

Gigi Bocek

she / her

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Hello, my name is Gigi Bocek. I'm a yonsei painter from Minnesota. Growing up, my family was involved in Twin Cities JACL. I remember attending the yearly JACL summer picnics as a kid and volunteering at the Festival of Nations booth as a teen. I thought this exhibition would be a great opportunity to get involved again and celebrate my family's Asian Pacific heritage.

Submission 1: lisa and renee

This painting features my aunt and mom Lisa and Renee Shakerin. Their grandparents immigrated to the West Coast from Japan in the early twentieth century. After being interned at Minidoka, their family moved to the Chicago area where Lisa and Renee grew up. As adults, Lisa and Renee moved to Minnesota where they have been living and enriching Minnesotan culture since. My mom and aunt are my connection to our family's Asian Pacific culture. Our family has roots in lots of places and will continue to put down new ones.