

Edwards' art featured in USM Annual Senior Show

Special to Pelahatchie News

Artwork by senior Maggie Edwards, who is in the Art and Design program and housed in the School of Performing and Visual Arts at the University of Southern Mississippi (USM), was on exhibit for its 2022 Annual Senior Show, from May 5 through May 13 on the Hattiesburg Campus. An awards ceremony was held May 5, at 6 p.m.

The Senior Show in Drawing and Painting featured the work of Edwards, a native of Pelahatchie. Edwards' exhibit of drawings is tied together thematically through the depiction of a solitary figure in an architectural interior or exterior environment.

Associate Professor in the Art and Design program Marcus Michels described the figures in Edward's drawings to be caught in a moment of contemplation

while performing an everyday task. He continued, "Edward's expressive use of contour line and graphic light and dark patterns translate these relatable moments into formal two-dimensional compositions."

"In my student work, I create linear drawings to try and capture the subtle moments of everyday life," Edwards said. "Depicting these moments helps to remind me of the soft, relatable sides to humanity that are often drowned out by the madness of the world."

"As a very quiet and introverted person, I spend much of my time just observing

the environment and people around me. Living in such a noisy and chaotic world is overstimulating at times, so I enjoy witnessing moments of people doing simple, everyday things: two friends laughing in a coffee shop, an old man

sitting on a bench reading a book, a secretary typing away on their computer. I find moments such as these comforting, as they remind me to take time to stop worrying about the complexities of life and to just enjoy the present. It is these ordinary moments of life that I aim to capture in my drawings."

"I take familiar figures and objects from the world and draw them using only the most basic lines and shapes. A house turns into a rectangle, a nose shifts into a triangle, a jacket fold becomes a mere line. The simplicity of these lines and shapes not only reflects the structural aspects of the object matter; it also reflects the simplicity of the mundane moments that I am striving to portray."

Edwards graduated this spring and has plans to go to stenography school and become a forensic artist.



Maggie Edwards



Photos special to Pelahatchie News

Maggie Edwards' art was on exhibit May 5 through 13.

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