

April Stocks  
ART 1010

## Art Project

I have always felt that I don't have much of a creative side, that is, until now. For as long as I can remember I have struggled to use my creativity for just about anything. The only place I don't struggle with my creativity is when I am in the kitchen cooking, and even then coming up with new things is sometimes difficult. See, normally my lack of creativity would not bother me much, but now I am married to an artist. I am married to an artist who won an art scholarship in High School because he won 1<sup>st</sup> place in an art contest. It has always seemed to me that my husband has no problem coming up with new art on a weekly sometimes daily basis whereas I seem to stress out over just one art project such as this one. I decided to take my time while creating this 3D art project and I decided to not let it stress me out. I slowly started looking around places thinking of things that I could put together as an art piece.

At first I thought of doing a 3D piece on addiction showcasing the different addictions that people could have ranging from drugs, alcohol, smoking, coffee, and even good things such as basketball. Then I thought of gathering beautiful fall leaves and creating a tree out of them. Lastly I thought of going through my children's toys and digging out all of the broken toys to put together. I let myself think for a few days on what I would like to do more for my project because I wanted it to be meaningful and I wanted to really dig deep into my creativity.

While I was deciding what to do as my project I thought of meanings behind each of my choices, the meaning behind the broken toys was the main reason I chose it for my art project. I figured we needed to clean out the toy boxes anyways. While digging through the toy boxes I found a lot of toys that I could use that had symbolic meaning to me. For one of the first times in my life my creative juices were finally flowing freely.

After I grabbed the broken toys I started thinking of ways that I could place them together. I began to put them together and as I was constructing my piece of art it was starting to look more and more like a real work of art. I was strategically putting things together so people could see each and every piece just the way that I wanted them to. I think that my piece of art is going to be a little bit challenging for people to know and/or understand the symbolic meaning behind it. Even my husband didn't know what it meant to me at first.

The meaning behind the broken toys is the fact that they are just like the children who play with them, very fragile. If you are not careful with the toys they can get damaged very easily, just like children can. My dreams are to become an elementary school teacher, which is what I am attending SLCC for at this time and after some classes I realize more than ever that children can be easily affected by the things that go on within their lives. Children can easily have problems mentally and emotionally if all of their environments are not stable. Children can be affected in any type of environment such as their own homes, school, and other people's homes. I was a victim of child molestation from a distant family member, outside of my home. I have felt damaged ever since. It affected my whole teenage and young adult life in many different ways. I think this is one reason why I chose this as my art project and why it has so much meaning to me.

On the art piece there is a broken superhero mask, because most children like to think of themselves as a superhero or at least they try to act like one at some point. There is a broken tiara for the girls that feel like princesses. There is a car with the wheel missing and a car with a missing windshield. One big symbol is the broken heart which stands for a child's broken heart. There is an airplane with a broken propeller, a broken play key set, some crumbled and ripped

play money, and a broken collector card. The most symbolic part of the art piece is the broken doll which represents the broken child.

I am so proud of myself for creating this piece of art. Although some may not get the meaning or some may think it looks hideous, it has meaning to me, as an artist. I finally realize that I have a creative side and I am so excited to use it.