

## List of 2020 Student Curators

### CUNY LaGuardia Community College

#### HUN 192 Urban Study: Art and Society, Professor Liena Vayzman, Spring 2020

##### Alvaro Chavarriaga

I am Alvaro Chavarriaga, a Human Services student at LaGuardia Community College. My self-portrait is based on my own experiences, struggles and battles to get ahead in this country as an immigrant. I chose to draw my hand because with it I can create a lot of things and help many people. My hand represents what I am and what I came to do not only in New York but here in La Guardia: Educate myself to help others. The hand represents the fight and is a sign of help. Through my hand I can do so much for others. My self-portrait technique is drawing with pencil on colored paper, blurring the light and drawing at some angles. Expressing myself has always been one of my greatest challenges and that is why I found that my hand is the best way to represent who I am and what my mission is in the world.



##### Bekhruz Davronov

My name is Bekhruz Davronov. I created my self-portrait by using a digital collage application on my computer and used a Digital Graphic tablet to add drawing. My artwork represents my future self if I decide to stay focused on my major - Accounting and Finance. The small pictures that surround the man's silhouette symbolize tasks I will be facing: financial analysis, following the market trends, endless calculations and reading financial statements. Despite financial freedom this type of career might create, I think it has some negative consequences. It deprives people from enjoying their leisure time with their friends and families, thereby giving them a feeling of being locked up in a cell. That is why I drew cell bars over the entire portrait showing that, if wrongly managed, this sort of career can go against one's dreams of freedom and happiness. Nevertheless, my character does have a chance to get out of his prison by unlocking the doors with a gold key I placed next to him. But the fact that he still remains inside a cage proves his undisputed desire to be loyal to his choice.



### Daniel Herrera

I am Daniel Herrera, an Industrial Design major at LaGuardia Community College and a future Architecture major at City College of New York. With my painting, I wanted to show a physical and creative representation of myself. To illustrate this idea, I divided the painting into two pieces. The left side shows my physical self-portrait and the right side represents the creativity coming from my mind. I painted a color explosion full of different paths and figures in contrast to the realistic representation of my face.



### John Kohler

This drawing was done with only a ball point pen. I feel like I relate to this drawing and this could be a self portrait of myself. I feel like a lion with a strong but hurt heart. The mane was meant to be scribbled in like it is. It's supposed to insinuate that this broken heart of a lion is covered with thoughts of anything but sadness.



### JunHui (Erik) Chen

My name is JunHui Chen (Erik). I am an administrative assistant in a seniors' apartment building and studying industrial design at Laguardia Community College. I chose to use the most basic and readily available paper and pens and express my self-portrait in comics. My self-portrait hopes to express my personality. The five words I chose to describe myself in our workshop "Seeing Each Other: Identity Self-Portraits" are freedom, curiosity, loner, nervous and slow-to-warm-up. When I see these words, I think of cats. I like cats very much, so I consulted cats' movements—like when they stretch their waist—and combined them with a human, plus some of my characteristics such as short hair and wearing a T-shirt.



## Kristen Chan

My name is Kristen, I am an Asian American artist from Hong Kong, currently studying photography at Laguardia Community College. I chose to base my self-portrait on five words that identify who I am, and repeat them over and over until they fill a silhouette of myself. This is representative of how these words make up who I am in a literal sense. The words “Asian American”, “Dreamer”, and “Immigrant” all refer to my identity as a Chinese immigrant growing up in America, while the words “Gamer” and “Artist” refer to hobbies that are incredibly important to me. The silhouette features a girl wearing floral hair pins. Such hair ornaments are typically matched with traditional Chinese hanfu clothing. The black silhouette was drawn using the software Procreate and text added on in Photoshop. I chose to create my self-portrait in black and white because of how the contrast of the background puts emphasis on the subject.



## Leuvy Alvarez

I am a future teacher from LaGuardia Community College who loves art. I made a self portrait with one of my favorite photographs using a photoGrid app. The photo I used in this picture was taken by one of my best friends as a model for her page, which is a small business clothing page, where I had to show my confidence. I'm using music notes as my arms. A raining cloud in my head includes a sad emoji, a flower, a sun and a thankful emoji. The objects in the cloud represent insecurities, sadness, hope and thankfulness. The rain represents growth: Flowers need rain to grow. Music makes me stand despite the war of emotions.



## Lucas Neira

My name is Lucas Neira and I have a huge love interest when it comes to art. Art is about freedom and life. Other times you can go crazy. For my self-portrait, I decided to use paint on canvas. I used a mix of colors that fits well with the background of green and bright yellow. This portrait is about me and my dog. To symbolize my self-portrait is the dog and the sky. I decide to paint the sky yellow because the meaning of yellow means joy and happiness. The reason I'm happy is because the dog symbolizes a special key to achieve my smile. I always wanted a dog and now I finally have one. I named him Choco and he is a beautiful brown shih-poo. He is my 21st birthday gift and I am so happy for what I have. I will cherish with hugs and playtime.



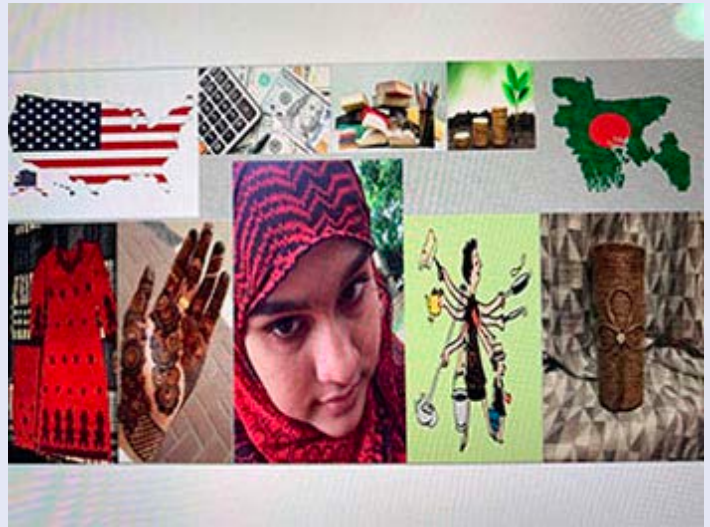
## Mohamed Marzouk

My self-portrait is a collection of 4 photos and some paintings that I did. First photo is a picture of me. It represents me and the connection between the other photos and the painting. Second photo is the pyramid, I used this photo to show where I originally from and the place where I grew up. Third photo is a picture of the Statue Of Liberty and Manhattan, and I chose this photo because it means freedom and a better opportunity for my dream. Fourth photo is a picture of the Queensboro bridge, and I decided to put this photo in my self-portrait because I'm a civil engineering student and that is what I will be doing in the future such as building bridges, building, etc. I drew a car and a road and I tried to connect to the bridge because that shows how much I love to go on long driving trips. I drew one sky for both photos (The pyramids and The Statue of Liberty) to make a personal connection between both. Which means that I'm originally from Egypt and the U.S gave me a lot of opportunity to achieve my dreams and goals. Also one sky for two different places shows how much I really love both countries.



## Mosamad Karun Nahar

I am Mosamad Kamrun Nahar and I am an Accounting major. This is my last semester at LaGuardia Community College. I like art and design; I am a henna and a small dress designer. I used PowerPoint to make my self-portrait. The first object is my dress which I designed: a cotton kurta that I made. The materials I used are two colors of cotton thread, plastic chimki (like a small stone), and cotton cloth. The second object represents that I love henna design. In my country, every Muslim girl/woman loves henna. The third object is my picture where I wear a hijab that represents I am a Muslim girl. I did not learn henna design or dress design. Maybe I got it genetically, because my mother is a good dress designer, and my father can make art well, but they are not professional designers. The fourth object represents that a girl/woman has a lot of responsibilities to do: I imagine that women can do their work with ten hands. Another object I want to show is my created flower vase. The materials I used to make that are a potato chips box, rope, glue, and some pearls. Books represent that I am a student. A calculator and money, and the coin with a tree, represent that I am an accounting student. The two country maps represent that I am an immigrant. I was born in Bangladesh and came to the USA with my parents. This self-portrait represents all about my life.



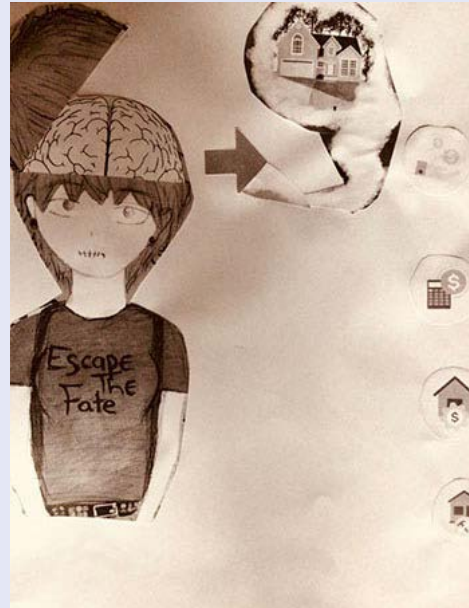
## Nour Mohsen

My name is Nour Mohsen. I came from Egypt. I am studying Industrial Design at LaGuardia Community College. In my self-portrait, I chose some of the most important things that represent my life. I decided to draw one of the pyramids, of Khafre, in the background with the Egyptian flag above it, representing my culture and where I came from. As all Egyptians, I love football, whether playing or watching football matches, so I represent it in my self-portrait with a (Soccer) Ball symbol. I have played video games from when I was 10 years old until now. Playing games was my favorite thing to do. I drew a gaming mouse in the bottom left of the portrait to represent how the gaming world took place in my life. I connected all those symbols with a drawing of myself looking back toward the things that represent myself both past and present. For the border, I used the ancient Egyptian language (Hieroglyphics) which was carved into walls, which represents my Egyptian culture. For this self-portrait I used a pencil and a marker on a drawing pad.



## Sabir Ahamed

Hi, this is Sabir Ahamed. I am from Bangladesh and I am studying Computer Science at LaGuardia Community College. My career goal is to be a software developer. In my self portrait I was trying to say how much I am missing my family back home, where I did not visit for the last 8 years. Little signs show why I can not go. First sign represents that I have to make money. Second one represents the expenses when I go to visit my family. The two homes represent my one home in the USA and my other home in Bangladesh, both expenses I need to take care of. Therefore, despite my homesickness, I can't visit my family.



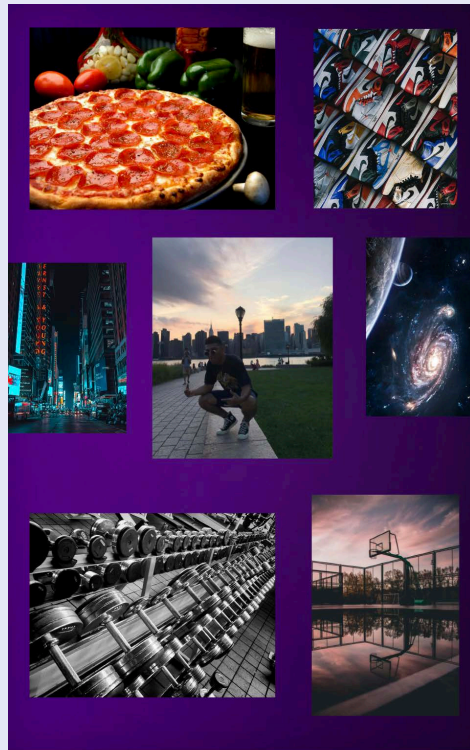
## Sam DeLong

Here we have me, in the piece currently known as Sam DeLong's Self-Portrait. I used the application Linea Sketch on an iPad with a Stylus pen. Through exaggerated facial characteristics, I brought out parts of my personality, appearance, and demeanor. I have always been entertained by the emotions, characters and colors that come from animated cartoons like The Simpsons, King of the Hill, and Rocco's Modern Life. The characters in these series have influenced me through my journey of character creating. Here I use some of that inspiration while also surrounding myself with my passion for pizza.



## Sam Rodriguez

In this self portrait, I displayed images that reflected my personality. I put myself in the center, and the things that I enjoy around me. The first being one of my favorite foods which is pizza, followed by one of my favorite shoe silhouettes, the Jordan One. After this, I put a picture of New York City since this is where I've lived all my life. Outer space is something that intrigues me and I enjoy fashion so I believe my style is astronomical. The final two are images of a gym and basketball which are hobbies I enjoy doing.



## Scottie Norton

My name is Scottie Norton. I am an aspiring illustrator and animator currently studying Digital Media. For my self portrait, I used a 3D rendering app called Blender to create an 8-second looping animation called Late Bloomer. It shows a figure representing myself with flowers cascading out of his head, and five hands surrounding the body. As a non traditional student, this artwork represents me pursuing my passion of becoming an artist and “blooming” or discovering my power through art after years of working as a retail manager. I grew up Catholic, and I am inspired by religious, biblical, and occult iconography, particularly with the way that art can use symbolism to deal with the difficult and incomprehensible concept of trauma. Each of the hands represent something different. I chose the image of the pencil in white and the black goblet to represent the positive force of creativity and negative concept of vice. The black hand around my neck symbolizes self-doubt and self-destructive behaviors. Last year I was involved in an attack that broke the right side of my face, and this artwork symbolizes me overcoming this event and emerging with a newfound sense of purpose.

