



# MIDDLE YEARS PROGRAMME

## Personal Project Exhibition

### Class of 2021

April 23, 2019

*The Personal Project Exhibition is the culmination of a yearlong process of independent research, planning, production, and presentation. The projects run the gamut of creativity and are intended to be of personal interest and to be personally challenging for each student. This exhibition is the capstone event of the students' journeys through the Middle Years Programme.*

*The Grade 10 students summarized why this Personal Project was meaningful to them and what challenges they faced. Their responses are included in this brochure.*

*Thank you to the many advisors who were guides to our students.*

***Congratulations to the Class of 2021 for all your hard work!***





**Layla B**

*brown girl anthology*  
("womxn" used intentionally)

One thing I've noticed in my community is the lack of representation of marginalized people, especially young women of color. This has always been a passion of mine, so I created *brown girl anthology*. This poetry book, *brown girl anthology*, is written for and by womxn of color in the Boise community. In the book, there are poems written by me and other womxn of color I admire. I wanted the stories and words of the underrepresented communities to be heard in the form of art and poetry. My greatest struggle for this project was my inability to find people to participate in this project.

*Advisor: Crysta Swarts*



**Spencer B**

*Inquiry into Shoe Design*

In my project I chose to focus on understanding and developing my industrial skills to develop a final digital rendering of a unique shoe. This has been an interest of mine for the past few years as I have always been curious about digital design as well as sneakers, so in my mind there was no better way to combine the two. During my project I faced many challenges. In my report I outlined how I, personally, was the biggest challenge to my success, as my constant procrastination and lack of planning led to a lackluster final product. Although frustrating and disappointing in the moment, the value of understanding how to complete a big overarching project and the steps and tools required to complete it are important and will stay with me for years to come.

*Advisor: Damon Brown*



**Paige B**

*A Short Film on The Wild Horses  
in the Northwest*

For my Personal Project, I created a cinematic video on the wild horses in the Northwest; I have been infatuated with horses for as long as I can remember. In my opinion, once you have created a bond with a mustang, nothing else compares. The absolute trust on both sides when riding is beyond anything I have ever experienced in my entire horse history. In my world procrastination is inevitable, in order to avoid this, I made it my goal to stay organized and keep to my schedule. One struggle I had going into Personal Project was my lack of knowledge on *Adobe Premiere Pro*; over the course of this project I had the opportunity to refine my editing skills on the software. During this project I learned that I had the ability to sit down and teach myself something that was, and still is, intimidating.

*Advisor: Hilda Ramirez*



**Alex B**

*Hiraeth*

My project was the creation of a collection of poems to help deal with loss of a home and how I adjusted to living somewhere new. The challenging thing about this project was myself and my procrastination, and while I didn't learn how to remedy procrastination, I did learn how to motivate myself to do things when I was feeling really down in the dumps. I feel that some of these poems will be things that I can look back on and reflect on later in life. Additionally, since my project is on the Internet, it is there forever.

*Advisor: Elizabeth Bruno*



**Rachel C**

*The "Perfect Body"*

For my project I focused on the biased views that society has on different body types. I took pictures of four people with different body types, and I compared them to a famous photo that was published in either a *Victoria's Secret* or *Calvin Klein* ad. I then photoshopped the pictures that I took in order to match the way the famous models were portrayed. Once completed, I compared the pictures side by side, to show the way our society prefers our bodies to look and I asked the question "Why do we prefer one body type over the other?" One of the biggest challenges I faced during this project was recruiting people to be a model in the pictures I took because of the amount of vulnerability they may feel. The big takeaway of this project for me, and hopefully my audience too, is that one body type is not better than the other, and that we as a society need to work together in order to rid ourselves of this preference of one over the other.

*Advisor: Crysta Swarts*



**Walker C**

*Educating Underserved Youth about Financial Planning and Strategies Using an Infographic*

The combination of being a camp counselor and having a father who is an avid investor has given me an interest in both kid's and personal finance. I wanted to do a project that incorporated more than one of my interests, so I decided to make a financial infographic for American underprivileged youth. I thought that the project would challenge me because I would need to engage in graphic design, which I had never done before, and synthesize and simplify my writing so youth could understand the information that was presented. The most challenging thing for me was making the concepts and language included in my project relatable to my target audience, 11-15 year olds. To overcome this challenge I had to speak with professionals who work with underprivileged youth to understand the bounds of what they could understand and appreciate. The biggest thing I gained from this project was learning to view things from others' perspectives.

*Advisor: Jen Coffey*



**Charlie D**

*Designing and Building a Shoe*

For my project I designed and then built a shoe from the design. Ever since around 5th grade, I have been interested in how shoes are made and sneaker culture. I figured that this interest would be easily translatable into a project for this task. I expected to be challenged by the building process since I have little experience with arts and crafts, and it was a much bigger challenge than I thought. I think that the biggest takeaway from this project is to be more open minded going into things. I was not excited about the Personal Project, but I ended up really enjoying the process and what I learned while completing it.

*Advisor: Jim Harper*



**Dina D**

*Create Natural, Chemical-Free Makeup.*

My project was to create makeup using natural ingredients that can be applied in daily life routine. I had an interest in composition when I was young, so I thought it would be a good idea to create my own makeup. The challenge in this project was that natural products must give the same benefit as name brand products, and can be applied to sensitive skin and not damage the surface of the skin. The biggest challenge that I faced during the project was that there were so many ways to make the products, so I did not know which process was the best. Since this is my first big project, I learned to manage myself, my time and to communicate with others. I think all of these skills will be very useful in my future.

*Advisor: Jami Whitmer*



**Henry F**

*Creating a Minecraft Server*

My project was to build a functional Minecraft server and learn the mechanics behind it in the process. To begin, I had little knowledge of skills required to make a Minecraft server. I also wanted to increase my computer skills and understand more about computer networks, since I wanted to be able to connect and play Minecraft with my friends who live far away. What I found the most challenging was the amount of research involved. From this process, I learned to use a command line, edit config files, fundamentals of network security, and I also learned a little more about myself.

*Advisor: Roy Ledesma*



**Emory G**

*Constructing a Portable Refractor Telescope*

My interest in the universe and solar system began when I was very young. During family camping trips, I would spend hours staring at the stars and moon in the sky. This passion continued to develop throughout my experiences in the Riverstone outdoor program. The astrophysics unit in my Freshman year is when I truly began to inquire more about space and the universe, as well as how we are able to develop our understanding of these through the use of technology, such as telescopes. I wanted to create a project that would incorporate my interest in space and technology, so I decided to design and build a portable refractor telescope. One of the greatest challenges was learning how to operate a 3D printer, which I used to create three detachable sections of the optical tube, which made it possible for the telescope to be portable. Another challenging aspect that I had not fully considered was the exact optics that would be necessary for creating a functioning telescope and how to determine those optics. I was able to learn about problem solving, open-mindedness, and how to be able to adapt to difficult and challenging situations.

*Advisor: Erin Wyld*



**Gavin G**

*What Does it Take to be an NES Maker*

My project, although simple in nature, was once the problem faced by a multibillion-dollar industry during the 80's and 90's. I have been making video games for around six years using modern game engines, and I decided that this year I would change things up greatly. For my personal project, I relived an era I never experienced by creating a brand-new video game for the NES, the thirty-year-old video system console by Nintendo. Of course, when making a game for technology decades behind, there are going to be many difficulties when it comes to programming for this system. This was by far the most difficult aspect of my project. Yet because I was limited with what I could code, design, and compose, I ended up learning so much more about computers and computer technology than I would have if I made a game for a current system. It was one of the most frustratingly enjoyable experiences I have ever experienced, and it just goes to show how much you can learn when you work outside of your comfort zone.

*Advisor: Jon Moreno*



**Louisa G**

*Plastic Pandemic*

Climate issues are very pressing and overwhelming. Since I started listening to a podcast about the sustainable development goals, I have wondered what actions the average person can take to curb huge problems like ocean pollution or global warming. I knew I wanted to explore sustainability and I decided to focus on the issue of single use plastics. I examined how I use these products in my own life, and researched the proliferation of plastics from the manufacturing and consumption stages to recycling and policy-making. The main challenge of this process was lowering my expectations for the amount I could accomplish in the time given. I decided to make a documentary since this platform could be shared to help spread awareness. This project has infused me with a new understanding of my responsibility to the environment. It has taught me to be creative in the ways I practice sustainability in the context of plastic use by doing my best to follow the "5 R's": refuse, reduce, reuse, rot (compost), and recycle.

*Advisor: Jenn Bistriz*



**Emma G**

*Designing an Electric Car Using an Online Software*

For my project, I learned about the induction motor, inverter, and lithium ion battery pack used in Tesla cars and then used an online software to design a simple version of an electric car using my knowledge of these parts. This was challenging for me because I had no prior knowledge of using an online software for design. Despite this, I remained interested in my project because of my love for cars. Over the past few years, my interest in electric cars (specifically Tesla) has increased exponentially, primarily due to the increasing number of Teslas in Boise, but also because reducing carbon emissions is crucial in making the Earth a cleaner place. The biggest challenge I faced during Personal Project was lowering my own expectations. I put an unnecessary amount of pressure on myself to produce the best work possible. Because of this, I really struggled in producing a product I felt proud of. On the other hand, through Personal Project, I was able to improve my critical thinking and time management skills. I hope to use these skills in the future to improve my problem solving and overall work ethic.

*Advisor: Jon Moreno*



**Aly G**

*Writing, Recording, and Producing my own EP*

As long as I can remember, I have been interested in music. I started playing the piano at five years old, then began playing the guitar and songwriting at age ten. For my Personal Project, I wanted to create something that would involve songwriting specifically, so I decided to write, record, and produce an EP. Although I had experience with songwriting, I had never recorded or produced my own work, meaning I had a lot to learn. One of the main challenges I faced during this project was songwriting on a schedule. I spent three quarters of my time songwriting, which gave me less time to record and produce my songs. During this process, I learned a lot about recording and producing, which was more difficult than I initially expected. I also learned many new things about songwriting through my research and interviews with songwriters in Nashville, TN. The recording, producing, and time management skills I learned, as well as the songwriting skills I improved, during this project will continue to be helpful in my future as a student and musician.

*Advisor: Damon Brown*



**Lara H**

*Health and Fitness*

Being physically active has always been part of my life and is something that I am passionate about. During my study of being healthy and getting fitter, the greatest challenge was to be perseverant. It was not always easy to find ways to complete the goals of the project with an injured elbow or an inflamed appendix, however, I always found a way to adjust my plan and make it work. My organization skills improved a lot during this project, and I have learned to not only create and maintain deadlines but also hone my skills in decision making, delegation, managing appointments, and how to communicate effectively. I had never used a calendar to plan projects before, but it really helped me. Overall, my project will help me manage, plan and complete projects in the future.

*Advisor: Andy Gill*



**Ben H**

*Constructing a canoe paddle to auction off for the “Save the Boundary Waters” Foundation*

When I began to think the Personal Project, I knew that I wanted to do something related to nature and the wilderness as a whole. The previous summer a few friends and I went on a two-week canoeing trip to the Quetico in southeastern Canada. This trip really ignited my interest in outdoor equipment design and nature preservation. The combination of these two topics is what led to my decision for my project. I decided to create a canoe paddle that I will auction off. All of the funds collected from the raffle will be directly donated to the *Save the Boundary Waters* Foundation. The biggest challenge I faced was finding a website that would support my raffle. Multiple websites I tried didn't allow me to raffle my item. Through this, I learned to solve problems more efficiently by using my intuition. This is the takeaway that will most benefit me in the future.

*Advisor: Jim Harper*



**Ethan H**

*Educating youth communities on the importance of conservation using virtual software*

When I was, what could only be considered as a devilish youngster, insects and small animals were often a part of my daily curiosities and fascinations. Today, the world of little and large critters is being threatened by numerous problems, however, many institutions are trying their hardest to fix these problems - most notably zoos. Every day, people who visit zoos are being informed on conservation problems and how they can assist in efforts to fix them. While this effort is great, some people don't have access to zoos and so I thought the best way to fix this problem was by making zoos virtual. The largest problem I faced throughout my process turned out to be making the models of each object in the simulated environment because I had to learn a whole new skill of polyart. The main take away from this project would definitely be that being over ambitious can hurt you when you know that you are probably going to procrastinate.

*Advisor: John Pedersen*



**Honggeol K**

*Concerning the reunification of North and South Korea*

My interest in the Korean Reunification comes from my grandmother, who often told me stories of her childhood in what we now call North Korea. Her stories would end with a longing to visit her hometown again. I would nod, since the Korean Reunification has long been discussed as an impossible dream. However, the 2018 Inter-Korean Summits have inspired hope and I wanted to explore its legitimacy and possibly engage myself in it through the Personal Project. As a way to make a contribution, I wrote a petition letter to the South Korean government concerning various unification strategies in accordance to two hypothetical scenarios of the Korean Reunification. Then, I created a 20-minute video based on the letter, which included an interview with a North Korean in Boise to appeal to the public. The biggest challenge was overcoming my chronic procrastination. I did not invest enough time to reach the “excellent mark” that I initially set for myself. However, my critical and creative thinking skills along with the understanding and interpretation of the Korean Reunification have noticeably improved. I feel like a better thinker and a reflector coming out of this project.

*Advisor: Meichun Lin*



**Dong L**

*Making a Light Bulb and a Lamp*

Chemistry is interesting to me, and through my learning, I discovered chemical reactions occur within us and around us every day. For my Personal Project, I wanted to create something that involved chemistry which was happening around us every day; I decided to recreate Edison's light bulb. But creating one well-known product, was tedious, so I decided to build another product that was used 100 years ago: a Calcium Carbide Lamp. I have never applied chemistry knowledge to my real life, so this was a new challenge for me, and I was initially not able to figure out the element of why my product wasn't working. I had to take a step back from moving forward and had to work one-by-one again. When I ran into problems, I would trace down back to the basics and ask myself, 'Was there any problem?' I would also communicate with many people to resolve the problems. If I were to take away one idea from this project, I would carry the scientific knowledge and the organization from this Personal Project to the future.

*Advisor: Jenn Schmutzler*

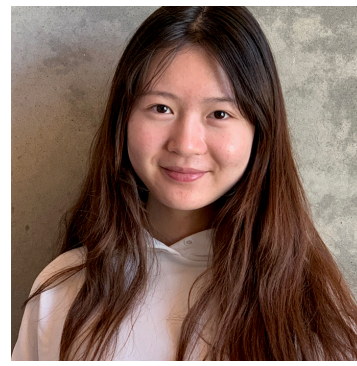


**Nick L**

*International Fly Tying*

I have been interested in fly fishing since I was a kid and I have been doing it my whole life, but I have never tied the flies myself. For my Personal Project I tied flies from different regions around the world. I tied flies from Idaho, Bolivia, Belize and Mongolia. I struggled a lot throughout this project but learned many new things that will help me in the future. Time-management was a big issue for me because I always felt like I had something more important to do. It wasn't until I made this my number one priority that I started to do well. The biggest challenge for me was that I was forced to improvise a lot on the flies from Mongolia, Belize and Bolivia because I didn't have the materials needed to tie those flies. I ended up tying more flies from Idaho because those were the flies I could use and I enjoyed tying them the most. Fly tying takes a lot of creativity and patience which are not my strongest attributes so this project was very helpful to me in that way. Since I had never tied flies before it was fun to learn something new and become better at it over time.

*Advisor: Tyler Ashley*



**Grace L**

*Origami Crane*

As an international student from China, I have always been proud of my culture. The unique experience of studying in the United States, in an International school, and making friends from all around the world really helped me understand different cultures and how to appreciate them. However, they are still stereotypes towards other cultures or ethnic groups. The purpose of this project, was to help people understand different cultures and eliminate the typical stereotypes through culture related decorations. For my goal, I decided to make 1,000 origami cranes and donate them to a cancer support organization; because this Japanese decoration has a meaningful story behind it and relates to cancer support. The biggest challenge I faced during the project was accomplishing my goal, because it is a big project that usually takes a group of people and a lot of energy. One thing that I learned from this project and will stay with me in the future is the communication skills I developed through the process and also the power of teamwork.

*Advisor: Christine Corbin*





**Owen M**

*Constructing a Canoe*

For my project I made a burnout canoe using traditional Native American techniques. During the previous summer I spent two weeks in Southern Ontario canoeing in the Quetico Wilderness area; during that time I gained a newfound appreciation for canoeing. This newly gained appreciation for the activity inspired me to attempt to create a canoe for my Personal Project. I chose to do this also partly because I knew it would be a challenge and that was something that excited and inspired me to work harder. The biggest challenge during the creation project was finding the inspiration to go out and work on my canoe and also finding the log to create my canoe in the first place. After the completion of my project I think the big takeaway for me is the importance of scheduling and planning ahead to insure constant and quality workflow. If I had planned out my project better I believe I would have been able to make a more quality product without worrying about time constraints.

*Advisor: John Pedersen*



**Nathan M**

*Writing a Non-Fiction Book About Electric Cars*

In the last few years, I have discovered a new passion for environmentalism and electric transportation. For my project, my passion with environmentalism was combined with my love for writing. I have always loved all forms of writing, from poems to in-depth essays. All of this culminated into my decision to write a non-fiction book about electric cars. Electric cars are undergoing a revolution — gas prices, oil dependency, and climate change have all spurred an electric car movement, and as I see more and more electric cars on the street, my interest continues to grow. My biggest challenge during this project was sticking to a defined word goal and managing my time effectively. I know that the obstacles I've experienced with this project will aid future writing projects. Throughout my project I've learned a lot about open-mindedness, effective research, and accepting my limitations. Not only have I learned more about writing, science, and environmentalism, I've learned more about myself.

*Advisor: Madeline Lowery*



**Rose M**

*Substance Abuse, its Contributors, and Effects*

When I was younger I would hear stories from time to time about how I had to be cautious with certain things later in life because my family had a history of substance abuse issues. I became fascinated with how substance abuse worked at a very early age and this fascination only intensified with my interest in how our brains work. This resulted in me choosing to create an informational website on addiction for my Personal Project. I thought that creating a website would challenge me because it would involve design and spatial awareness in order to make the website appealing to the public. The biggest challenge I faced was procrastination and how to work through it, as I found that I lost interest in my project halfway through the process. The biggest thing that I will take away from this project is that I can complete anything I want, but I just have to set my mind to it.

*Advisor: Elizabeth Bruno*



**Annika P**

*Raising World Awareness for the Next Generation*

For my personal project, I created an organization called *Learn.Fight.Save* to help raise awareness for children affected by genocide. With this project, I made a website and a social media platform to help bring awareness to this on-going issue. I have always had an interest in global affairs, but by joining the Model United Nations debate team, my interest in global issues really began to flourish. What really prompted this project was my research into a current event for my historical genocide timeline project for Humanities. I had no idea that less than halfway around the world, genocide is still occurring, and it made me realize that privileged, children aren't aware of issues facing their peers in other countries. My biggest challenge for this project was coming up with the best way to educate others. This resulted in creating a website. The next challenge was trying to balance my time. I should have created a schedule and mapped out when I was going to complete what aspect of the product and when. This would have really benefited me however, I am still pleased with the outcome of my project.

*Advisor: Hilda Ramirez*



**Ryan P**

*Simulating Stock Market Trades*

For my project I simulated trading on the stock market over a 4 month period. I kept track of every transaction made, and explained my reasoning behind each trade. The stock market has been something that has interested me for years, and I first started keeping track of various single stocks of interest in 6th grade. This project allowed me to pursue this interest to see how successful I could be utilizing the free market. The most challenging aspect of my project was inputting data and creating graphs in Microsoft Excel. This was my first time using this application and I needed to create and export 5,000+ data points into the spreadsheet. It took a very long time to figure out how to create a spreadsheet with all the necessary equations. What will stay with me is the research and evaluation skills I gained through this project. There was an immense amount of research required for each transaction, because I wanted to be thorough in my evaluation. This type of research can be used in different applications, and will certainly be helpful in the future.

*Advisor: Jen Coffey*

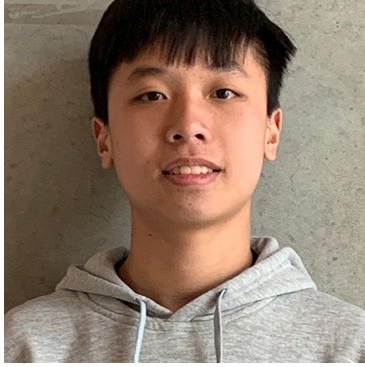


**Charlie P**

*Design and File a Provisional Utility Patent for a Reinvented Paper Straw*

For as long as I can remember I have been interested in business. In the search for a Personal Project topic, I wanted to identify a market for which I could develop a product. For this, I decided to design a paper straw that fixed the shortcomings of today's paper straws, and made the product more attractive to the average American consumer. In order for this to be an actionable business idea, I needed to patent the straw. The biggest challenge that I faced in the process of creating a provisional utility patent application was altering my writing style to fit that of a typical formal application, particularly a patent application in which much of the writing is highly detailed and descriptive of a physical object. The biggest take away from this project for me will be learning more about interacting with others in the professional world, as I had to work with a patent attorney to complete the patent. This is valuable to me as I can take this experience with me into the real world.

*Advisor: Jami Whitmer*



**Paul P**

*Building a Remote Control Car That Uses Solar Power*

Since I was a little kid, I have been interested in engineering, and how things work. I would spend my time building objects using LEGO blocks and I really enjoyed this. For my Personal Project, I decided to build a remote control car powered by solar energy. The biggest challenge I faced during this project was the weight of the car. The car was too heavy to move with solar energy so I researched alternative materials to reduce the weight. I faced many challenges during this project, most of them were not easy to solve, however, I didn't give up and kept seeking solutions. Being able to work hard and smart will help me in the future.

*Advisor: John Pedersen*



**Beka S**

*Dombra: The Ceremonial, National Instrument of Kazakhstan*

The Dombra is the National instrument of Kazakhstan and is played solely in traditional ceremonies. My family, especially my Grandpa, enjoys it when I play this. For my Personal Project, I decided to build an instrument of my own. The greatest challenge was managing my time and scheduling with the local woodcarver. Initially, because of my lack of time-management skills, I often had to rely on my own knowledge to finish my instrument. Through this process, I learned how to manage my time, how to communicate and the importance of scheduling meetings. These skills will be of great help to me in my future.

*Advisor: Gerardo Pacheco*



**Jacoby S**

*Bringing Back the Onondaga Nation Lacrosse Team*

I built an authentic Native American lacrosse stick using design, application, and innovation skills. Throughout my project, I learned that building a lacrosse stick requires extreme diligence and perseverance. Not only that, but I also discovered the methods and techniques that Native Americans used to create their lacrosse sticks. When I first started the project I thought it was going to be simple, then I realized I would have to build a steamer, a device used to bend the stick into the traditional lacrosse shape. This required buying 23 different pieces of types of wood, and testing, steaming, and finishing eight pieces of wood to create my final lacrosse stick. This project wasn't easy by any means, but I am pleased with the final product and all the hard work I did. This has boosted my confidence for any future project I pursue.

*Advisor: Andy Gill*



**Faye S**

*Creating a Two-Song Written EP*

Music and creative expression have been a major part of my life for as long as I can remember. Since I was young, I have always had a passion for creating, playing, and writing music. Hence, for my Personal Project I decided to write an EP. One of the most challenging aspects of my project was being able to creatively express myself on demand, in order to fit my time restraints. This challenge prompted me to find new ways to inspire creativity, such as visiting places that are important to me, writing music in new environments, changing my songwriting techniques, and more. The main thing that the Personal Project has given me is the ability to seek further into my personal and creative identities, and learn from them. Additionally, the time management skills I gained from this project will stay with me through my future educational and personal endeavors.

*Advisor: Dan Neef*



**Chongzhi "Joe" W**

*Document a City*

My Personal Project is to document a city in a book. I chose this because I am interested in urban-planning. Not only did I need to have a clear understanding of urban-planning, I also needed to learn how to make a book. My challenges included investigation and communication skills, and one of the biggest challenges was to communicate with the people I didn't know before; I needed to interview many specialists and talk to the staff at the printing store. Skills I learnt throughout the project such as time management, communication, book-making, and investigation will stay with me for the rest of my life. The most important thing I learned is to understand image usage right for educational uses. I asked the publishers for their permission and also used *Google* to filter the images I couldn't use. I will remember to use this skill every time I research.

*Advisor: Shadrach Pilip-Florea*



**Haiming "Ruby" W**

*Recipes of Traditional Chinese Desserts*

My interests in cooking and exploring Chinese culture have been a significant part of my life. When I heard about this project, I immediately thought about something related to cooking. I wanted to spread my culture to everyone, so I decided to make a website which introduces how to make traditional Chinese desserts. I used research from traditional Chinese medicine and divided all the desserts into four seasons by considering its medicinal properties. This allows people to enjoy the medicinal desserts in different seasons. Modifying the amount of each ingredient of each dessert and searching for creative ways to cook the same desserts were my major challenges. I needed to test these recipes several times to see whether the ingredients were exact, and if they fit the taste profile of different cultures and age ranges. The communication skills and time management skills that I gained through this project will help me with future assignments.

*Advisor: Sumer Henson-Conger*



**Cody W**

*Photographs that Evoke Emotion*

For my Personal Project I decided to take photographs that conveyed specific emotions. I've always been very interested in different types of photography so it was easy to pick something photography related. On the other hand, I've only recently started to be interested in emotions, and I thought that combining these two interests I would make a challenging but also attainable Personal Project. The biggest challenge I faced while constructing my project was time management. I am very bad at time management and sadly this project required a lot of planning ahead of time. I had to plan to meet with and photograph certain people which took a lot of time, but in the end it worked out. The big thing that I'll always remember about this project are the new friends made and strengthen old friendships.

*Advisor: Christine Corbin*



**River W**

*Water in the West: A Photo Collection*

The goal of my project was to create a book of photos around the subject water in the West. One of the requirements that I set for myself was to print all the photos and create the physical book myself. This project pertained to me personally because of my love for, and involvement with, photography, but it also relates to me as it relates to all my peers, acquaintances, and family that live in the west. The project tries to make clear the depth of our interaction with our most important resource. This project also affected me personally through the development and acquisition of a new skill, printing images. The process for my printer and the digital darkroom was one of my most difficult aspects of the project to work through, and applies to my future endeavors really well. The facet of the project that has had the most lengthy impact on me will probably end up being the depth of understanding about my surroundings through my artistic analysis of them, and the appreciation of the privilege of being in the places we get to explore.

*Advisor: Christine Corbin*



**Zhihan "Dido" Z**

*Make Perfume Out of Raw Materials and Bottle Them With Handmade Packaging*

My project was making perfume from raw materials. I am a huge perfume collector myself, and I wanted to create my own signature scent. I created three scents named after three cities that I am familiar and interested in - Shanghai, Provence and Osaka. The scents were created based on my feelings toward the cities, and I tried to make each one unique. The challenges were the limited information about how to use the laboratory equipment. I analyzed all the perfumes that I collected and found the elements and the combinations that I liked. During the project, I learned that keeping track of the process is really important for the success. Communicating with people, listen to their ideas, and having somebody staying on top of you might be a good thing for a long-term project.

*Advisor: Damon Brown*



## **Taavi Z**

### *Creating a Sustainable Bike*

For my Personal Project I welded a bike frame from two used frames that were going to be thrown out, and then added components from the Boise Bicycle Project to make it rideable. I found this interesting because I have always had a passion for riding and working on bikes, but at the same time challenging because I had never welded before. The biggest challenge I faced when working on my bike was finding somewhere to weld and then completing the welds by myself. The thin metal of the frames made it very challenging to create attractive welds and it pushed my recently acquired welding skills to the limit. I am confident the skills I learned in this project: welding, time management, and communication, will stay with me for the rest of my life. The main thing I have taken away from this project is the importance of reaching out to others because of the information, connections, and skills that come from it.

*Advisor: Tyler Ashley*