

Congratulations

Co-Recipient

2016 Bobby Griffin Art Award

Tessy Coffey

I think what I love so much about creating art is how dynamic and open ended it is. Art is how I communicate emotion and my vision with others and is a free outlet to sharing my point of view. In 9th grade I decided I wanted to put myself in an environment conducive to developing my art skills so I searched for an art magnet high school around where I lived in Austin, Texas. I came across a school named McCallum High School that had a fantastic art academy within the school and I took the initiative to pull together a portfolio and apply to the program. Fortunately, I was admitted into the school. I instantly fell in love with McCallum because of the inspiring, artistic atmosphere. I was finally surrounded by others with my same passion and was given access to many new materials and the excellent teaching helped me improve rapidly.

My current artwork focuses primarily on portraiture and the human body because I like the range of expression that can be produced with these figures. Although I do use many colors in my work, I still try to maintain a sense of darkness and mystery. In the future I want to expand on the media I use to create my artwork such as maybe adding digital, 3-dimensional, or other outside elements. I feel as if there are so many potential means of creating art that I have not yet been exposed to and in college I want to be pushed to grow as an artist by further developing my point of view and artistic style. As for after college I have not yet decided what I want to



do but I know I want to be creating art and ideally being able to show in galleries.



