

# Martha Moffat

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## My Sustained Investigation

The question that guided my sustained investigation was: what women, in my life, have significantly influenced me. I wanted to explore how these women have influenced my goals, characteristics, and decisions. I ask myself how can I, in a portrait, depict how each of these women have shaped me. I sought to portray the traits these women exemplify then capture how these women have shaped my personal goals.

In order to reflect these women's impact on me, I investigated styles that reflect the individual impact these women have on me. *Unique* depicts my older sisters on each side of me. My sisters set outstanding examples for how to be a woman, but also inspired me to be myself. In this piece I put our faces closely together to display our similar physical appearances. I wanted to capture the idea that despite growing up in similar circumstances, we are vastly different.

I experimented with a variety of colors to represent these women's admirable qualities. *Resilience* depicts suffragettes who endured sexism to ensure women's right to vote. These women inspire me to continue expanding women's rights, so I painted the American flags in vibrant colors to represent their enduring legacies.

*Fearless* - Rosa Parks

11" x 11"

NFS

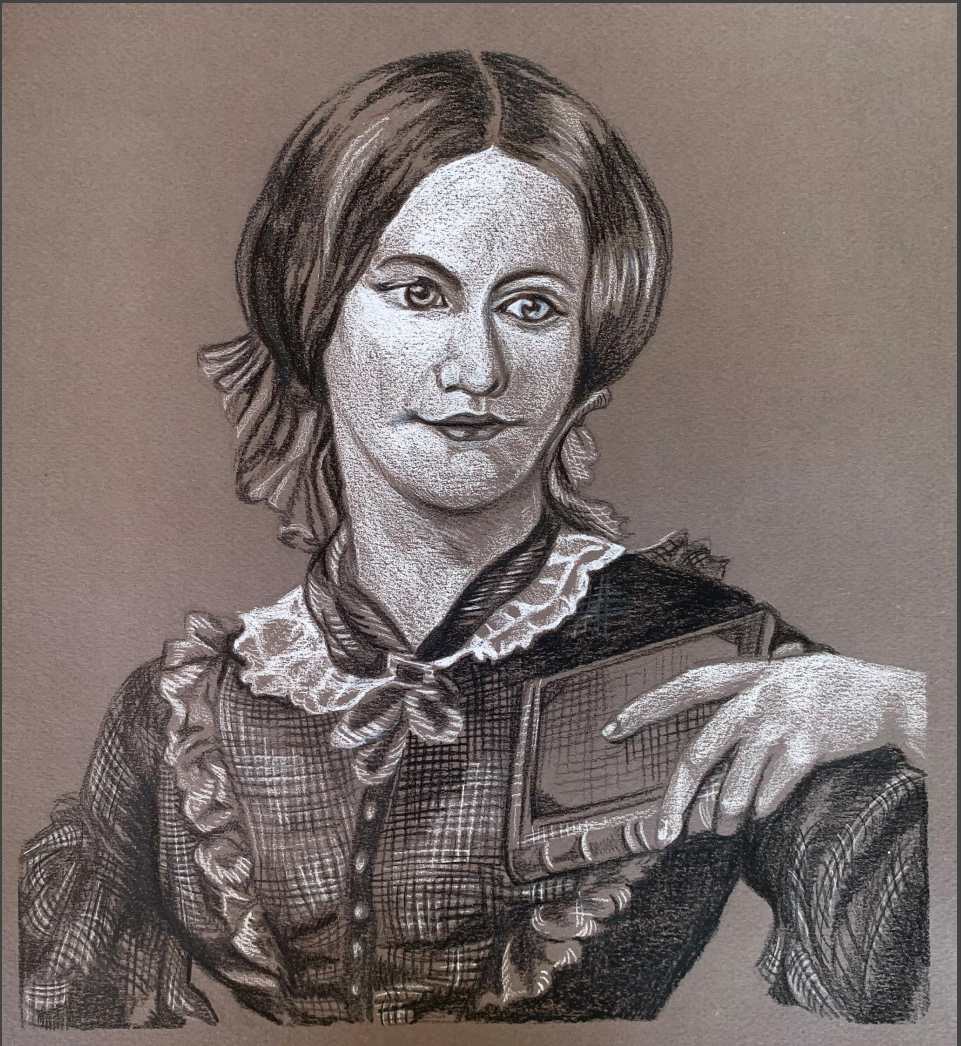
Charcoal

This piece was inspired by the American activist Rosa Parks, also known as the “the first lady of civil rights.” Parks fearlessly stood up against racism and in doing so she inspired others to stand up for their rights.



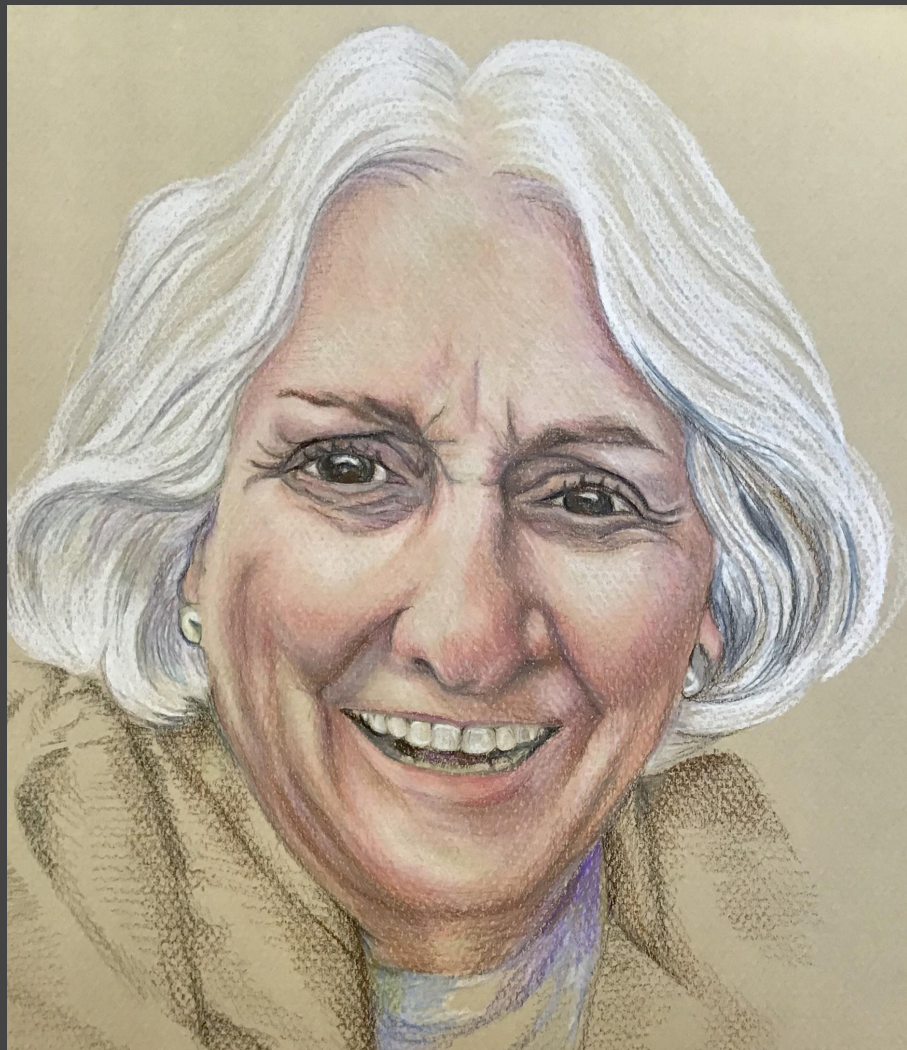
*Intelligence* - Charlotte Bronte  
12" x 14"  
NFS  
Black and White Charcoal

This piece was inspired by the eldest of the Bronte sisters, Charlotte. Bronte wrote and published *Jane Eyre* in a time when women's intelligence and talent were often disregarded and belittled.



*Joy - Grandma J*  
9" x 9"  
NFS  
Colored Pencil

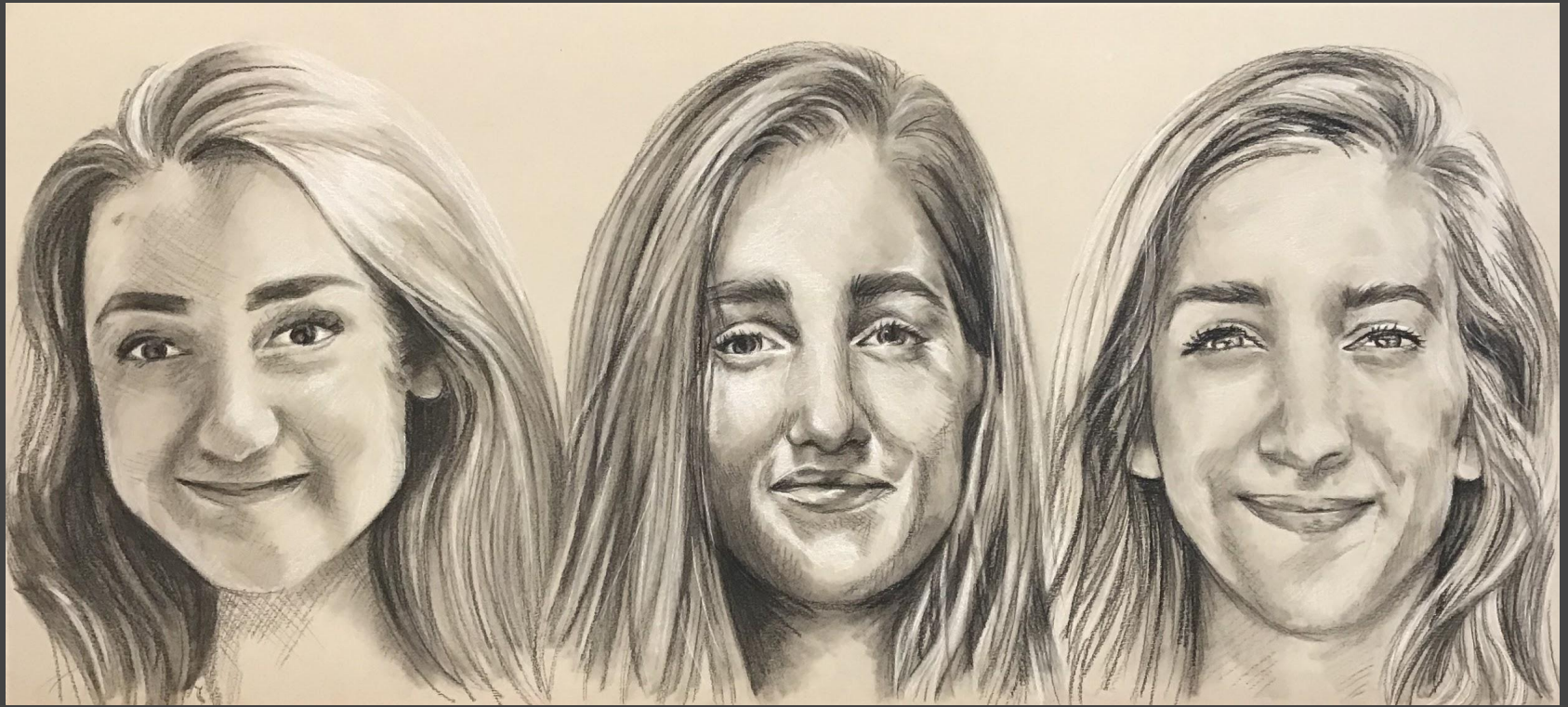
This piece was inspired by my grandma who has always exemplified happiness and joy. My grandma always finds and shares joy, especially in difficult and tough times.



*Brave* - Harriet Tubman  
11" x 11"  
NFS  
Charcoal

This piece was inspired by Harriet Tubman an American Abolitionist who bravely risked her life to rescue nearly seventy people using the Underground Railroad. In this piece I tried to capture the idea that nothing scared Tubman.



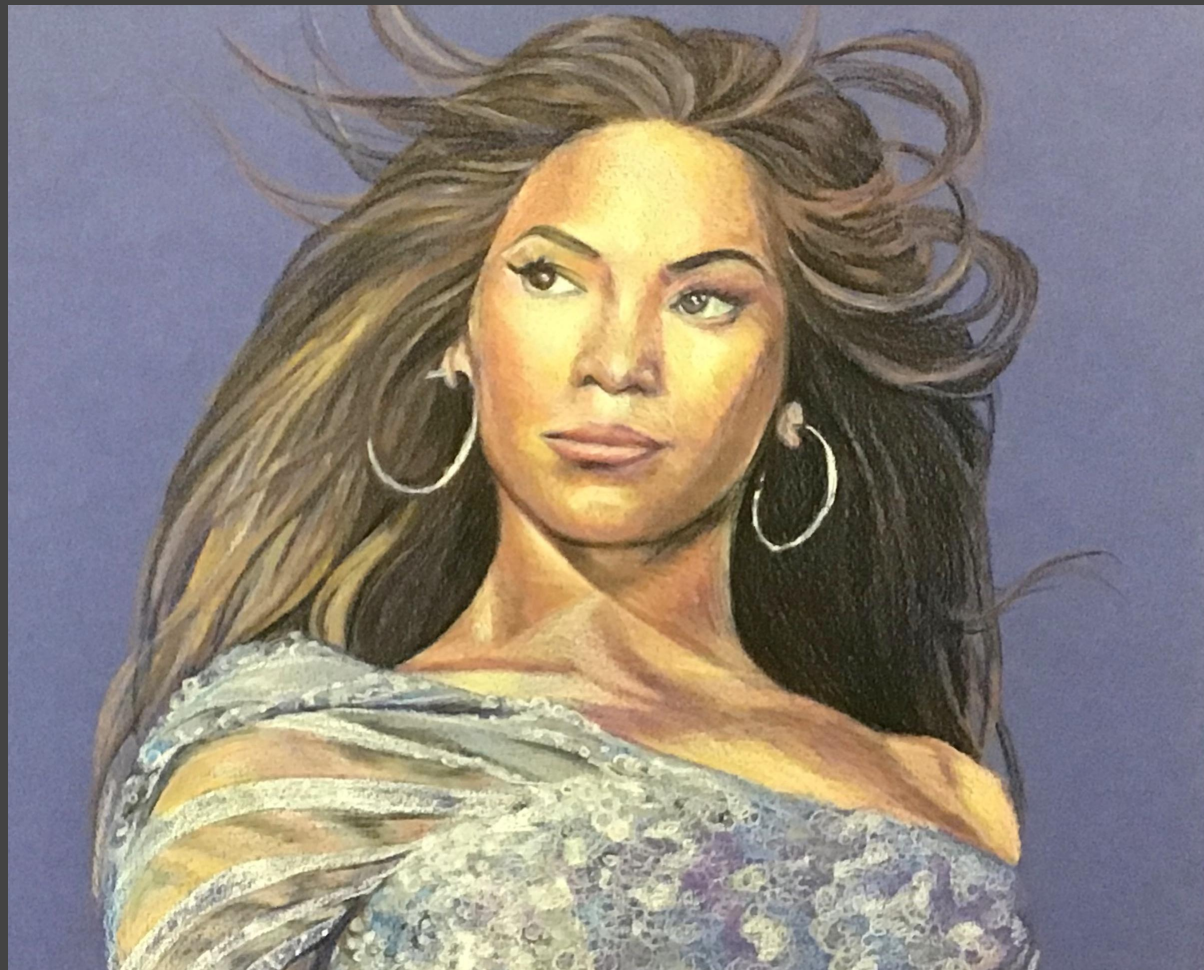


*Unique* - My Older Sisters  
16" x 22"  
NFS  
Black and White Charcoal

This piece depicts my older sisters on each side of me. Throughout my life, my sisters have set outstanding examples for what it means to become a woman, but they have also inspired me to be myself. In this piece I wanted to capture the idea that despite growing up in similar circumstances, we are vastly different.

*Confidence* - Beyonce  
10" x 12"  
NFS  
Colored Pencil

This piece was inspired by the self-confidence embodied by Beyonce, the American singer, songwriter, record producer, dancer, and actress.



*Playful* - My Younger Sisters  
10" x 18"  
NFS  
Pencil

My younger sisters have always been my best friends and partners in crime. This piece was inspired by the games and fun we have had and will continue to have.





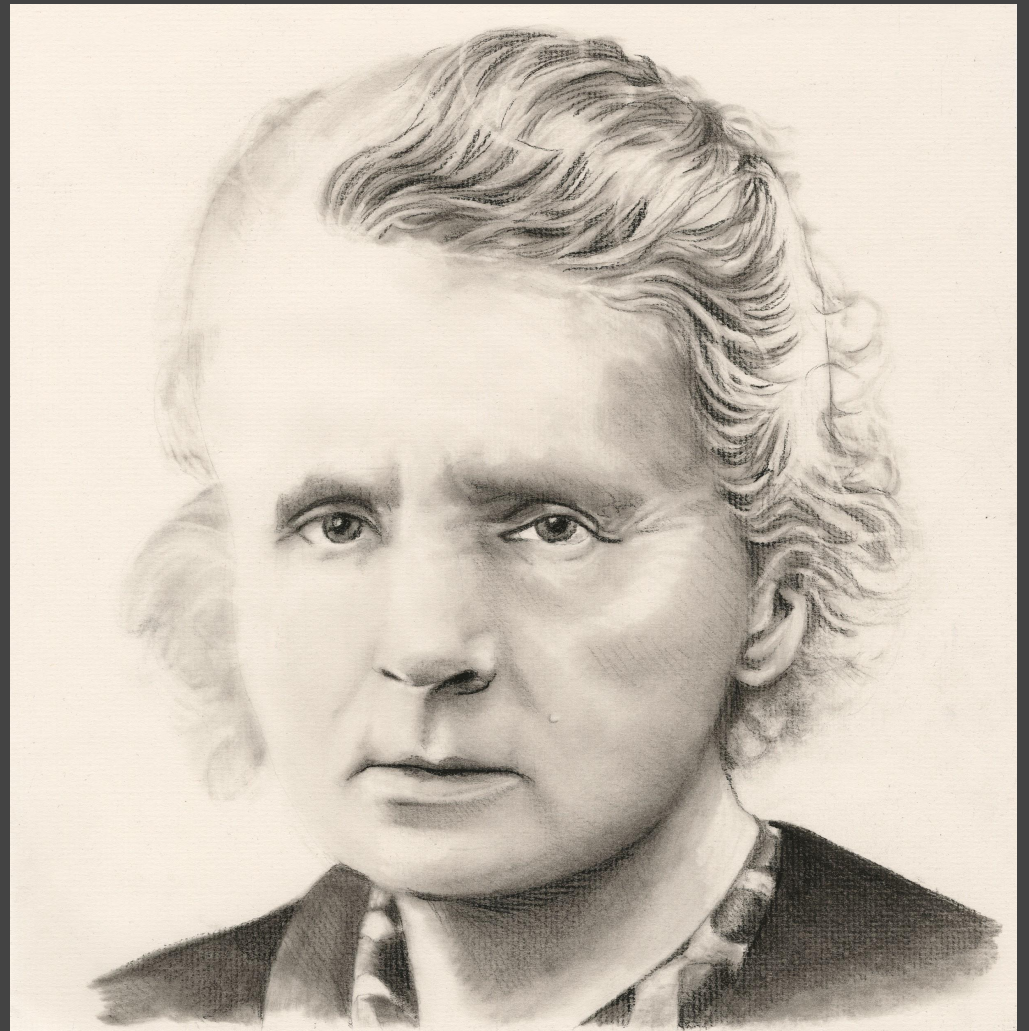
*Wisdom* - Marie Curie

11" x 11"

NFS

Charcoal

This piece was inspired by Marie Curie, a pioneer in the study of radiation. Curie disregarded gender stereotypes to and became the first woman to win a Nobel Prize.



*Courage - Sally Ride*  
18" x 12"  
NFS  
Acrylic

This piece depicts Sally Ride, the first female American astronaut who demonstrated immense courage as she overcame stereotypes and blazed a trail for women in science. In this piece I tried to capture the courage and passion that Ride emulated.



*Kindness* - Grandma S  
9" x 9"  
NFS  
Colored Pencil

This piece was inspired by my other  
grandma, who is always kind to  
others. I have always admired my  
grandma's ability to love and be kind  
to others.



*Resilience* - Suffragettes

12" x 16"

NFS

Oil

*Resilience* depicts five prominent suffragettes who constantly endured sexism to ensure women's right to vote. These women inspire me to continue expanding women's rights. I painted the American flags with vibrant colors to represent their enduring legacies on me and on America.



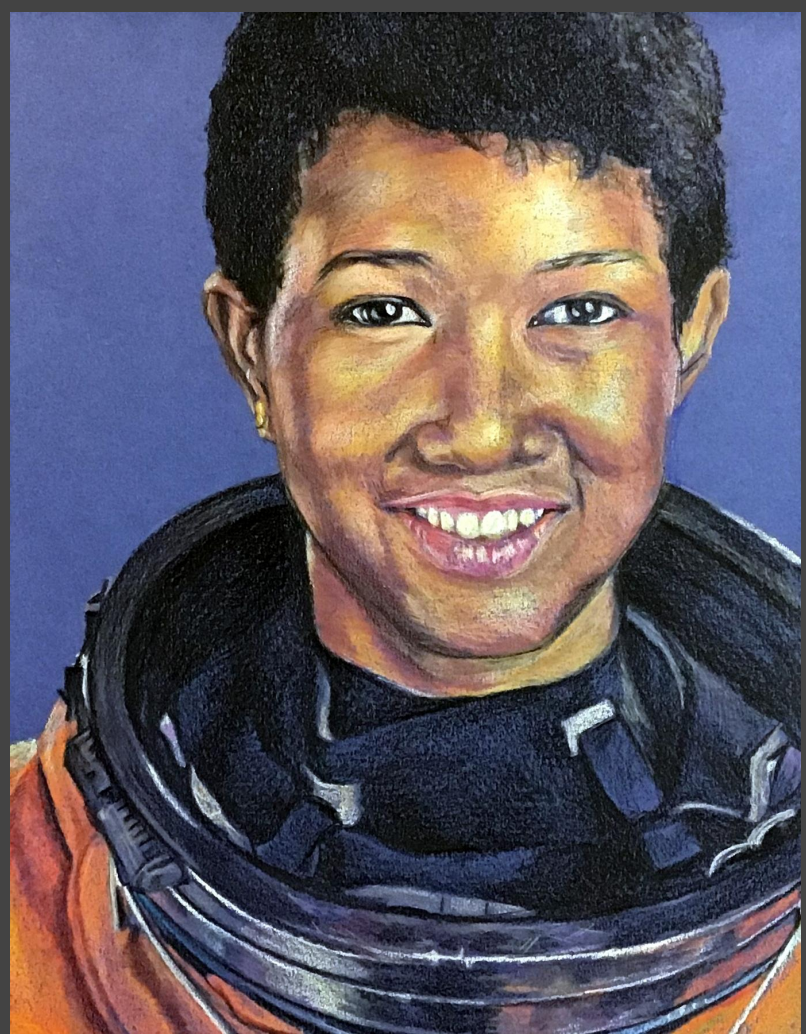
*Knowledge - Mae Jemison*

9" x 12"

NFS

Colored Pencil

Mae Jemison was a physicist, engineer, and the first African American woman to travel in space. Through her studies and career, Mae Jemison not only personified immense knowledge, but also broke gender and racial stereotypes.



*Martha* - A Self-Portrait  
8.5" x 11.5"  
NFS  
Charcoal

After investigating and evaluating what each of these women mean to me, I evaluated my own progress. As I explored each of these women's characteristics and values, I realized they have taught me so much and shaped me into who I am today. This piece was inspired by everything each of the previously mentioned women have inspired in me.

