



Veronica Cristellon

High school: Galilei Galileo Scientific High School

Hometown: Trento, Italy

Major: B.F.A. Art

Activities: TCG Club, Conestoga Outdoor Club, CHAARG, Reading Club, Green Dot Training

Internships: Field trips with the Beyond Making class to learn about artists and their artworks. Solo and group art exhibition as my senior show and final art project

Post-grad plans: My plans after graduation are to be a children's book illustrator and author. I want to create children's book illustrations that carry both children and adults into imaginary worlds and make people feel happy while they read them. If they are adults, my objective is for them to rediscover their inner child and continue to imagine through my illustrations. If they are children, my goal is to make them smile and be enthusiastic to read my books or see my illustrations. I would like for them to have a piece of happy memory to remember in the future. This allows children who don't have a happy childhood to find one in my illustrations or books.

“Veronica was an excellent student who was fully engaged with the potential for each process explored in the Intaglio Printmaking course I instructed. I appreciated our discussions about her work and the time we took to troubleshoot some of the technical and formal aspects of her prints and etching plates. She has a unique style and approach to her imagery which has evolved even further over the last year. I look forward to working with her over the summer in her independent investigation into Relief Printmaking and Embossing.”

– Mr. Brant Schuller
Professor in Printmaking
Dept. Art and Design

Why Millersville?

I chose Millersville University because of the strong and valuable art program, specifically the BFA. It is has a concentration in painting, a very unusual characteristic. I always loved watercolor paintings and I felt it was the right place for me to come to improve as an artist. When I started to research the university I saw how the campus was in the countryside and surrounded by nature. For me it is extremely important to be in contact with the outdoors and nature so I thought it was the perfect place for me.

Are you where you thought you'd be when you first came to campus?

When I transferred here, I expected to like Millersville University, but not as much as I do now. During the time I was here, I felt extremely welcomed by the people, both from the community and the university. I didn't expect to receive such a warm positive interaction. This created an excellent environment for studying that allowed me to reach further goals that I didn't expect to have. Even though I came here to learn painting through the art program, I fell in love with printmaking. This allowed me to experiment with even more techniques in art and develop as an artist.

Who helped you get to where you are now?

Many people helped me through my development as a student and as an artist. I feel that my husband was on the frontline, cheering and supporting me in all my academic and professional growth. My teachers in the art department, especially Dorothy, Brant, and Line, gave me valuable advice and feedback that positively influenced my art. I also think that the support from friends, such as Mary Kay and Mike, two outstanding local artists, made my artistic journey a joy to explore and share with others. I also want to thank the staff of IPS and Millersville University, who helped me through all the challenges I faced coming from a different country.

Peak experience?

A peak experience as a student artist was organizing my senior art show in the form of a solo exhibition, showcasing my artworks to the university. It was a treasured memory and a valuable lesson for my future career.

What will you miss the most?

I will miss the peace and tranquillity of Millersville University and its environment of art experimentation. I will also miss the nature of the campus, especially the swans and the wildflowers.

What surprised you?

I was surprised by how welcoming and accepting the people at the university were. It was the first time I lived in a rural area of the US, and I was amazed by the kindness of the people. I also was very positively surprised by the numerous activities there were on campus, with many clubs, events, and field trips.

Which one(s) of the EPPIIC values of Millersville do you most identify with? Or which of the values do you think best describes your time here at Millersville?

I feel that I identify with Inclusion and Compassion because they create an optimistic and confident place for growth. It helps students to create a community where they can respect each other and change positively.

Advice for the Class of 2027?

Follow your dreams and do what you love. Keep making the world a better place for you and the citizens of tomorrow!

