

Sophia Chabris - Cupcakes of the Zodiacs  
IN250 - Cosmic Visions Art Final

I have always been fortunate enough to have great parents. Growing up, my mom was and still is one of my best friends. Getting to spend time with my mom was always one of my favorite things. However, when I was growing up, both of my parents worked full-time jobs,



which reduced the time I was able to spend with them. My mom loved working in the kitchen as a way to relax and unwind. As I started to hang around the kitchen, I found that cooking was not a passion of mine, but I still wanted to be around her. My mom had a friend's dinner to go to one night and asked if I

would help her bake dessert since she needed to bring something. That was the moment my mom and I found baking as a way to spend time together while still allowing my mom to get the things she needed done. This became a pivotal change in our relationship, where I became my mom's little helper when it came to baking sweets for parties and other occasions.

When this project was announced, my mind drifted to all the possibilities. I desired to find something that would connect me to a passion of mine that reflects on my relationship with someone important to me. I wanted to take a topic that has always interested me and combine it with baking as a way to connect a beloved topic with something that brings a warm feeling to many. I hope to share cherished memories and feelings through food. Bringing my own experiences and hoping that the receiver would be able to understand and relate to the feeling of closeness.



Since I can remember, I have always been inspired by astrological signs and how the time of your birth could “affect” your personality. It is fascinating how the zodiac signs are connected to the cosmos through the constellation that occurred during your birth period. I have always resonated with parts of my own astrological “makeup,” even though it is a pseudoscience, and I feel connected to the stars because of this, nonetheless. Because of this, I wanted to highlight astrological signs and their characteristics through colors and other creative means.

As a Taurus sun, there are a lot of qualities that I strongly identify with, good and bad: loyalty, practicality, consistency, stubbornness, and a love for food and comfort. When I realized that baking and cooking could be identified as art, I knew that I had to bring in not only my passion for baking, but also to bring in my astrological tendencies of a love for food. As I pondered, I realized that cupcakes were the best way to present all of the signs and their types.

For my cupcake base, I decided to use a Funfetti cupcake. The thought process behind this had to do with the overlapping nature of your astrological makeup. While I am a Taurus sun (earth sign), I am an Aries rising (fire sign), which influences how I act and respond to others. I wanted to demonstrate how free-flowing the signs are to one another. The sprinkles within the cupcake match the elemental colors of red (fire), blue (water), yellow (air), and green (earth).

I chose red, green, blue, and yellow to represent the base color for the cupcake frosting, as it is the easiest way to identify which type of sign the cupcake is to start with. This was intentional so that the other parts of the art could be highlighted. These colors make it very easy to follow the pattern of the signs.

For the constellations, I decided to use black for the color. This represents the fact that you can only see them in the night sky. I wanted to put the original constellations on the cupcakes as a way to bring a connection to things greater than humans. In this course, we have really focused on space and how small humans are. Many people who like astrology don’t realize how important the constellations are, reminding them of the importance and showing how humans are just part of the puzzle. I also added the dates for when signs are born as a way to help viewers identify where they stand in the world. I have also created small tags in front of each cupcake to highlight traits as a way to compare and see how the viewer believes this affects their personality.