

**CITY OF RENO
BOARD OR COMMISSION
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Please be advised that all information contained in this application is part of the City of Reno's public record and is, upon request, available for public review. These positions are limited, in most cases, to residents of the City of Reno. The City Council makes a conscientious effort to appoint persons who represent all of the various communities within the City of Reno. Please be advised that certain boards and commissions require filing of financial statements with the Secretary of State or have special requirements. Contact the City Clerk's office at 334-2030 with any questions.

Name: Nicole Ashton Carstensen (Nicole Ashton is my professional name)

Name of Board or Commission for which you would like to apply:

Arts and Culture Commission

Home Address:

Address: 137 High Street Unit B

City: REno State: NV Zip: 89502

Home Phone: 530.205.7336 E-mail: nicoleashtonart@gmail.com

Occupation and Business Address:

Job Title: Visual Art/Media Arts Faculty and Art Department Chair

Business Name: Sage Ridge School

Address: 2515 Crossbow Ct.

City: Reno State: NV Zip: 89511

Business Phone: 775.852.6222 E-mail: nashton@sageridge.org

Preferred Contact: *If appointed, the address, phone number and e-mail address you wish to use for your contact information.*

Address: 137 High Street Unit B

City: Reno State: NV Zip: 89511

Phone: 530.205.7336 E-mail: nicoleashtonart@gmail.com

How long have you been a resident of the City of Reno? 7 Years

Are you currently registered to vote in the City of Reno? Yes: X No:

Have you ever been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor other than minor traffic violations? Yes: _____ No: X

If yes, please list conviction dates and nature: _____

Education or Training Relevant to the board or commission to which you are applying:

BFA Studio Art and Sculpture California Institute of the Arts (CalARTS)

MFA Graphic Design/Marketing California Institute of the Arts (CalARTS)

Explain briefly why you would like to be appointed to this board or commission. Please attach any additional information you wish:

I would like to serve on the city of Reno's Arts and Culture Commission because I am passionate about the transformative power of art in shaping vibrant, inclusive communities. My professional background in arts education, graphic design and public art aligns perfectly with the commission's goal of fostering cultural growth and enriching the lives of residents through the arts. With a BFA in Studio Art and Sculpture, and an MFA in Graphic Design and Marketing from the California Institute of the Arts (CalARTS), I have both creative expertise and strategic vision necessary to contribute meaningfully to the city's arts initiatives. As Visual Art/Media Arts Faculty and Art Department Chair at Sage Ridge School, I actively promote arts education, mentor young artists, and collaborate on projects that use art as a tool for community betterment. My experience equips me to support public art installations, engage diverse audiences, and advocate for initiatives that elevate Reno's cultural landscape. Joining the commission would allow me to leverage my skills and passion to help further integrate art into the city's identity, making it a more vibrant and innovative place for all.

I certify that, to the best of my knowledge, the information I provided in the application is true. If the information provided is false or incomplete, it shall be sufficient cause for disqualification or removal. If appointed, I agree to attend a board or commission orientation session, if applicable, within six months of my appointment. I understand that failure to comply with this requirement will result in automatic removal from the board or commission.

Signature: _____

Date: 9/19/2024

Please Return the Application To:

City Clerks' Office, P.O. Box 7, Reno, NV 89504

Fax: 775-334-2432 e-mail: CityClerk@reno.gov

**This document is part of the public record of the City of Reno
and is available for public review.**

**WAIVER OF NOTICE REQUIRED UNDER NRS 241.033(1)
TO ALLOW CITY COUNCIL TO
CONSIDER CHARACTER, MISCONDUCT, OR COMPETENCE
OF PERSON TO BE APPOINTED TO A BOARD, COMMISSION, OR OTHER
PUBLIC BODY FOR THE CITY OF RENO**

The City Council for the City of Reno will be considering on a future posted agenda your appointment to a board, commission or other public body for the City of Reno. Pursuant to NRS 241.033(1), in order to consider the professional competence of an applicant, notice need be provided to that person of the time and place of the meeting in compliance with such statutory provisions.

By signing below, it is confirmed that I have been provided notice of the meeting at which my appointment will be considered by City Council. Further, I knowingly and voluntarily am waiving my rights to all written notice requirements under NRS 241.033(1) pertaining to my qualifications, competence, and character to hold this appointment and consent to the evaluation of my character and competence by the Reno City Council in a public meeting.

Further, the undersigned acknowledges that he may at any time withdraw both this waiver and related application for appointment.

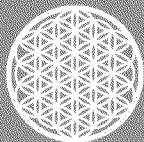
Dated this 19 day of September, 2024.

Name of Board, Commission or Other Public Body to which the undersigned is seeking

City Council's consideration: _____
(Board/Commission/Public Body)

Signature of Applicant: Nicole Ashton

By: Nicole Ashton
(Printed Name of Applicant)



Nicole Ashton

530.205.7336 nicoleashtonart@gmail.com

Professional Experience

August 2019 – Current

Sage Ridge College Preparatory

Visual/Media Arts Faculty and Art Department Chair

RESPONSIBILITIES

Classes: Upper School AP Art, Studio Art, Media Arts, Art Foundation, Ceramics, Sculpture

- Program and Curriculum Development Grades 3 - 12 + AP Classes
- Sage Ridge Magazine Faculty Lead
- Sage Ridge School Yearbook and Broadcast Journalism Faculty Lead
- Provide instruction by which students develop aesthetic concepts and appreciations and the ability to make qualitative judgments about art
- Provide individual and small-group instruction to adapt the curriculum to the needs of students with varying intellectual and artistic abilities, and to accommodate a variety of instructional activities
- Evaluate each student's performance and growth in knowledge and aesthetic understandings, and prepare progress reports
- Department Budget
- Gallery Curation and Installation
- Mentor and Advisory

July 2020

California Institute of the Arts/California Arts Partnership

Guest Lecture Series and Sculpture Workshop

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Create and implement curriculum (lectures, project planning, day trips, guided art tours, importance of title and project summary and critique)
- Safety and certification of tools, materials and Super Shop resources
- Provide individual and small-group instruction to adapt the curriculum to the needs of students with varying intellectual and artistic abilities, and to accommodate a variety of instructional activities

May 2012 – August 2019

Kindred Art and Folk Institute

Creative Director/Faculty

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Create and Implement Organization Identity (Logo and Branding Development)
- Program and Curriculum Development
- Special Event Management/Creation/Planning and Fund-raising
- Public Environmental Art - Planning and Installation Strategies
- Create All Collateral Pieces
- Manage Creative and Volunteer Staff
- Target new patrons and sponsors
- Grant research and writing
- Graphic Design - Handle all preproduction of projects, including doing bids and press checks
- Photography
- Annual budgets
- Public Environmental Art Planning and Installation Strategies
- Media Relations
- Website/Social Media Management/Eblast

May 2011 – August 2019

Guitarfish Music Festival

Creative Director/Starfish Stage Manager

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Create and Implement Festival Identity (*Logo and Branding Development*)
- Program and Curriculum Development For Family Camp/Starfish Stage
- Special Event Management/Creation/Planning
- Create All Collateral Pieces
- Manage Creative, Stage Production and Volunteer Staff
- Public Environmental Art - Planning and Installation Strategies
- Media Relations
- Website/Social Media Mangment/Eblast

January 2011 – April 2012

Tahoe Forest Health System

Marketing Coordinator

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Create and Implement Corporate Identity (*Logo and Branding Development*)
- Create all collateral pieces
- Manage Promotions/Special Events
- Manages development and production of all websites/social media including updates and change orders
- To handle all preproduction of projects, including doing bids and press checks
- Photography
- Media Relations
- Maintains all deadlines for advertising collateral development, reports and updates

November 2009 – January 2011

Sierra Arts Foundation/Sierra Arts Gallery

Creative Resources Director

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Create and Implement Corporate Identity (*Logo and Branding Development*)
- Create all collateral pieces
- Manage Creative and Volunteer Staff
- Target new patrons and sponsors
- Program and Curriculum Development
- Public Art Planning Strategies, Installation and Partnerships
- To handle all preproduction of projects, including doing bids and press checks
- Social Media mangment
- Photography
- Annual budgets
- Special Event Management/Planning and Fund-raising
- Media Relations
- Management of Arts4Nevada.org (A statewide site/calendar that promotes, advocates, and enhances art in the state of Nevada)

December 2006 – September 2009

Lakeridge Tennis Club/Topol Group Properties

Advertising Director

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Create and Implement Corporate Identity (*Logo and Branding Development*)
- Create all collateral pieces
- Manage Creative Staff
- Target New Markets and Clients
- To Handle All Preproduction of Projects, Including Doing Bids and Press Checks
- Photography
- Special Event Management/Planning
- Media Relations

October 2003 – January 2005

DRGM Advertising

Graphic Designer/Production Artist

Supervisor Lynne Pierce

RESPONSIBILITIES

- To come up with all designs from start to finish, including releasing the final product to the appropriate vendor
- To work with account executives on all change orders
- To handle archiving of jobs

January 2002 – September 2003

PERRI Entertainment Inc. Reno, NV

Senior Graphic Artist / Marketing Specialist

Supervisor Jeff Arnett

RESPONSIBILITIES

- To work with clients to come up with concepts that works with their corporate and artistic images
- To come up with all designs from start to finish
- To target new markets, and clients
- To handle all preproduction of projects, including doing press checks

November 2000 – November 2002

KOLO News Channel 8 Reno, NV

Graphics Supervisor

Supervisor Jason Pasco

RESPONSIBILITIES

- To create overall on air look
- To create graphics for nightly newscast
- To create graphics for special news pieces
- To work with sales department, and clients for commercial advertising
- To run studio camera, and audio board for live newscast

Internships

September 1998 - September 2000

Inner-City Arts Los Angeles, CA

Special Events Coordinator/Instructor

September 1997 - September 2000

Community Arts Partnership (CAP)

California Institute of the Arts, Valencia, CA

Instructor

Education

2000 – 2003 **California Institute of the Arts** Valencia, CA

MFA Fine Art

1996 – 2000 **California Institute of the Arts** Valencia, CA

BFA Fine Art/Graphic Design

Summer 1995 **Art Institute of Boston**

Pre college courses Fine Art/Graphic Design

1994 **Kansas City Art Institute**

Pre college courses Fine Art

Central High School

St. Joseph, MO

General Studies

References

Brian Arnold, Former Computer Science Faculty
Sage Ridge School, Reno, NV
arnoldb1778@gmail.com
513.967.6745 / 269.355.1509

Dr. Tara McGann, English Department Chair, English Faculty
Sage Ridge School, Reno, NV
tmcgann@sageridge.org
775.250.4081

Krystal Buccambuso, Visual Arts Faculty
Sage Ridge School, Reno, NV
kbuccambuso@sageridge.org
775.329.2787

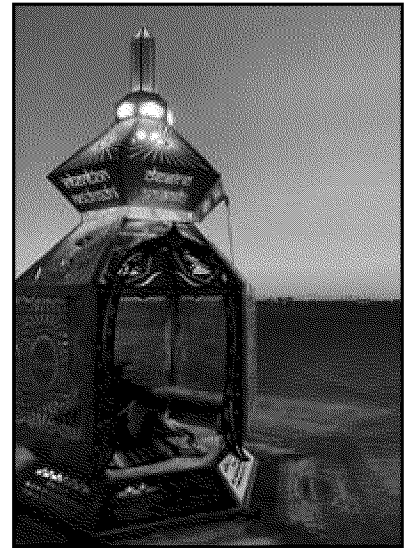
Andrew Murphy, Environmental Protection Specialist II
Wast Managment, Reno, NV
775.391.9903

Emily Dolan, Assitant Head of School
Sage Ridge School, Reno, NV
edolan@sageridge.org
617.645.6552

Selected Exhibition Record (2000 - 2022)

- **"In Bloom" Multimedia Painting Series: 2022 Reno Tahoe International Art Show, Reno, NV**
- **"Transcendent Souls" 2022 Playa Ponderosa: Flagstaff, AZ**
- **"Utility Box Project": 2022 City of Reno, Reno, NV**
- **"Blender 759" Group Show: 2022 City of Reno, McKinley Art Center, Reno, NV**
- **"Natural Instincts" Group Show: 2019 Gallery 5830, Truckee, CA**
- **"As You Wish" 2019 Burning Man: Black Rock City, NV**
- **"As You Wish" 2019 Reno/Playa Art Park: Reno, NV**
- **"Transcendent Souls" 2018 Burning Man: Black Rock City, NV**
- **"Transcendent Souls" 2018 Magical Nipton: Nipton, CA**
- **"Forest Wispers" 2017 Guitarfish Music Festival: Cisco Grove, CA**
- **"Earth Shadows" 2016 North Tahoe Arts, Tahoe City, CA**
- **"Light Dance" 2015 Guitarfish Music Festival: Cisco Grove, CA**
- **"FREEways" 2014 North Tahoe Arts: Tahoe City, CA**
- **CalARTS Benifit Exhibition, 2013 Paula Cooper Gallery: NY, NY**
- **"DNA" 2011 Truckee Public Arts Commission: Truckee, CA**
- **"Newsstand Project" 2010 Sierra Arts Foundation: Reno, NV**
- **"Where the Heart is" 2010 Tahoe Forest Cancer Center: Truckee, CA**
- **"Wools Eye" REDCAT Foundation: 2003 Los Angeles, CA**
- **"Watermark" Lime Gallery, California Institute of the Arts: 2000 Valencia, CA**

Nicole Ashton / Portfolio



As You Wish 2019 Interactive Public Art

Currently On Display: Reno Playa Art Park/Reno NV

Reminiscent of an arabian minaret in a mirage beckoning you to enter. Once inside, the swirling points of light create a mystical chamber for your wishes. The magical lamp turning with myriad points of light dancing across the desert. Inside, the light carries your wishes up to the stars.



Transcendent Souls 2018 Interactive Public Art

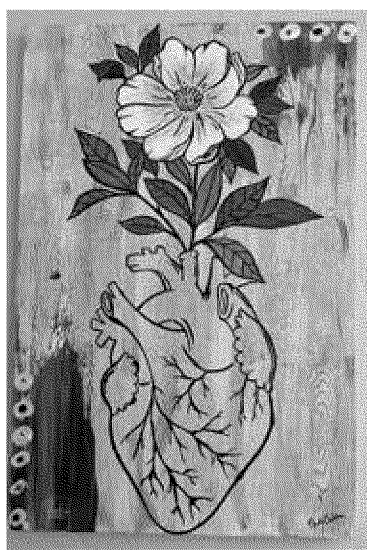
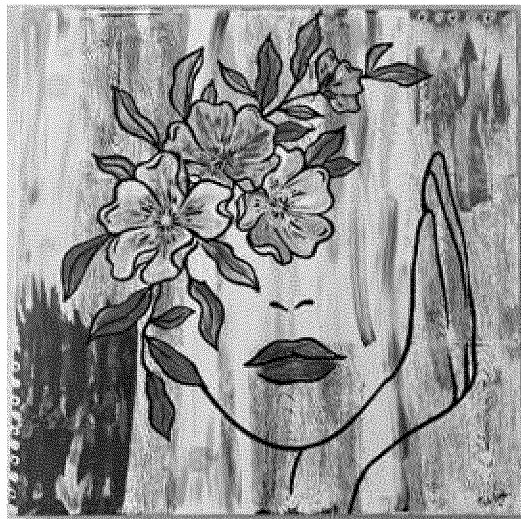
Currently On Display: Playa Ponderosa/Flagstaff, AZ

This piece tells the story of our existence through the seven stages of our evolutionary map and gives a visual representation to knowing enlightenment and ultimately unconditional love as our higher or spiritual selves align with our human selves.



Nicole Ashton • 530.205.7336
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137 High Street • Reno, NV 89502

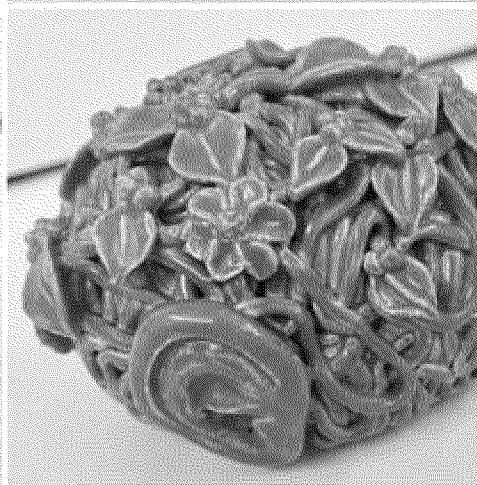
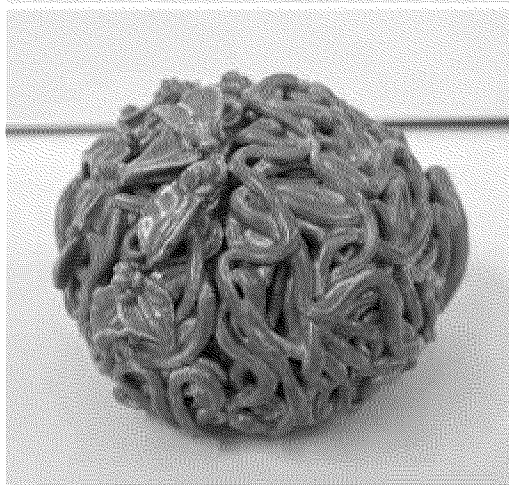
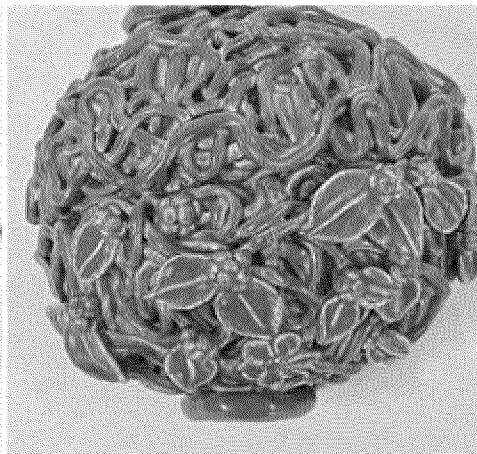
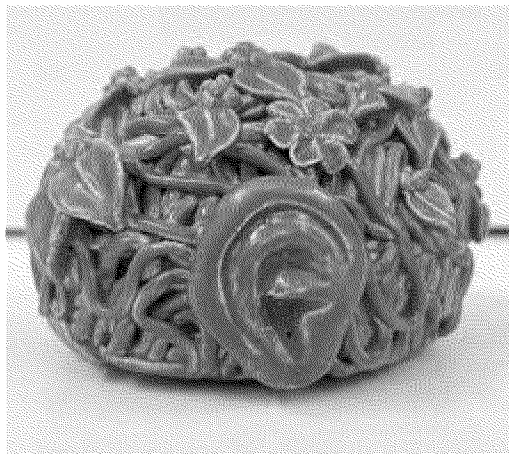
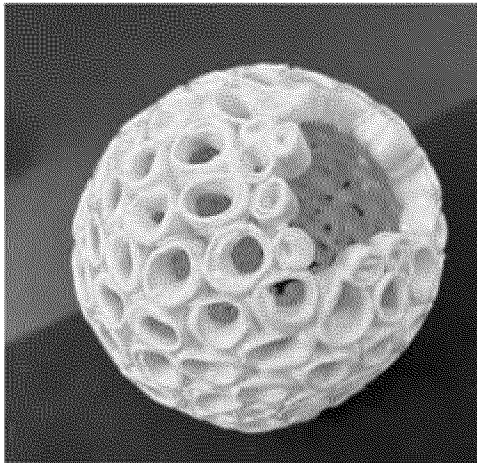
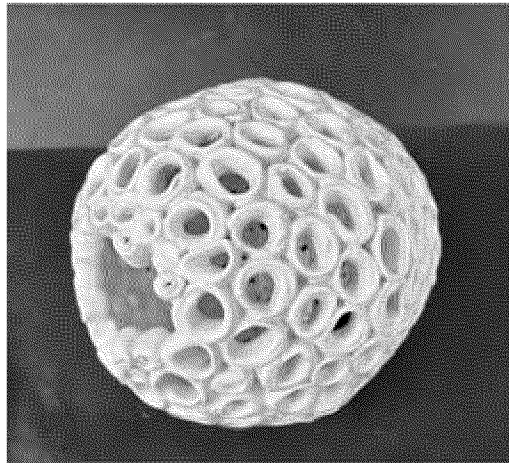
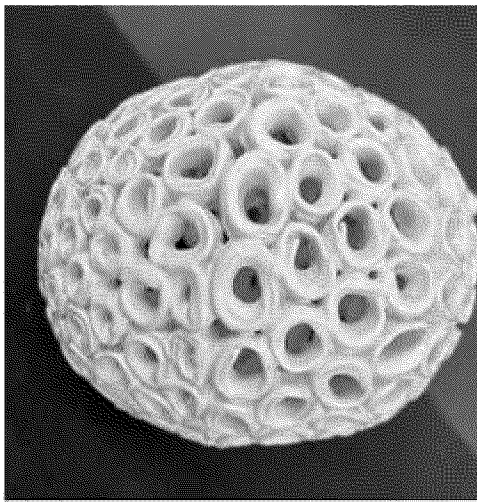
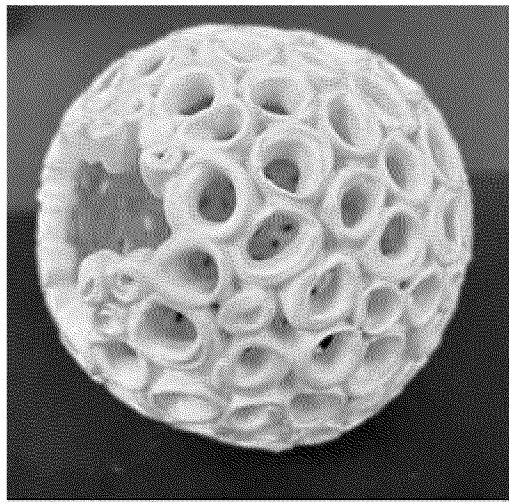
Nicole Ashton / Portfolio



In Bloom 2022 - 2023

Humankind's greatest power lies at the intersection where creation and destruction collide. There is no denying climate change. And humans have played a role. From the boom of industry to the nuclear age our evolution is our planets virus. There is a cure. And that cure is powerful. It is responsibility. For every single person on this planet to pledge responsibility to protect this planet and one another. Every single day there is and opportunity to repair what was damaged and preserve what is most precious...life.

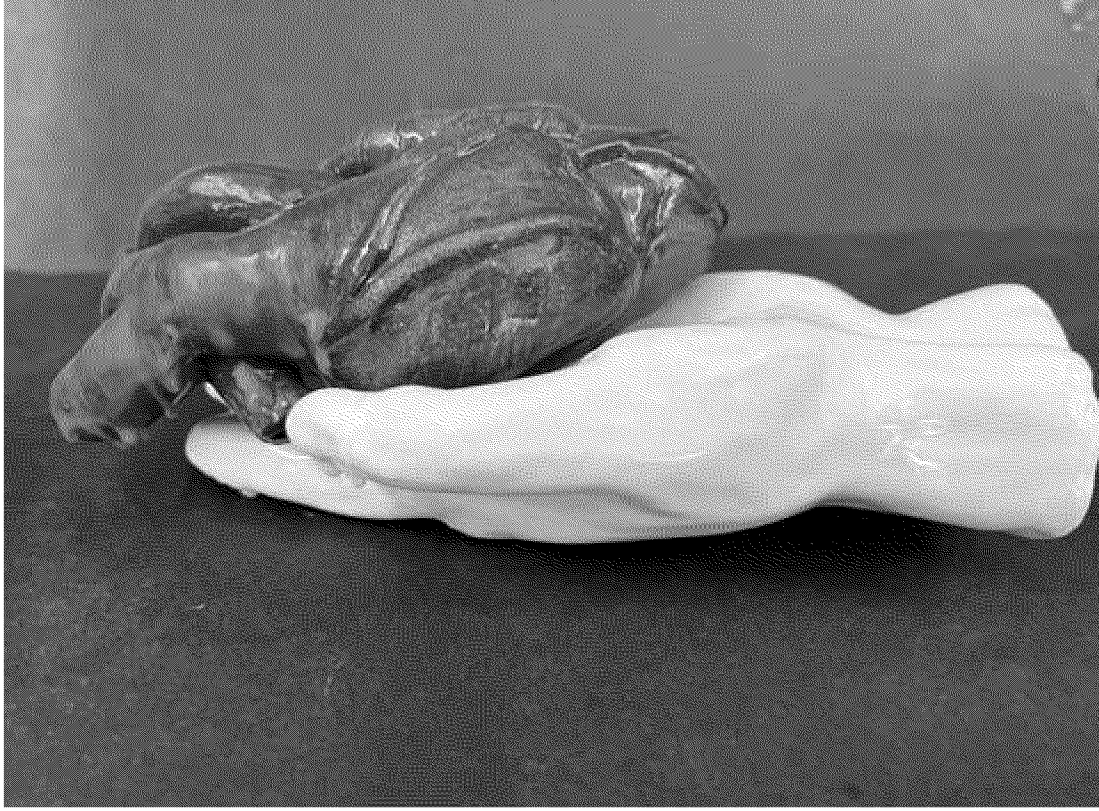
Nicole Ashton | Portfolio



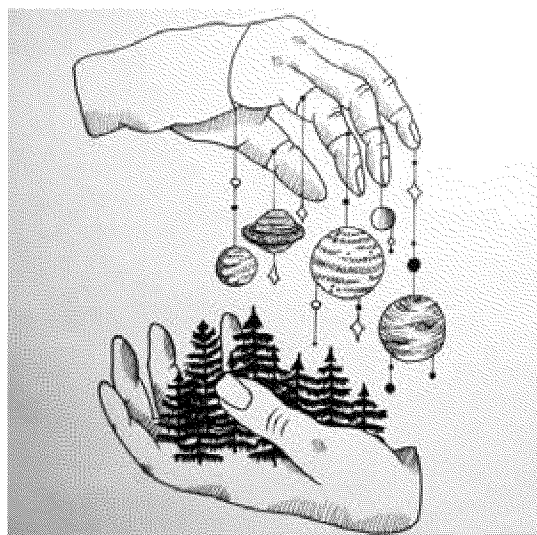
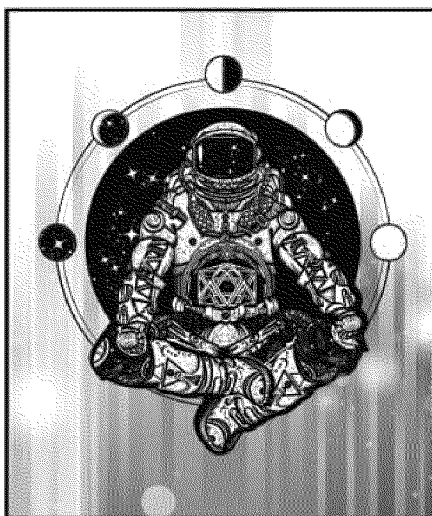
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