

Despite the common broke artist stereotype, people spend thousands of dollars traveling to look at art made long ago in museums scattered across the countries of the world. Why do they do this? The answer is simple. Art has always found a way to connect to people in different ways that is unique to each person's experiences. People will find a way to relate to art in some shape or form, whether it's through music, paintings, illustrations, or poetry.

The idea of being able to relate to others is an experience that I have always chased throughout my life. Because of this, I have put myself in so many different situations that I never thought I would be in, in an effort to find common ground with the people I meet. This has allowed me to form various communities with very different types of people.

However, not everyone has the ability to be able to indulge themselves in the different activities offered by their school or travel to different locations just for the sake of forming community.

Thus, I want to use the experiences that I have been able to gain to create art that can connect to all types of people. Loneliness is something that is continuously overlooked in our society, yet people wonder why the depression rates are rising in our generation. The feeling of isolation isn't always physical. It can come in ways that are unseen, like the feeling that no one could understand how you feel, thus no one can offer you any true empathy.

While social media has been notorious these recent years for being a platform of phony lives, I have done my best to portray my art in a way that is authentic and relatable to various different lifestyles. Whether it's a silly quote drawn in a hand-lettered style or creating a video montage of the minor mishaps in my day, I seek to create an atmosphere of vulnerability that people not only crave in their lives but need.

As I continue to pursue an education in marketing at Pepperdine University, I am actively developing a clearer idea of what I want my career to look like. I want to continue building safe environments of vulnerability and authenticity throughout social media and eventually work for a company that similarly aligns their values and mission with my own. Perhaps I will design Google's logo for their homepage one day for an under-celebrated holiday or maybe I will initiate a social justice marketing campaign at an uninvolved business.

Nevertheless, I hope to spark change in society's culture and outlook on underrepresented issues through my creative pursuits and will continue to grow in my skills to prepare for the career that awaits me.