Watercolor paint, colored pencils, paint brushes, smocks, clay, and paper-mache, inspired by the art of the older kids that lines the walls, I felt so happy and confident in a Bridgewater, NJ school district art class everything felt right.

That was not the case for me, home life wasn't great, I grew Insecure, uncertain, confused, doubtful, and fear: of self, of memories, of relationships, and of life became normal. Things Change -confidence, stability, love and security, of being accepted and just allowing myself to be authentic, gave me the ability to find true real life-long friends.

Main themes I explore are what is self-love, how its influenced and changed by overcoming hardships and society's influence on individuals, especially for those who are LGBTQ+. Being an artist was a Dream, worked on since childhood, what I learned was through public school or self -aught. My mediums are acrylic paint, mixed media, pen, water colors, computer art, photography, and collage. Techniques and styles are all sort of not important, labels are kept simple.

Damien Dodds