There is a lot that contributed to my passion for art. My school pushed me to where I am today so when I am able to in the future, I want to give back so that others could have experienced what others did before me. Studying in New York City meant a diminishing fund for education and major cutbacks. LaGuardia HS in the ’90s had several majors to chose from and now one by one, it reduced to a few sections and courses to take. It is ironic how one of the top Art high schools is slowly approaching a downfall while many other non-specialized ones are introducing Art electives in their programs. After seeing this change, I cannot but to feel a sort of duty to keep my school’s reputation for the future artists.
This drove me to try and succeed so that I would be able to make some money in this competitive industry. During my free time, I would contribute to a part of my community, an organization located in Lower East Side of Manhattan. I joined Project Reach as an intern in 2003 and found myself to be more actively aware to the world. I fell in love with this place and continued to volunteer throughout the whole school year, and even worked on the Gay Pride March in order to raise awareness of homophobia and its affect on society. The largest fundraising event I have ever participated was in 2006, where I helped design handmade pillows to be sold. Because of its success, it geared me more towards Art as a career choice and I was very flexible in what I can do.