



Stories Through Art: Crochet

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Service

SUMMARY

After I went into a severe depression due to leaving Yemen and not being able to go to school for 3 years, I decided to learn things that are not academically related. I started learning crochet and the satisfaction of completing my first project introduced a new light of hope into my life. I kept myself busy with crochet and used it as a way of self-expression. Since 2011 until now I crochet regularly to de-stress or create new things. This past winter break, I served at the Samaha Islamic Center at Shakopee. The State of Minnesota is the home for the biggest Somali community in the USA. As a mixed-race kid, I was not exposed to my Somali culture. Working with these kids to teach them how to create a form of art was a part of the preparation of the yearly event that is called Then and Now: Somali Stories through Art.



SPICES

Service

I was able to teach kids crocheting as a form of art and culture expression.

HERBS

Honorable/ Benevolence/ resilience

Teaching Crochet is my way to connect with my roots, my culture and , other human in an honorable way while practicing resilience to master this skill.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Creative Courage, Self-Reflection & Awareness

Crochet is one of the ways that allows a non-artist as myself to create beautiful things that can be as close as I get to art and to my own forgotten culture and to learn more about myself, while help others who are in the same situation to benefit and get help.



IMPACT

The impact was mostly personal, and it needed to be that way. Crocheting gave me a platform to spread my thoughts, imaginations and opinions. After suffering from a severe depression, crochet taught me how to be strong and patient and how to see the beauty in everything. Additionally, working with people from a culture that I belong to but not know anything about helped me re-discover myself and re-connect to my roots as a Somali, Eastern African,.

ADVICE

Do not miss any chances because you are afraid to fail. Success starts where comfort zone ends.