Here Our Mindset Exists

(HOME)

by Steven Wilson, Ed.D.





Art Therapy is an integrative mental health and human services profession that enriches the lives of individuals, families, and communities through active art-making, creative process, applied psychological theory, and human experience within a psychotherapeutic relationship, according to the American Art Therapy Association.

Kelly Cline, who is scheduled to join The Children's Home staff in June as a care coordinator, recently completed a pre-art therapy internship within the day treatment programs here. Pre-art therapy is an undergraduate major much like pre-law or pre-med. Students typically choose this path if they are interested in working in psychiatric or rehabilitation facilities, crisis centers, traditional and nontraditional schools and other places where practitioners are needed to help improve the physical, mental and emotional health of people. She also recently completed her senior project at Xavier she calls Here Our Mindset Exists (HOME).

According to Cline's artist's statement on her senior project, she is seeking a career in therapeutic arts and wants to use her artistic abilities and her mental health experience to promote the well-being of others.

Here Our Mindset Exists is a collection of original works depicting the exteriors of different types of homes. The pieces ask their viewers to reflect on the meaning of home beyond the physical nature. "Although we cannot control our place or origin, we hold the ability to change our ultimate home: our mindset," she says. "Through a balance of letting go, holding on, reflecting on the past, and contemplating the future, we have the ability to be truly present. And through this presence, we continue to construct our home."

See more art from Cline's HOME exhibit on page 2.









Here Our Mindset Exists

A Collection of Works by **Kelly Cline**

Pursuing a career in the therapeutic arts, I seek to creatively implement my artistic abilities and mental health experience to promote the well-being of others. Through my artwork, I am able to not only celebrate peoples' differences, but explore what unites us in the human experience.

Specifically, this exhibition calls us to reflect on the meaning of home beyond the physical nature. My work features domestic exteriors because they represent individual identities while simultaneously transcending the boundaries of demographics. By depicting various types of homes, I address fundamental aspects of the human condition beyond the parameters of the human body. Furthermore, I explore the interdependency of people and our need to maintain balance through a mixed media approach.

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