KINSHIP

***kinship*, n.**

“the quality or state of being kin”

a. relationship by descent; consanguinity

b. the recognized ties of relationship, by descent, marriage, or ritual, that form the basis of social organization

c. relationship in respect of qualities or character

Oxford English Dictionary

Our Harvard community is distinctively multifaceted: It is multilingual, multicultural, and multinational. With the diversity of our community in mind, this exhibition prompts students and audience alike to reflect on what “the quality or state of being kin” means to the artists and what it means to you.

Across this body of work, you will see artists exploring themes of place, connection, identity, and memory. Artists Rumaisa Jesani and Ricardo Fernandes Garcia reveal kinship as place through the closeness felt within shared physical spaces like Phillips Brooks House and Quincy House while artists Ashley Wang and Trischelle Afihene convey place through symbols referencing family. Connection as a facet of kinship is expressed by artists Eman Abdurezak and David Sunshine who capture the bonds shared between friends. Artists Anwen Cao and Sophie Chan explore kinship through identity, revealing how the formation of the self arises and is shaped by the people around them. You will also find artists Alina Du, Catherine Feng, and Madeline Phuong grappling with kinship as it pertains to memory expressed through motifs of distance, time, and remembrance, respectively.

Kinship is ultimately an embodied experience of the diversity that characterizes our community. Despite our differences in language, culture, and national boundaries, this exhibition invites us all to reflect on our commonalities by instilling a sense of unity. The lived experiences we share then begin to transcend languages, cultures, and borders when we frame all humans as kin.

Curatorial, Design, Graphics
Ashley Wang, Harvard College, AB in Biology and Film Studies ’28 Ricardo Fernandes Garcia, Harvard College, AB in AFVS, Hist & Lit ’27
Miray Celikkol, Graduate School of Design, MDes ’28 Adriana Pinto-Pro, Graduate School of Design, MLA II ’28

OFA Office for the Arts at Harvard
HARVARD CLUB OF BOSTON