



Senior

We are happy to present Rowena Christhuraj as the MVLA Student of the Month for the Middle College Understanding Cohort.

Rowena applied to the Middle College program because she was looking for an alternative to the traditional high school setting and culture. Rowena has thrived at Middle College and has been an integral part of our community. One of the great benefits of Middle College is that students can build a schedule from hundreds of classes that fulfill their graduation needs while also matching their interests. Rowena is an amazingly gifted artist who seeks continual improvement of her craft. To this end, Rowena has taken a variety of art classes at Foothill including Graphic Design, Illustration, Digital Imaging, Game Art and Design and even courses that explore the business and career aspects of art.

Over the years Rowena has made a tremendous amount of growth. In her early years, Rowena once suffered from debilitating anxiety that would hold her back from interacting with her peers and engaging in regular activities, sometimes even leaving her home. This is something that she has worked on to overcome. We share this because it speaks to Rowena's experience and informs how she engages with others.

Rowena is extremely kind, thoughtful, and generous with her peers. Without any aura of competition or domineering, Rowena is a critical member of class discussions and inquiries. While she can often be counted on to be an engaged participant, Rowena also views community diversity as an asset and sees her peers' voices as a key part of her own education. Rowena's esteem for her peers makes her an excellent group mate, and we've often watched students reach new levels of mastery and confidence in the midst of Rowena's example and encouragement. In short, Rowena has proven to be a servant leader in numerous groups in Middle College, and our Middle College cohort is better because she is a part of it.