

Connie Wen

Hello from the Past

Art is something that I have always loved from the bottom of my heart. It is a way for me to communicate stories and ideas; it is a way for me to keep myself awake during classes; it is a way for me to understand the world. But I have always thought that it would never be a way for me to make a living. Discouraged by the words of others, I have kept art as a hobby; I looked into other fields, hoping that I would find something I might love just as much.

After facing several major hurdles, I've found myself back at the start. In the time it took for me to make art a more important part of my academic life, I had taught myself digital art and found a love for printmaking. These two skills are a core part of my journey in growing up, in learning more about myself, in learning more about the world. I combine them to create visual representations of my life—my memories of the past, my feelings toward myself, and my feelings toward those who have guided me along this journey.

Greeting cards are a good way to express emotion, making the message universal enough that even outsiders can understand what I am trying to convey. By drawing the designs digitally, then making them into physical prints through paper lithography, and finally turning the smaller ones into greeting cards, I combine all of my life experiences into a product that will help me face my future.

To my past: Thank you.

To my present: We've come a long way.

To my future: Hello.

To my visitors: Feel free to pick up a card.