## Gratitude is Absolutely the Way to Bring More into Your Life

Kim Luttrell

Mrs. Girardin found this piece at artsy.net and thought it would fit our gratitude unit perfectly! She researched the artist and discovered the Ms. Luttrell is from Henderson, KY! Mrs. Girardin reached out to her and Ms. Luttrell wrote the following SPECIFICALLY for you! Notice how Ms. Luttrell references the elements and design principles we learned about in class!

My childhood was an extremely happy & wonderful time in my life. In this piece, I was conveying that feeling & time. Art expresses the spiritual, emotional & intellectual issues of the artist. At times bringing out unconscious ideas, images & patterns of thought, like a story with words to a writer.

I loved cartoons & drew them as a child. My mother would always draw with me & support & encourage me. I have always been so very grateful for the support of my parents & for their encouragement in the pursuit of my career & my art. That support also came in the form of them telling me I must always work at it & practice to be successful.

As a writer uses words to tell their story, an artist uses images & the elements necessary to convey their story to the viewer.

Lines, shapes, balance, colors, depth & overall composition.

In this piece, the main elements are the 2 images of Felix the Cat. (One if my favorite cartoons as a child) The importance of where they are located, their size, the shapes that surround them & reflect outward & flow around them cause the eye to notice them. The bold black & white lines leading your eyes through the piece, cause what would seem like a wave of happiness or laughter, as Felix laughs/chuckles. (The original piece was constructed from 5 painted images on paper cut & sculpted which lend to the emotion & feeling in the work)

I am so grateful for my art & the gift I was given. To be able to do something I love. I have had to work hard also to learn ways & techniques to use this gift. Even though you have been given a gift or a talent, you need to always work hard, do not waste it, focus on the end result of what you want, share it & be grateful you have such talents & gifts. No matter what they are. You will find in the end these are the things that will truly make you happy.

