

# 2007/08 Worldstudio AIGA Scholarships Coyne Family Foundation Award WK Kellogg Foundation Award



**SIPHNE SYLVE**

Illustration

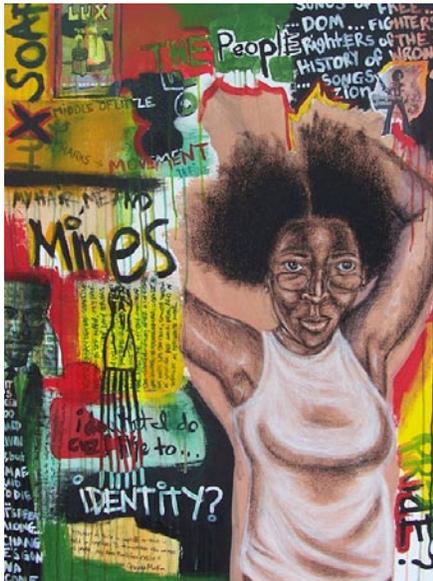
Sophomore

Memphis College of Art and Design

**My name is Siphne A. Sylve** and I am currently a freshman at Memphis College of Art and Design, where my concentration is Illustration with a minor in Printmaking. My work is generally associated with the theme or idea of African American history and culture. My primary focus is to address the identification of African American hair, more specifically its symbolic and historical purposes.

As a young child I can recall a number of occasions where I felt that my hair was unattractive because of its kinky texture. As time progressed I learned to appreciate the value of my hair and began to embrace this particular quality. I began to understand how these qualities defined my uniqueness, although prior to the embracement I struggled with finding a hairstyle that was appropriate or provided a sense of comfort.

This series of pieces addresses this struggle through exploring the various hairstyles I encountered throughout my life. They are composed of an arrangement of personal text, experiences, and a general history of each particular hairstyle.



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## SIPHNE SYLVE

Illustration

As an artist I hope that my work will inspire and educate. I feel that history is and will always play an important role in our lives. It's important for us to identify who we are and where it is we come from. I feel this step is important to execute before we attempt to define or identify our next move. There are so many young African Americans like myself who are unaware of our culture on a deeper level. So many of us are aware of the general information we are provided, but we fail to realize that there is a much deeper truth beyond the surface. I feel that we have a lack of this knowledge not because it is not available to us, but more because we don't always make the attempt to seize it. My goal as a creator is to act as a source to reveal a sense of this African American history and culture.

