

I first joined our school newspaper - the Heartbeat, towards the end of my sophomore year, and worked as the Graphics and Illustration lead for the entirety of my Junior year. The paper's responsibility, along with the academic pressure, made the job slightly frightening for me. I have no previous experience with journalism or illustration for newspapers, so slipping into this job felt foreign at first—until I dove into my illustration process. The familiar sense of comfort and joy at my fingertips helped me settle. The process of working in this position taught me to be more responsible, and I felt pride as a team when I saw each publication. Aside from doing illustrations, I also helped with layout for certain sections of the paper. By working both these jobs, I was able to identify what types of illustrations are needed and how they are often incorporated into the newspaper.

I am incredibly grateful for joining the Heartbeat and having the opportunity to help the paper with my passion. I enjoyed every bit of my job in Heartbeat, whether it's making covers for special issues, or doing illustrations that were sprinkled around the paper. The experience of working with peers to create an issue feels magical. While illustrating for Heartbeat, I've learned how to express emotions through art and messages. I can express my opinions on current issues just like writers can. I am so grateful for this opportunity provided, and all the support I received from my group.

Selena Jiang

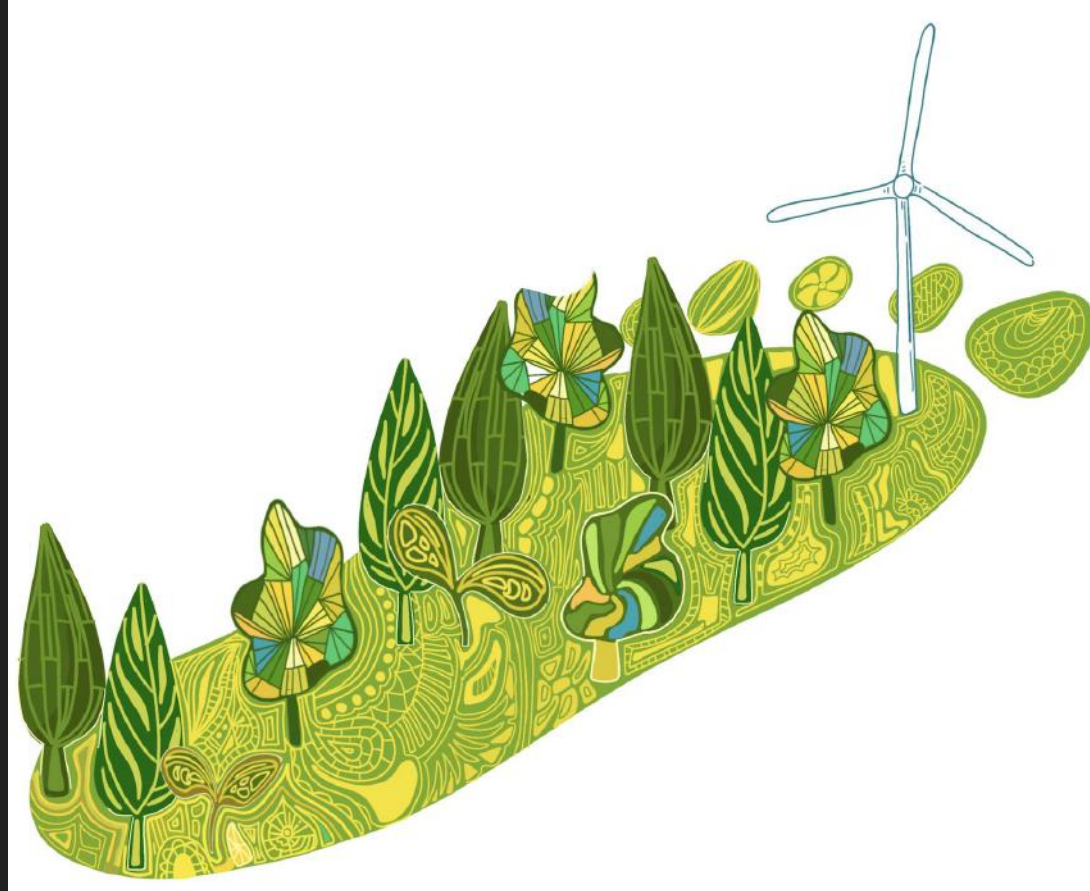
# Lunar New Year Cover

This is a special frontpage illustration I did for 2024, year of the dragon. I wanted to maintain a sense of austerity yet not creating a monstrous sense to the dragon so I utilized bright colors and vibrant colors instead of different shades of one color. I also incorporated chinese elements on the left, meaning "Happy Year of the Dragon".



# Carbon Footprint

This is an illustration I did for an article about carbon footprint. I incorporated elements of environmental protection and utilized a cartoon style drawing for this illustration.



# Holiday Cheers

This is the cover page for Heartbeat's christmas publication. I used gingerbread houses to incorporate elements of Christmas and blended the colors around the windows to imitate the effects of light.



# Halloween

This is the cover page for the Halloween issue, and I did an cartoon illustration to create a playful mood for October. I also added our school mascot, an alligator to the top right corner.



# 2023 Maui Fire

This is an illustration for the 2023 Maui Fire. I drew a native girl with traditional hawaiian flowers as decoration and a blaze of fire engulfing her left side. I also drew the reflections of fire in her right eye in order to make it seem as if she is looking into the fire creating an atmosphere of agony and grief.

