Every child is an artist. The problem is how to remain an artist once we grow up.

-Pablo Picasso

This quote by Pablo Picasso has always been something I have considered when thinking about my own artwork and the artwork I will create in the future. I grew up always drawing and doing different arts and crafts, at all times using my imagination. Since then I have taken different classes in various media such as painting, printmaking as well as in the Adobe Suites and have slowly shifted to creating more graphic works in my sketches as well as on the computer. Thus, graphic design is a field in which I have developed strong skills and abilities together with a great love and admiration.

Being a creative child helped me to continue being a creative adult in many ways. When coming up with the ideas and illustrations for a work, you must first sketch these thoughts out on paper. As a child who forever had a pencil or crayon in hand, I have grown up mastering these skills of sketching and drawing. After sketching my ideas out onto paper the next step is to transform these sketches into designs on the computer. Usually I use grids as guides when developing a design because I have learned that using grids in almost any type of work helps balance and bring it together as a whole. For example, the use of grids is evident in the cover that I worked on in the style of Piet Mondrian. The goal was to create a piece in the style of an artist with that particular artist’s name within the design. Making a grid helped very much. Considering the work that Mondrian was known for, as it was typically geometric and based on the horizontal, vertical, and right angles.
Just as the rigidity of grids and guides influence my work, the freedom that I have learned to convey in drawing and painting lends itself in expressive graphic design pieces, such as my typographic portrait. In this piece I used only letterforms in two different fonts to create an illustration of myself. Instead of using a grid, this specific work required a more imaginative and expressive thought processes that I have developed from drawing and painting. Both of these processes have significantly impacted the works I have created in graphic design as well as studio arts.

I know my work would not be as compelling if it were not for the practice and experience I have received of other areas of fine art. Every line of work shapes the other.