

Paper Eagle

Kerri Hunt

Paper is 2D object that is used so often in our everyday life and is taken for granted so much. We use it to draw on, write things down and document things but we never really acknowledge its beauty and how we can use this one sheet of paper to create such beautiful objects. The fact that I personally love origami was another factor as to why I chose this artwork. Through this artwork I wanted to demonstrate the beauty, strength and the different ways to use paper, for example origami, paper cut, shredded and roll up. To reflect this, I used an animal that is known for its beauty as it flies through the sky like it is weight less, almost like a paper plane and the strength and power it has to survive in the world, an eagle. This animal represents perfectly the beauty of paper but also the hidden strength it contains throughout the thousands of feathers it beholds.

The Paper Eagle is the biggest artwork I have ever attempted and took a lot of hard work and time to complete. From when the first paper cut feather was completed to when the last one was stuck on was 7 months in the making.

Throughout the construction I have come to even more admire the strength of paper when folding or cutting all the individual pieces and experiencing some of the worst hand and arm cramp from the constant strain. I never notice the resistance and strength paper has till I had to sit down and individually cut out all 46 paper cut feathers and fold hundreds of the tiny origami feathers. I also never notice how long glue takes to dry when holding to pieces of paper together.

I have also learned to be stubborn and resilient throughout this work. There were many times throughout this 7 month period of work I wanted to give up because of the pain my hands where in and the amount of times I tried something and it didn't work, so I had to take it all back off and start again. This is probably why the feet to 3 weeks alone to complete. However thankful I stuck with it through everything and I am so proud of the final product.

The Paper Eagle demonstrates the beauty that a 2D sheet of paper can create and the strength of paper can contain to support a 3D object. Throughout this project I have fell even more in love with paper and discovered a new found love for sculpturing. I am super happy with the final product, how the origami folded papers look just like feathers, the strength of the wings and the detail of the feet. I am amazed that I actually pulled it off.

#