

Lindsey Koosmann

PSTL 1312

Artist Statement

Title: The Little Things

Walking into the Weisman Art Museum I was immediately captivated by the large colorful painting located in the front of the museum. That painting was Kenny Scharf's *Moda de Mangue*. The Brazilian street culture and mangrove trees that grow on the salty tropical terrain inspired Scharf to create this piece. He used a variety of paints like oil, acrylic, and spray paint to help this illustration come to life. The images of the trees, branches, plants, and birds were all very swirly, whimsical and cartoon-like. After soaking up the large and vibrant objects, I began to notice the very small details of the painting. I was especially drawn to the simple, wispy white feathers on the flamingos. They forced me to look more closely at the painting and to appreciate the small things like the precision of each paint stroke.

For my art piece I drew a simple white feather and filled the rest of the page with bright watercolors using swirly strokes similar to the original painting. In Scharf's piece, viewers tend to focus on the big colorful trees, plants, or birds, rather than the simple white feathers. My piece has the opposite effect in the sense that viewers will be drawn to the feather that stands out, while still appreciating the bright, blended watercolors of the background. This will convey the message that we should always try to appreciate and notice the little things in life.

