

Colin Samuel

A Bug's Life

Mixed Media

2020 was a hard year for everyone, but especially individuals with special needs. Colin is an amazing artist and he also has autism. Colin's entire routine was disrupted and the programs he attended closed their doors. He was lacking the social and creative outlet he was used to. He used his time in quarantine to strengthen his art skills using different mediums, such as pipe cleaners and wire. Colin has created a mural of *A Bug's Life*. The scene is from his favorite movie! He created an original art piece of something that brought him peace throughout the craziness of 2020. The scene includes multiple characters from the movie and the special tree that they all gathered around. The anthill is what they called home with their friends; Colin was missing that last year. So, this art piece represents his struggles of loneliness and his longing for social interaction, friendship, and routine. He wanted his second home back! Colin is now happy to be back at The Garden Foundation and his other programs, finally being able to say hello to all his friends and teachers. However, Colin is bringing his sharpened art skills into 2021 and is launching his own art business. He is going to use the skills he perfected in quarantine to help spread his original art to the world. One art piece at a time, he is proving that we are all more alike than different and we should all focus on abilities, rather than dis"abilities".