

Cancer Story – Artist Statement

By: Passion Wright

When I was growing up my granddad was diagnosed with cancer. My granddad was a strong creative man but he did have his own personal struggles. He was a slave to alcohol and cigarettes which ultimately resulted in him being diagnosed with lung cancer. The hand symbolizes the cigarettes controlling him which is why the strings are coming down and are connected to the more weaker skinnier man. Even after my granddad was diagnosed with cancer he still struggled with not smoking and almost gave up multiple times and returned to his old lifestyle. I made the first man skinner because as my granddads cancer progressed he lost a lot of weight and was mainly skin and bones but even when he was in agony he still had his spirit which was the best thing because I was able to grow closer to him before he passed and connect with him on a deeper level. The mirror and the man in the mirror represents when he died. I imagined that when he crossed over he was leaving behind all the shackles and pain that cancer brought. Which shows that he was restored health and that he was stronger and no longer in the pain he was once in, right before he died he was able to say goodbye to my mother and aunt and apologize to them for not being present when they were growing up and he was able to accept God as his savior which is why I drew the man in the mirror because it was him changing and becoming a new man.