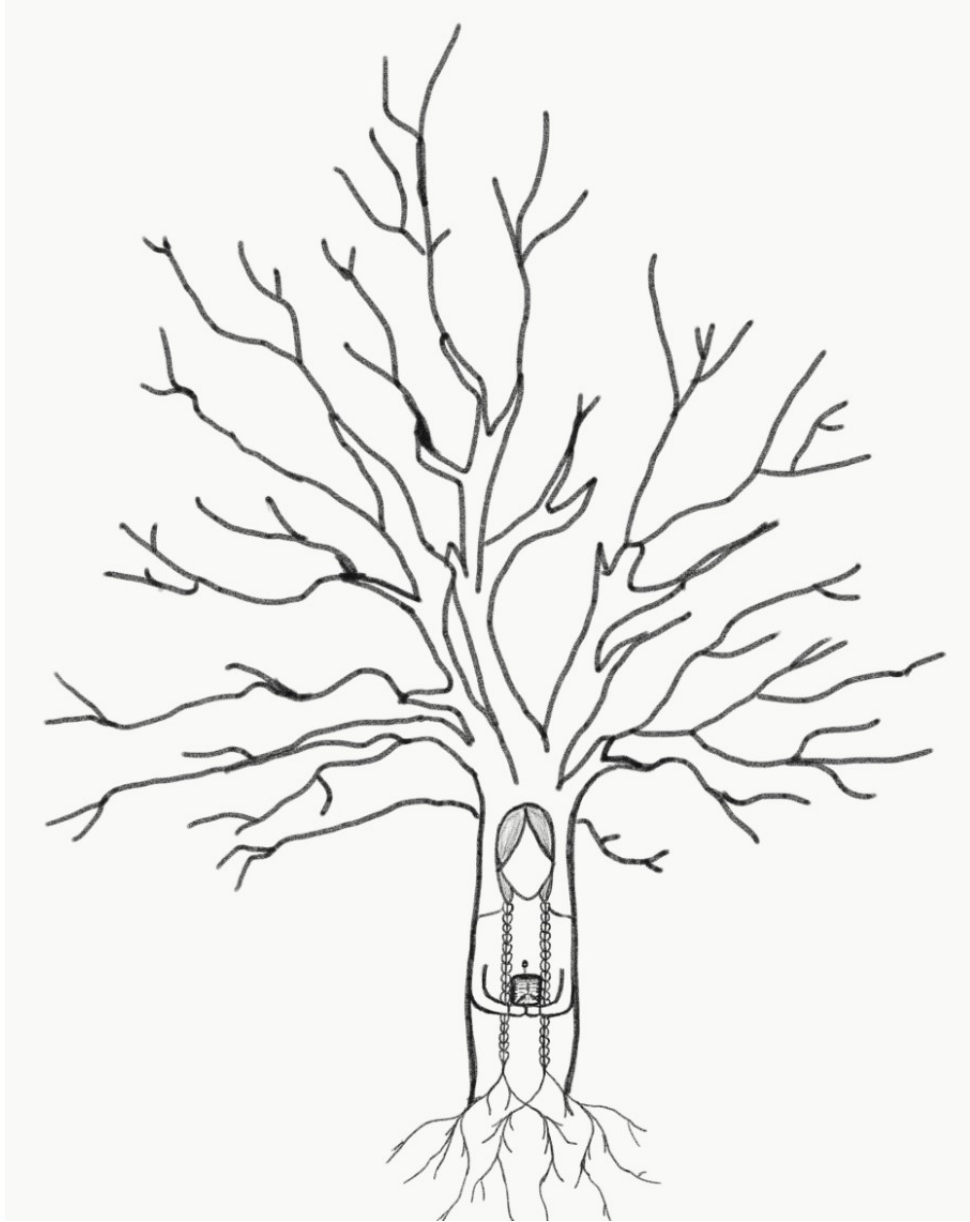


Creative expression has long been a passion of mine since a young age. Painting and other forms of art offer an opportunity for self-care, healing and cultural connection. My loved ones, home territory and cultural heritage inspire the work that I produce as a young Anishinaabe artist. Miigwetch

I completed this painting earlier in my youth and it is entitled, “Gzh-Mnidoo newi kino dbinoojimon/Children of the Creator”. The visual imagery is a representation of the Anishinaabe 7th Generation Principle, consideration for our past, present and future. A strongly rooted connection with Mother Earth is where the Anishinaabe find healing, guidance and safety. The roots of the tree spread deep into the ground to demonstrate this connection. The sun represents the Creator and the many gifted teachings encapsulated in the Medicine Wheel. The gifts given to the Anishinaabe from the Creator allow us to walk the path of Mnaabmaadziwin, to live a good life. The Anishinaabe youth who stand at the bottom of the tree represent the next generation resurging their connection to land, language and ceremony.





“Nokomis Ninatig”, is a digital illustration that represents the gift of maple sap and the process of making maple syrup in the context of love by learning both with and from the land.



“Cottage Colonialism”, is a digital illustration inspired by Leanne Simpson’s writings in “Land & Reconciliation: Having the Right Conversations” (2016) and represents the destruction of wild rice beds from Canadian cottagers’ occupation on Anishinaabe Territory. Leanne Simpson explains that settler occupation disrupts wild rice harvesting which is interconnected with Anishinaabek governance, economy and well-being because of the songs, stories and ceremony interwoven with each step of the rice picking and processing.

Image Index

Duncan Stewart. "Gzh-Mnidoo newi kino dbinoojimon/Children of the Creator". Acrylic on canvas. 2016.

Duncan Stewart. "Nokomis Ninaatig". Digital illustration. 2020.

Duncan Stewart. "Cottage Colonialism". Digital illustration. 2020.