receive entries from 36 students from 9 different high schools, spanning 3 counties in our wonderful North State.

This year, we received many different interpretations of the “Circus” theme. Ranging from iconic images of tents and circus animals to more unique takes, we also got pieces with using different media. So many different ways of seeing something we are all familiar with!

We want to appreciate all the hard work the students put in, along with all the teachers who help inspire them. In the past we offered cash prizes for the top prizes and would list them on the site.

However, we know that it is so hard to “judge” art and it can never really be “competitive.” In this light, we wanted to have an art show and award cash for inspirational pieces. We will honor the students and give them cash prizes individually, but we will not publicly announce the art in terms of any “rank.” Our hope is to encourage everyone who shared a part of themselves in this process, and not discourage students who did not “win” or “rank” at the contest.

We hope you enjoyed the art as much as we did!

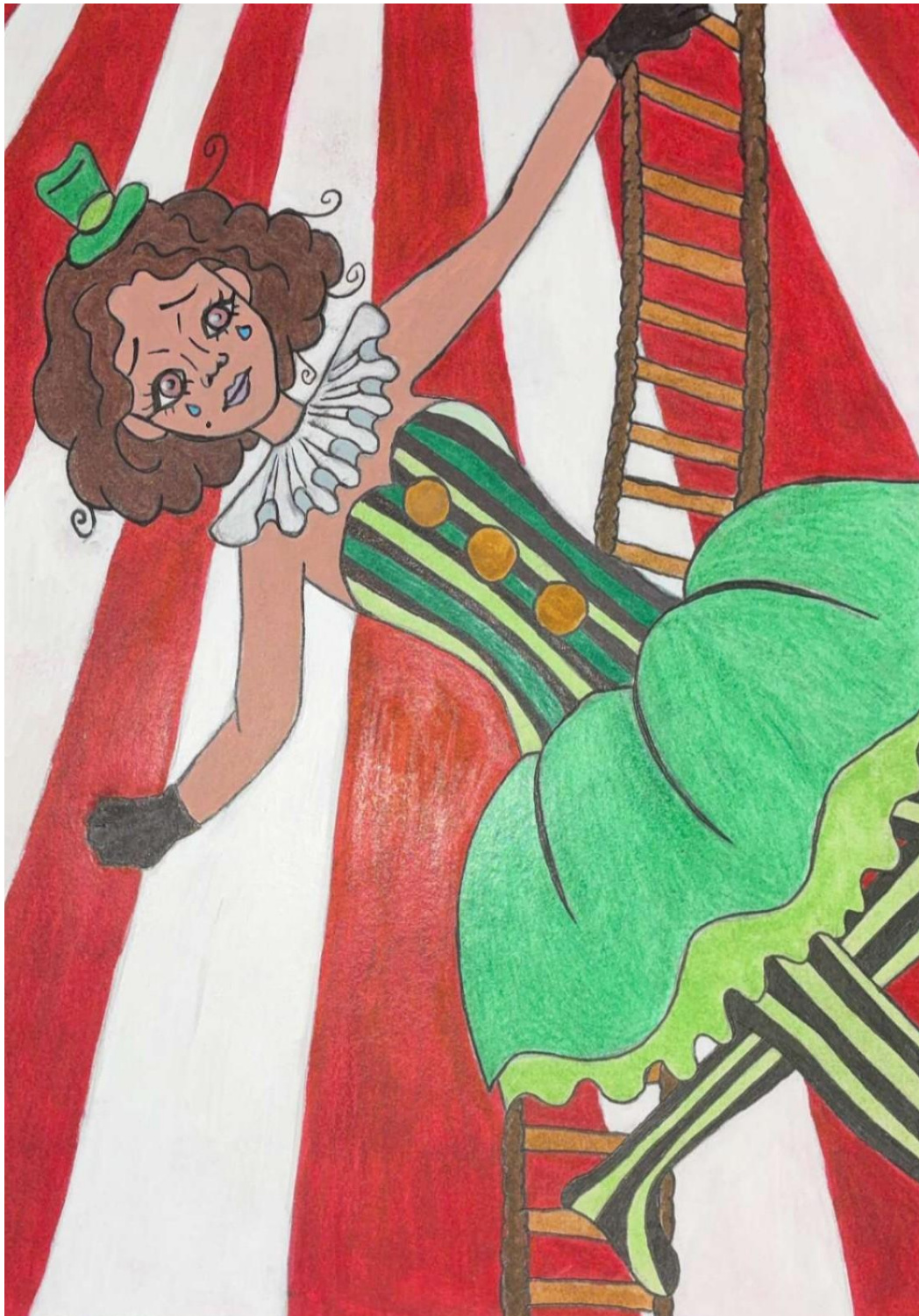
In Inspiration,

Shasta Sovereign



The Endless Performance

By Allison Edgerton, Big Valley High School



Medium used: watercolor markers, acrylic markers, colored pencils, and graphite pencils.

Description: As she performs on stage her face remains full of joy and pleasure. But behind it all, she is full of sorrow and tired. She is tired of being the act of which people are full of laughter.



Circus animals

By SaraRose Smith, Big Valley High School

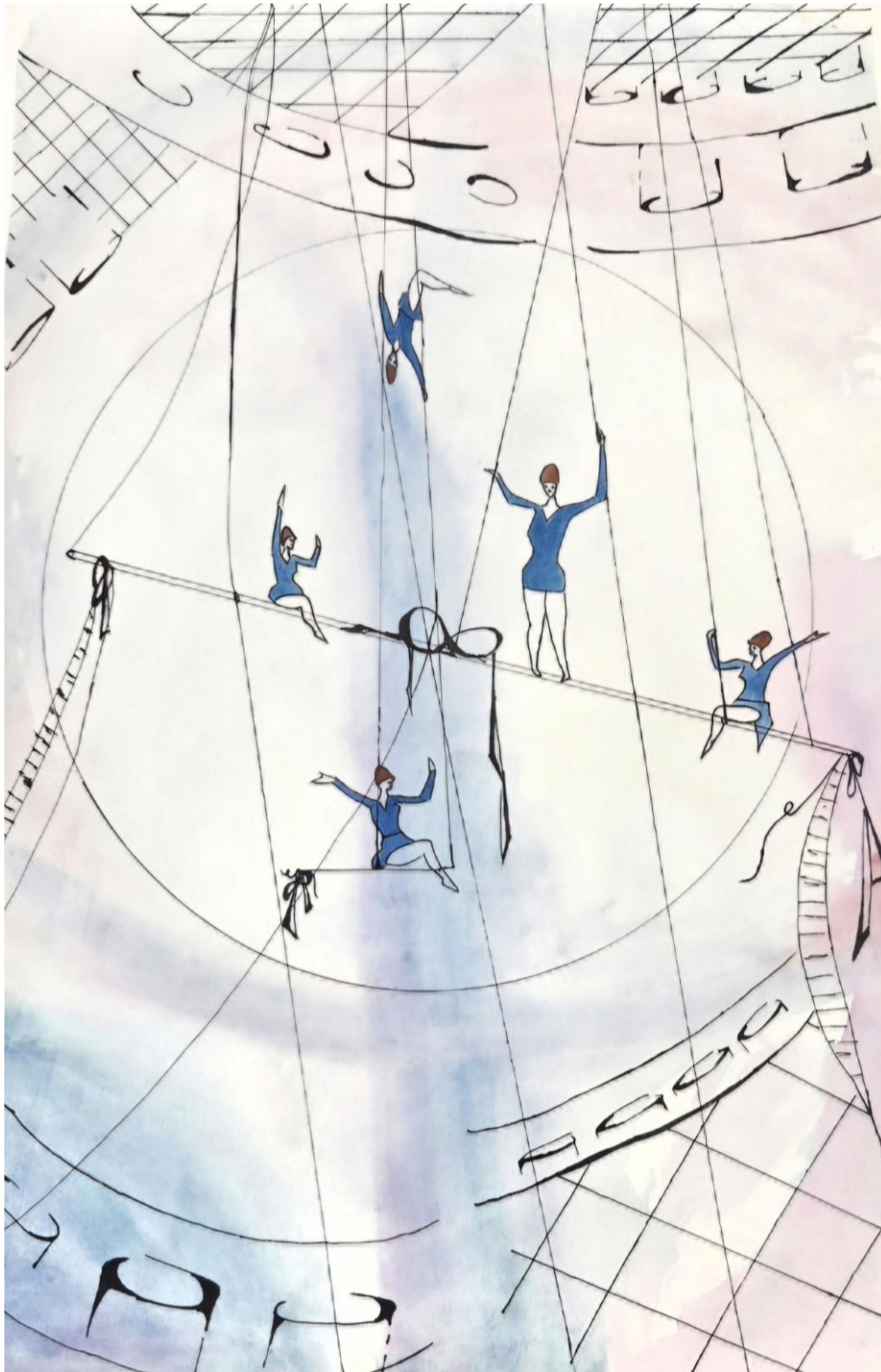


Circus animals, drawn with Crayola colored pencils and Crayons.



Dancers

By Aden Hoerber, Dunsmuir High School



The painting shows a collection of women dancing in a circus. And while the crowd is out of the frame, you know they are being watched.



Carnival

By Ava Adams, Dunsmuir High School



For my circus inspired piece I started with a color scheme similar to a bruise; red/purple, blue/black, and green/yellow. I wanted to capture the feeling of a fun night coming to closing.



A Stacked Circus

By Haley Purvis, Dunsmuir High School



For the circus theme, I decided to draw a horse trotting in the middle of a circus tent with a saddle pad, circus ball, tricycle, a cat and a mouse stacked on it's back for the crowd of people. I decided to name the horse Ferris after a childhood horse I used to take lessons and train on.



Hungry? Circus Horror

By Jemma Strawder, Dunsmuir High School



There two creepy clowns inside of a popcorn stand.



Triple T Circus

By Natalia Trevino, Dunsmuir High School



Brightest circus with amazing sky in the background. With a snack shack and souvenir shop.



The Carnival Within

By Sara Urban, Dunsmuir High School



My poster represents a dark and spooky carnival. The different elements like the clown, Ferris wheel, bats, and skull create a creepy but fun atmosphere. It shows a carnival that is mysterious, exciting and a little scary!



The Marionette

By Luna Kirby, Fall River Mills High School



Since the prompt of this competition was Circus, I wanted to make an art piece that shows the symbolism of the clown, the Puppeteer, and the broken marionette. I used acrylic paint to draw my original character, Poison the Clown, as the broken marionette. The broken marionette is the symbol of severe loss of control, a broken illusion of manipulation or compliance, and deep emotional fragmentation or trauma. While I believe everyone has moments in their lives where they feel like the broken marionette being controlled by the Puppeteer, this can also represent a person in a position where they do not have control over their own life. The Puppeteer is a symbol of control, manipulation, and the unseen forces that shape human lives and choices. This is to represent someone who is in control or in a position of power. The reason I chose to use my character Poison is because he was forced to be a clown against his will, he is being controlled or puppeted by the ring master of his circus.



Jester Mad

By Alexis Healy, Golden Eagle Charter School



Paint Markers



Circus Fish

By Arrow Walton, Golden Eagle Charter School



Block Print



Circus Seal

By Jade Mallory, Golden Eagle Charter School



Clay



The Knife Thrower

By Laynie Thomas, Golden Eagle Charter School



Pencil



Hello my Dear

By Leo Ish, Golden Eagle Charter School



Paint Markers



Circus Wheels

By Tasmyn Isler, Golden Eagle Charter School



Paint Marker



Kitchen Circus

By Theo Bostick, Golden Eagle Charter School



Pencil

**Spiritual Juggler**

By Nicolle Colocho Suady, Mountain Scholars School



Using alcohol markers, Rile the Juggler is depicted as he amazes his audience with magical gemstones that appear to have supernatural abilities. What else will his show astonish people with?



Welcome to the Circus

By May MacNider, Northern United Charter School



I used colored pencils for the medium, thin top marker for the outlines and a white sheet of paper and pencil.



Late Night Circus

By Haiden Williams, Tulelake High School



Graphite depiction of events at a circus.



Dumbo 2.0

By Yaneli Paez-Castellanos, Tulelake High School



Elephant Balancing Act created with marker, crayons, and ink pen.



Untitled

By Alana, Weed High School



Acrylic on Canvas



Behind the Velvet Curtain

By Elle White, Weed High School



Mixed Media



Untitled

By Jada, Weed High School



Mixed Media



Dots

By Kayden T, Weed High School



Tempera on canvas



Circus at Night

By Laney, Weed High School

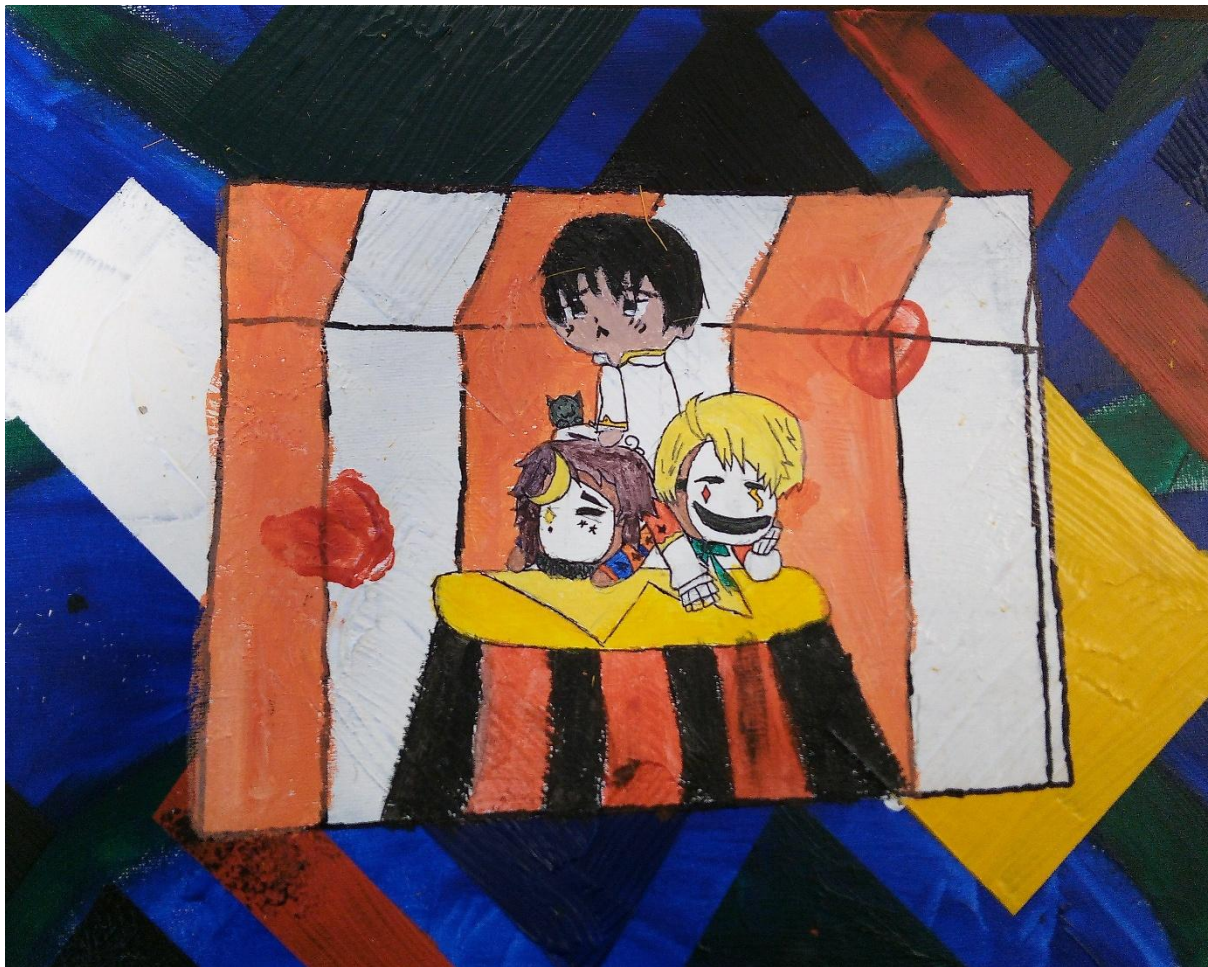


Acrylic, Sharpie, Canvas



一人の少年と二人の愚か者 (one boy two fools)

By Matthew, Weed High School



My art work is called one boy two fools because it is based off of the Italian circus story called Commedia dell'arte. Commedia dell'arte is about a tragic love triangle between a maid, a harlequin, and a pierrot. The maid falls in love with the pierrot at the beginning of the story and the pierrot shows his affection silently because he can't speak. In the story the harlequin gets jealous and starts to win the heart of the maid by being energetic, causing the maid to fall in love with the harlequin and leaving the pierrot heartbroken. For my art work, I did another tragic love triangle: kiku, Alfred, and Heracles. Kiku (the black hair boy) is the maid, Alfred (the blonde hair boy) is the harlequin, and Heracles (the brownish hair boy) is the pierrot in my painting.



Crazy Circus

By Tiffie, Weed High School

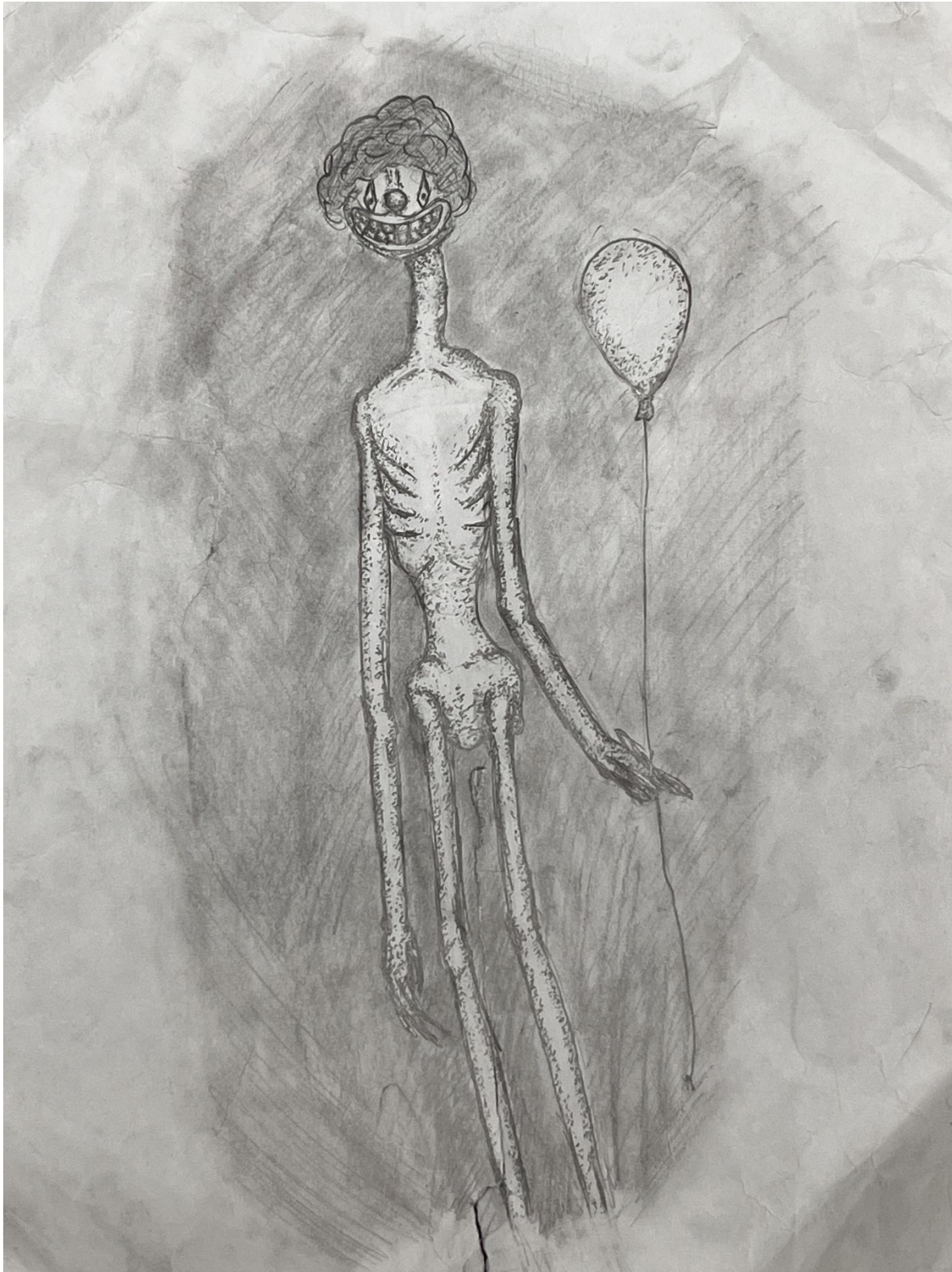


Acrylic on canvas



Mason

By Anwen Nelson, Yreka High School



Mason is a clown I saw in my dream. I don't know where he came from and I only saw him for a second or two.



Show Business

By Aurora Scrimiger, Yreka High School



It's hard not being on top, especially for a clown. Why do they love the acrobat? The clown works just as hard and is in constant danger! All the acrobat does is flaunt and swing around like a low-rent Spiderman.



The Reality?

By Elizabeth Carpelan, Yreka High School



Showcase a tiger being forced through the fire ring through the audience eyes. It may not seem like anything bad is happening but that is through the audience's eyes. Behind the scenes, it is worse. Most people won't notice the signs of abuse.



Mr Mon E Baggs Freak Show
Grace C, Yreka High School



Mr. Baggs has a circus of freaks he collected and pays horribly. He will not let them leave the circus. He is a very crude man.



Late Night at the Circus

By Hazel Baun, Yreka High School



This acrylic painting depicts the thrill of the circus slowly fade as the night comes to an end.

**Vallirance of Vortex**

By ItzNorth, Yreka High School



A colored piece of a transformer based on the overused Lion and Lion Tamer troupes in art using Circuses. I wanted to make the character faceless to represent something more sinister occurring in the empty circus that is featured in the background. I used the mane of the Lion as this sort of covering fur that hid the connections for the hood and hip fabric. The character was made with the original Transformers Beast Wars (1996) series design elements in mind. The name for the character, stated in the title, was made using elements of Valiant, Brilliance, and Prince, all of which are words commonly associated with the colors of fire, often used in circuses, and the form of a maned lion.



The Opening Act

By Karlee Louretta, Yreka High School



Materials: 10 / 7 Paper, Graphite, Colored Pencil



Shining Star

By Logan Labrash, Yreka High School



This piece is showing a person attempting a trick on a trapeze, succeeding, and shining like a star. This piece demonstrates when you do a trick, act, presentation, etc, you can shine just like the stars you look up to.



Encore

By TOaST, Yreka High School



This painting is done with watercolor



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