I believe that in order to plant seeds of inspiration in others, one must first be inspired to create. As a young girl, I spent much of my time reading in the public library because there was a special quality to the books I chose that provoked me to drink in the words and images on the pages. I especially treasured the stories written by Jan Brett; they possessed a fairy tale element that captured my heart with elaborate and expressive illustrations. I was determined to draw with the same beauty, but my unsteady, childish hands could not master control of my pencil. Throughout my elementary and middle school years, all I knew how to work with was pencil, but once I entered under the direction of my art teacher, Mrs. Schulle, my skills expanded to include ink, Prisma colors, and acrylic painting. The introduction of color into my work brought my talents to a whole new level and set me on a path of experimentation to break past my limits. I decided to take up sculpting.
beginning with a bust in the Greek style, since it is a part of my heritage. Little did I know, my actions affected not only me, but someone who nobody thought would hold any interest in art. Mrs. Schulle told me that my decision to take up this project inspired a boy named Mark to sculpt a horse because he held a personal interest in horses, which are prominent in his Vaquero culture. When he saw my sculpture, it sparked a desire in him to create something that demonstrated who he was to the world, instead of allowing his image to be dictated by the judgments of others. If I could have that effect on a person, what impact could I have on the whole community? The country? The world? And this was not even the first time I had learned of my art’s effect on other aspiring artists. These experiences influenced me to consider a career in design and illustration in the media. Almost everyone has access to the media, whether it is television, the internet, or film, and if I could get my art and influence integrated into the media, there are endless possibilities. Of course I would not be alone in my venture; by taking on apprentices and teaching them techniques of art I would spread my influence and inspiration. Instead of keeping my talents and knowledge hidden from the world, I would share it with those who are willing, and that beauty and inspiration could live on through others even after I am gone.