

Artist Statement

I believe that we are all trying to find how we fit into this great big world around us. I have always wanted to soak up everything I could, learn and study and work as hard as possible (Jeff Kern says, "Be a sponge"). Yet I struggled with what kind of imprint I wanted to make on the world. I think that some confidence comes naturally with age but music gave me the space and maturity I needed to feel free and aware of who I am and what I want.

I have been drawn to music for as long as I can remember. However, my first relationship with performing was through dance. I grew up training to be a ballerina but I always wanted to sing. I liked to feel the music come from my body and however I could do that greatly fulfilled me as a child. Luckily, I was able to transmit this energy and passion for music through my high school's musical theatre program, where I started to train my voice and fall in love with singing.

I have always found myself at home on stage when playing a "character" but self-conscious when performing as myself. I fought the idea that I am an "artist" by hiding hundreds of songs I had written in folders and notebooks. I thought there had to be a separation between performer and artist. Luckily for me, I had incredible teachers and peers who challenged me over the past four years and pushed me to acknowledge and expand my creativity. I've done a lot of self-searching in these past few years and I finally feel comfortable enough to say that I am an artist and I am a performer. I love music more than anything. It breathes air into my lungs and fuels my soul.