

Van Thang
20
25 PORTFOLIO

Hello!

I'M VAN THANG

A purpose-driven and impact-focused Chin visual artist and graphic designer who approaches every project with curiosity, awareness, and care. My creative practice is rooted in reflection and guided by the belief that art and design can bridge cultures, stories, and human experiences. Each work I create is an invitation to feel, to connect, and to inspire change through thoughtful form and honest intention. For me, creativity is not only about what is seen but about what is felt, the quiet impact that endures beyond the surface and continues to shape how people see, feel, and remember.

CONTACT

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www.vansarts.net
Insta: @vansarts

EXPERIENCE

Freelance Artist & Designer

Painting, design, photography,
printing, and framing / *Since 2020*

Design Teaching Assistant

University of Texas at Austin
Austin, TX | 08/2023 – 05/2025

Patient Navigator

Windrose Health Network
Indianapolis, IN | 05/2022 – 08/2023

Lead Graphic Artist, Campus Life

Eastern New Mexico University
Portales, NM | 01/2019 – 05/2022

EDUCATION

MFA In Design

University of Texas at Austin
08/2023 – 05/2025

BFA In Visual Art & Graphic Design

Eastern New-Mexico University
08/2018 – 05/2022

LANGUAGES

Hakha Chin - *Native*
English - *Fluent*
Burmese - *Proficient*

SKILLS

Creative Software

*Illustrator, InDesign, Photoshop,
Lightroom, After Effects*

Design Expertise

*Typography, Branding, Layout
Design, Color Theory, Photography*

Fabrication & Production

*Laser and Inkjet Printing, Large-Format
Printing, Prepress Preparation*

Studio Art Practices

*Oil, Watercolor, and Acrylic Painting;
Mixed Media Art; Custom Framing*

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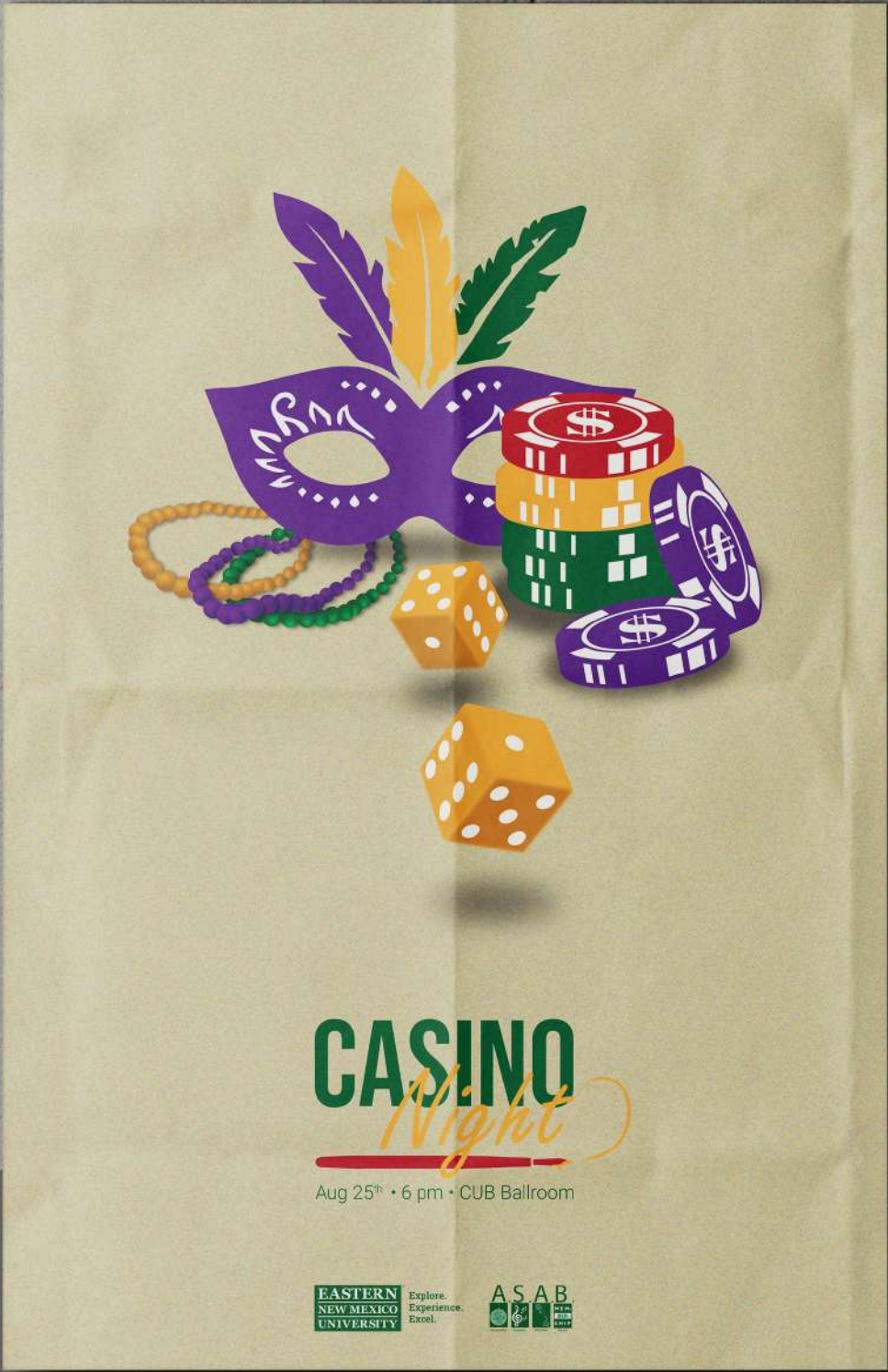
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POSTERS AND DIGITAL POSTS

As Lead Graphic Artist at Eastern New Mexico University, I created posters for campus events, academic programs, and student activities, combining clear messaging with engaging visuals. Collaborating with departments and student organizations, I developed original layouts, photography, and imagery within university branding.



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PRINT COLLATERAL

For ENMU Safe Ride, I created promotional materials including driver trading cards with professional photos and personal profiles, as well as merchandise, posters, and brochures with consistent branding. At Eastern New Mexico University, I designed welcoming materials for orientations and Welcome Week, and for the Chuncung Family USA conference, I developed cohesive programs, signage, merchandise, and event prints.

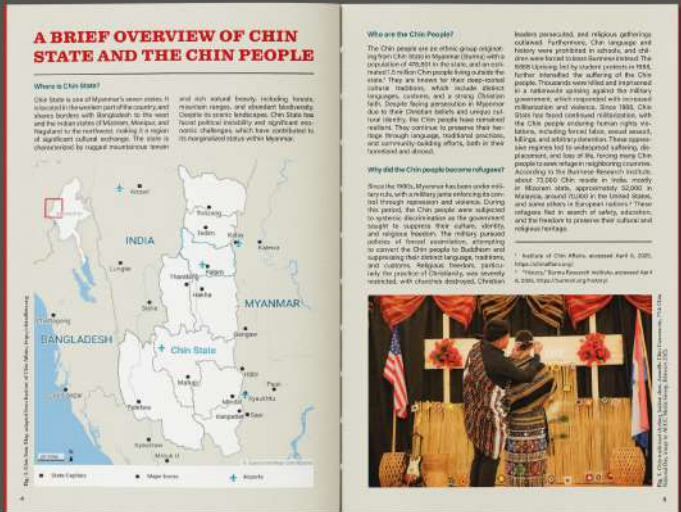
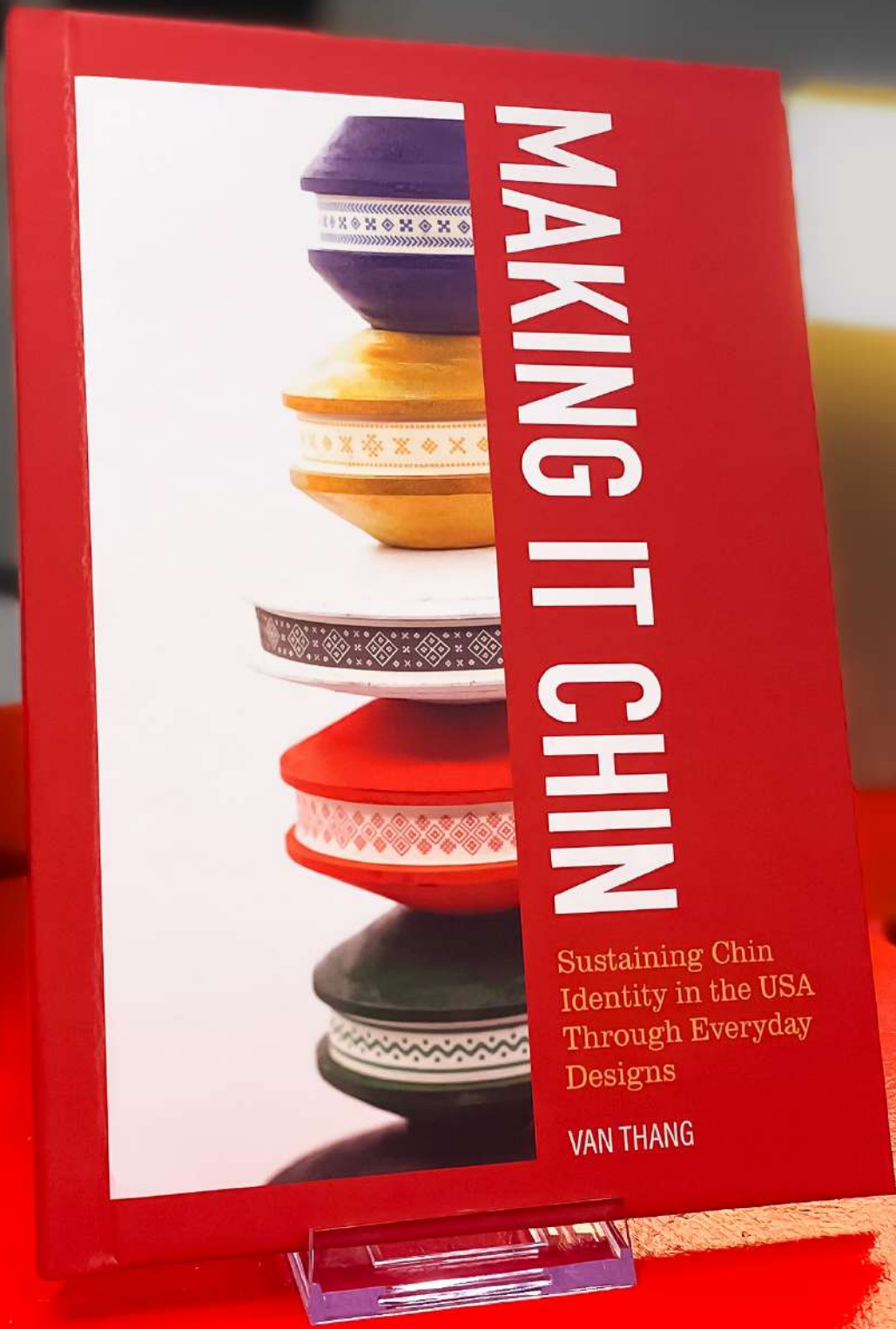


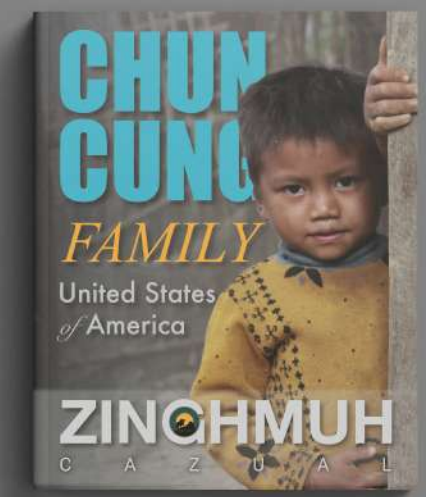
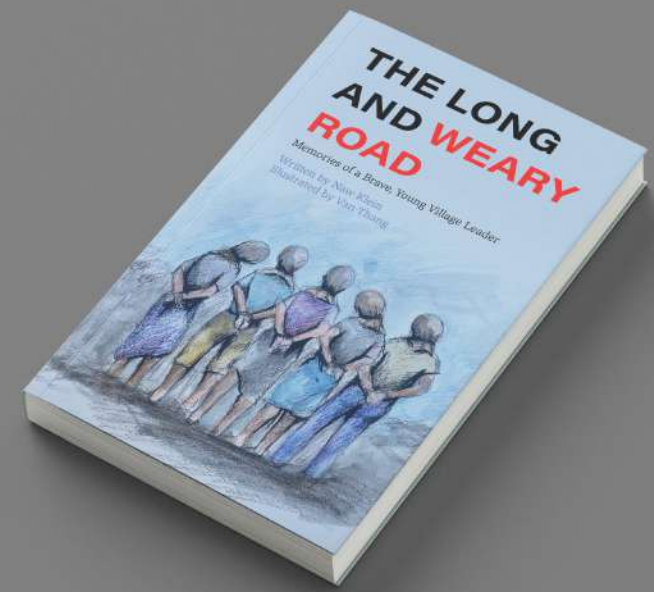


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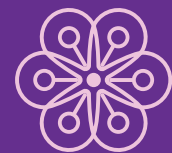
PUBLICATIONS

My self-published project Making It Chin, developed from my MFA thesis, uses design to preserve and promote Chin heritage through bilingual planners, calendars, and game instructions inspired by traditional patterns, language, and rituals. Beyond this, I have designed literary journals, children's books, memoirs, and community magazines, with work spanning El Portal at Eastern New Mexico University to publications for the Refugee Language Project and Chin organizations.





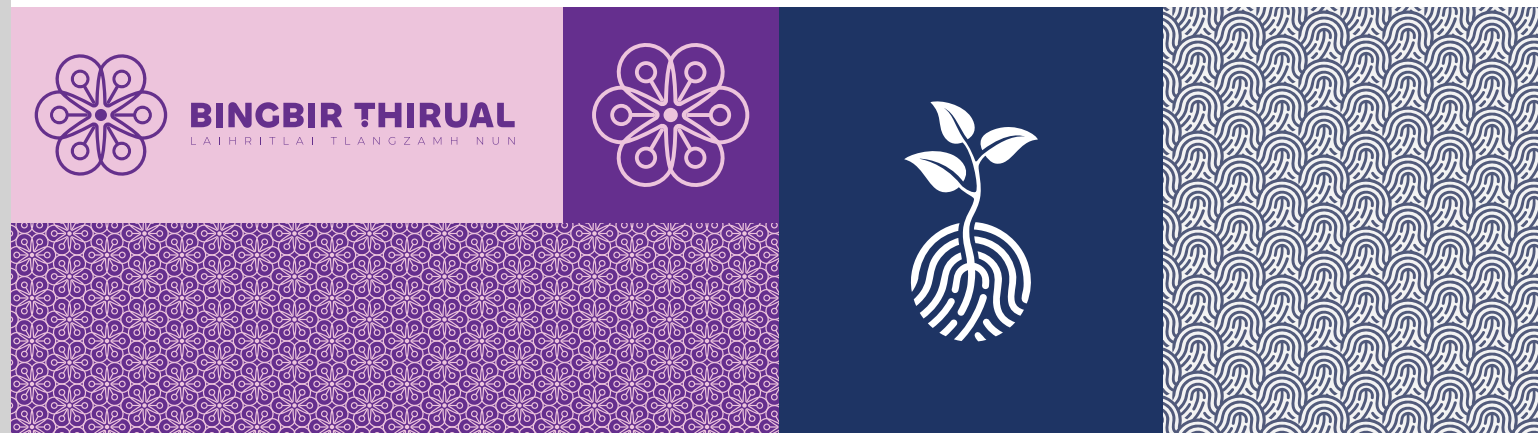
El Portal	Eastern New Mexico University's Journal of Creative Writing	Spring 2021
El Portal	Eastern New Mexico University's Journal of Creative Writing	Fall 2020



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LOGOFOLIO

My logo design work spans businesses, nonprofits, local startups, and university projects. Highlights include a bold, distinctive mark for Bomb City Real Estate, branding for Immigration Roots symbolizing growth and global connection, and a faith-centered logo for Indianapolis Bethel Baptist Church.



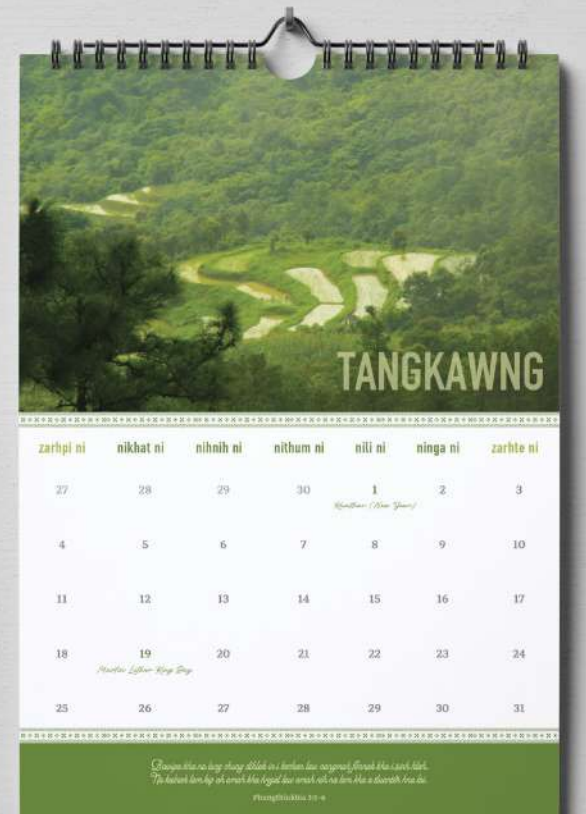


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PLANNERS AND CALENDARS

My self-designed and printed project promotes the Chin language, celebrates Christian faith, and preserves cultural identity in daily life. Through independent research, design, and production, I created a planner and two calendars written in Laiholh (Hakha Chin) and English, blending organization, beauty, and faith into everyday acts of cultural remembrance.







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TRADITIONAL CHIN GAME

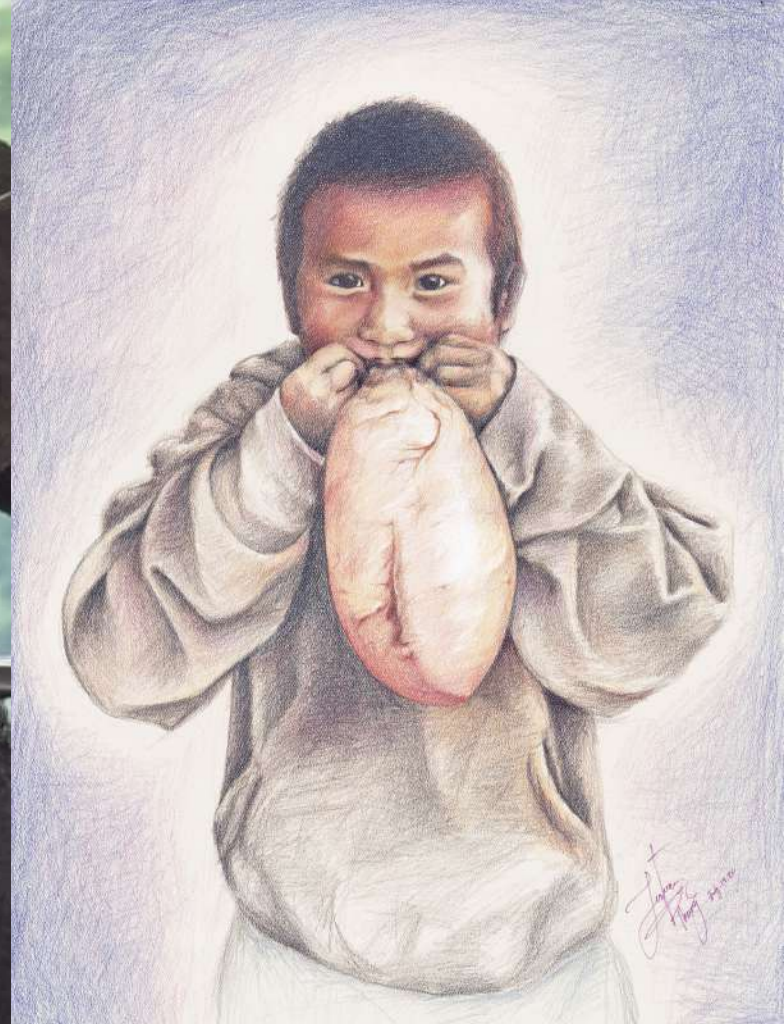
I redesigned the traditional Chin game *Rualdih!* to incorporate Chin language, patterns, history, and geography, restoring its original Chin name to support linguistic preservation. Now played in multiple Chin organizations across the U.S., *Rualdih!* fosters language use, cultural appreciation, and community connection through engaging, meaningful play.



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ART AND PHOTOGRAPHY

Alongside graphic design, my visual art and exhibitions highlight Chin culture, history, and contemporary life, portraying both challenges and resilience through drawing and painting. I regularly exhibit in Chin communities across the United States, preserving stories and educating younger generations through visual storytelling. I also provide photography, printing, and framing services for families in traditional clothing, offering accessible and culturally sensitive ways to document and celebrate Chin identity.



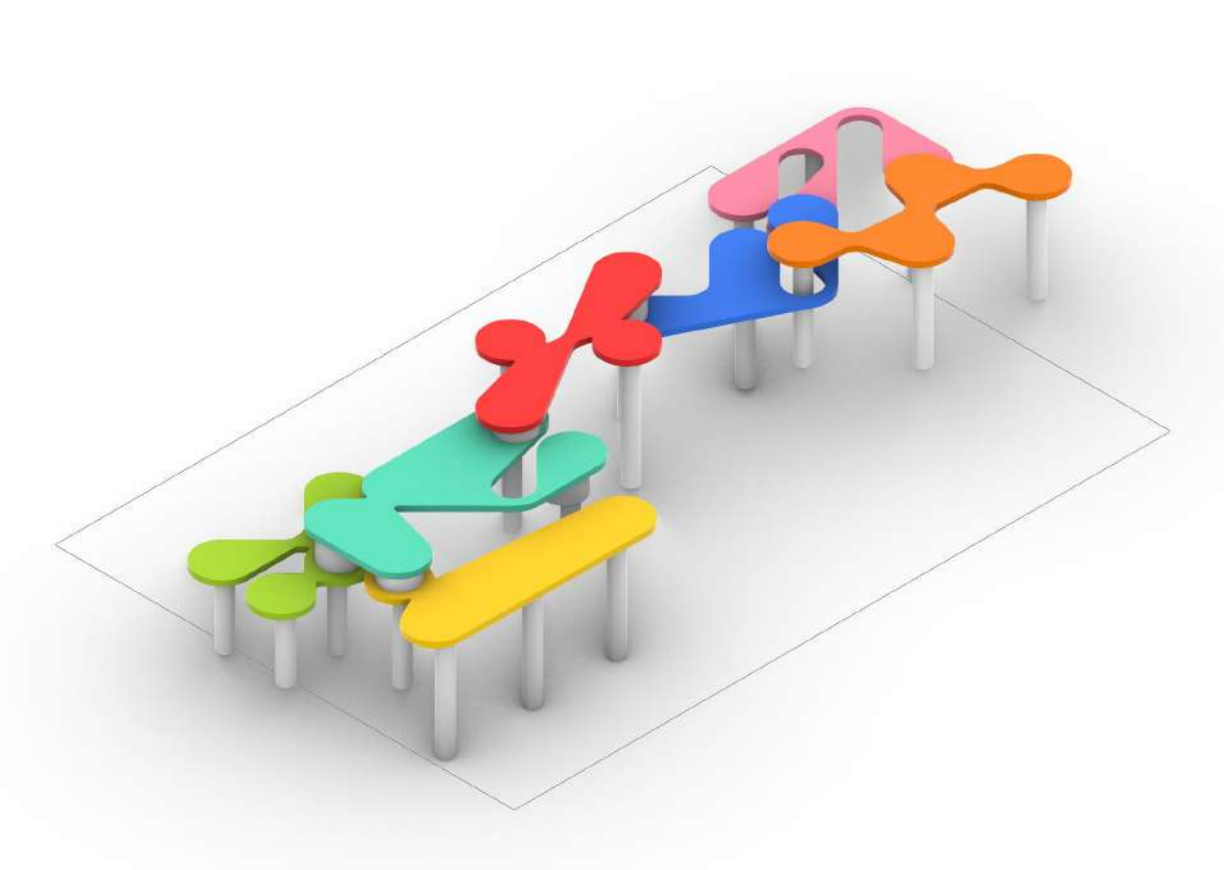




EXHIBITION TABLE

For our MFA program’s final exhibition, my cohort created a custom table of interlocking shapes, each representing a student. I co-led the design, fabrication, and assembly, from concept sketches and Rhino renderings to CNC cutting, sanding, and painting. Serving as both a functional display and a sculptural symbol of unity, the table became the exhibition’s centerpiece, praised for its craftsmanship and its ability to foster conversation and reflection.





Thank you!