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USING ART TO EXPLORE IDENTITY: THE TENSION BETWEEN BEING ROOTED IN COMMUNITY AND THE FREEDOM OF PERSONAL MOVEMENT

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ART AND ART HISTORY PROGRAM

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Artist Statement

My fiber art explores the formation of identity through tensions between being rooted in community and the desire for personal movement and freedom. I have always found this conflict to be challenging as I'm equally moved by strong roots - the big white oak in my yard and the deep-rooted grasses of the western plains - as I am by the constant movement of migrating birds, ocean tides, and wind and water currents. This exploration acknowledges that I may constantly be moving through the spaces between these two dichotomies, not quite choosing - the way a boat moves from land to sea and birds from ground to sky. Perhaps it is only in that space between awake and those first dreams of sleep that I can achieve my perfect balance - quietly occupying and observing those liminal spaces.



"Deeply Rooted" and detail (right), mixed fibers"