

### **What made you choose these pieces for Pulp?**

I picked my artwork, F, for Pulp because I feel that it is a work that many people can relate to. In some peoples' journeys they have received a bad grade or have felt the feeling one can have with poor grades.

### **Where did your inspiration for these pieces come from? What is their “story”?**

This artwork represents my personal experience of going to public schools in the Lower Mainland. When I was in school, I had a hard time academically and would often get failing grades in red ink on my assignments and tests. Now that I'm a teacher, I try to support students who are going through the same struggles I did. It's a way for me to show myself kindness and understanding. I see many students who struggle with their own learning and feel discouraged when they don't do well on a test or project. Just like me, those failing grades made me feel like I was not smart. In high school, some educators told me I would never graduate because of my poor grades. But now, looking back, I have achieved two bachelor's degrees, one of which is in education.

### **What messages/themes do you want viewers to pull from these pieces?**

The main idea I want people to connect with through my work is the feeling of disappointment when getting a low grade. When I was younger, seeing red marks on my assignments and tests made me feel like I had failed. Even if I passed, the red marks still made me feel intimidated. I believe a lot of people can understand this feeling. The way we are graded has changed over time to try and reduce the fear of failing and feeling inadequate.

### **Your pieces stand out against other visual art submissions by being physical sculptures instead of paintings or photographs. What made you choose this medium over something more conventional?**

During my BFA studies at KPU, I initially focused on drawing and photography. However, my instructor, Anna Gomes, introduced me to alternative processes and installation art, inspiring me to experiment with transforming my 2D work into 3D. As I progressed to fourth year, my instructor, Maria Anna Parolin, encouraged me to try something new. This led me to explore sculpture and installation work, which ultimately helped me discover my artistic style. Since then, the majority of my new work has been in the form of sculpture and installation, using various mediums. Creating 3D works brings me the most joy and is where I find my true passion.

### **How long have you been creative?**

I've always been creative ever since I was a kid. I loved all kinds of art, especially drawing. My teachers even noticed and praised my creativity when I was in elementary school. During high school, I switched gears and fell in love with music. I was really dedicated to music and was considering applying to a music program after graduation. However, when I was 16, I had to

move to a different school because of some unexpected circumstances. The music program at my new school wasn't as good as the one in my old school, so I decided to focus on art instead. I remembered how much I enjoyed drawing as a child, so I started pursuing it again. I truly believe that creativity has been a big part of my life all along.

### **What sorts of things inspire you?**

I get inspired by things that happen to me, and I've noticed that most of my art is based on my own experiences. One of the faculty from KPU told me that my 3D work is kind of like setting up a scene for a photograph during my BFA. I like to recreate a specific moment or feeling that I've had and turn it into something you can touch or interact with. My desk, titled F, where I used objects like erasers and a desk to create the feeling of getting a failing grade on an assignment or exam.