

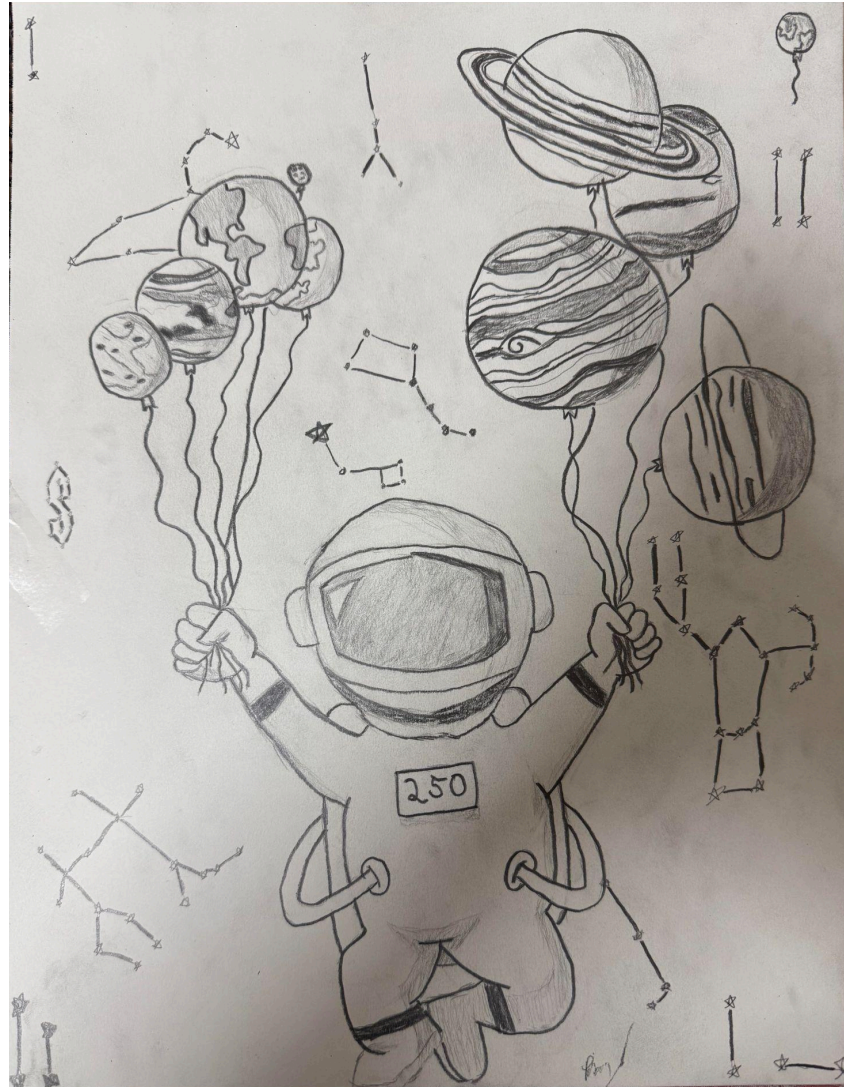
Pranav Dixit

Charles Henebry

IN 250

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Silly Space



For my final artistic project, I chose to do an artistic medium that I have loved since I was a kid, drawing. I knew that I have always loved space and astronomy, especially the planets within our solar system since I watched shows like Cosmos when I was young. I started off by

wondering what exactly I should draw to represent my love for space. I stumbled upon a google image of a clipart astronaut holding a balloon that was meant to represent Saturn and that made the gears turn in my head. I thought about what if I could show an astronaut holding balloons representing all the planets in our solar system. I latched onto this idea because I wanted to show the love I had for all the planets and I also thought that it could be a very good foreground sketch that I could add a fun background to.

So now with this idea, I started the sketch. I decided to sketch this work because I have always loved to sketch since I was a kid and I would recreate many things like cartoons, anime characters, and even some real life people. I would not say that I am the greatest sketcher, but it is an activity that I heavily enjoy so I always like to try my hardest. I used a no. 2 lead pencil for the preliminary sketch, and then finished it off by outlining the rough edges with a 4B pencil that my good friend had lent me. I started with the astronaut. I followed a clip art that I had seen online of an astronaut, but I wanted to pay homage to this class that allowed me to express my love of the cosmos in this art so I decided to add a 250 patch in the middle which is the course number for this class. I wanted to make the astronaut cartoon-like to represent my childlike wonder for space exploration and love to observe and learn about the planets and constellations in the sky.

The next step was to draw the balloon planets. I wanted to draw them with a pattern so I purposefully made all of the rocky terrestrial planets on the left side of the picture in the astronaut's right hand (because he is facing the audience it's his right, but our left), and then have the gas and ice giants on the right side. I also tried my hardest to make sure the terrestrial planets were smaller than the gas and ice giants. I could not make it to scale however, as the balloons for the giant planets would have been far too big. Luckily, I believe that I was able to make it in such

a way where any viewer could see that the planets on the right side of the picture were noticeably bigger than the left side. With some of the planets I added some small details and attributes that referenced things about the planets. For Earth, I gave a small balloon for our moon, because even though it is very insignificant in our cosmos, the moon is a wonderful beacon of progress throughout humanity's spatial exploration, so I wanted to pay respects to the little rock that has taught us much. On the gas giant side, there are two details that I had added for the final ice giants. I made sure to have the balloon for Uranus to have a dramatically tilted axis which parallels the planet's real life situation. The next small step was to make Neptune relatively hidden amongst the planets, because we were not able to see Neptune back in the day, and it required calculations to know that it was there. I also have a very small balloon in the top right that represents Pluto that the astronaut is not holding onto. I did that to show Pluto's "recognition rollercoaster" of being considered a planet or not.

To finish off the sketch I wanted to add some of my favorite constellations, and constellations of my good friends' zodiacs. In the picture there is Leo, Aries, Gemini, and Cancer. I also have Orion and the Big and Little Dippers in there because they are my favorite constellations. Finally I added some of my own. I first added the classic graffiti S to show that you could make a constellation out of anything, even the S. This parallels the amazing human creativity and ability to look at these stars and connect the dots to make the sky into anything you want it to be. Then I have in each corner a line representing the popular Ctrl Alt Delete webcomic, "Loss" which is about a loss. I included this to acknowledge the loss that will come to me with the end of class and college soon where I can not learn such interesting things as easily again. I wanted to include that but also embrace what I had learned to end up finally creating "Silly Space" a drawing to represent how space shaped me when I was a silly child.