Spring Blossoms

Alexandra Ortega American Class of 2024 Copper wire, tissue paper, thermoplastic adhesive

The piece "Spring Blossoms" emulates the beauty of organic life and its processes, in both tangible and intangible ways. The interconnectedness of biology is especially emulated within trees- their roots are not usually seen with the human eye as underground, their network is being used to share water, share nutrients, and even to communicate by sending signals to their equivalents— other trees. Biological processes and organisms offer a myriad of things; such as in the case of trees, its existence allows for mediums of art, oxygen, and other items and units to exist that contribute to the quality of life. While many may not think that humanities and the sciences coincide, the beauty of biology is emulated in the very essence, nature, and symbolism of trees.

Cherry blossoms are symbolic of time renewal. In many cultures, watching the petals fall introduces spring and represents the fleeting nature of life. The symbolic nature of trees, and their involvement in cultural traditions, can be traced back thousands of years. Trees and its symbolism have aged with humanity.

Copper wire was used to eloquently twist and connect the trunk and branches of the cherry blossom tree. The wire was used as an allegory to the interconnectedness of trees and their roots. Moreover, just as trees have a representative nature, so does copper— in greek culture, copper is symbolic of beauty. Lastly, thermoplastic adhesive was used to place the pink petals made from tissue paper on the tree. The use of tissue paper on the tree is one that points to the importance of the tree's existence. On a chemical and artistic standpoint, without paper, wood, fibers, and more, art mediums would not have the potential to be created.