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# Nest: Honors Sculpture Project

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### Honor's Project Essay

During the Fall 2016 semester, I took the ART 181 sculpture class, for which I decided to pursue an honors project. There were many opportunities and endless ideas that Professor Chris Berti and I discussed. In the end, I chose the 'nest' as my honor's project for my ART 181 sculpture class in the Fall 2016 semester, because it represents something very special to me. Moreover, it was also one of the projects that I enjoyed working on the most because of the various materials and creative processes that went into making this project.

For the nest, I used various materials. I tried to make the nest as close to nature as I could, and as natural looking as possible. Professor Berti helped me develop the idea to mix clay with natural materials such as real straw and grass to construct the nest just as a 'real Robin' would do.

My idea of the 'nest' is to create a home for a robin that represents all the things that a home means to us. Furthermore, I printed words in Arabic on the eggs, using calligraphy, to describe the characteristics and the essence of how a home should be. Calligraphy is a special art form of producing decorative handwriting or lettering, which is also very popular in the Islamic and Arabic culture. Therefore, this art piece also represents various cultural aspects

The nest has eggs and it is symbolic of the beginning of creation, of hope, joy, light, and happiness. The home is caring and nurturing, it protects and raises its egg and raises the young until they are able to recreate and raise another creation.

On the first egg, I wrote the Arabic word "منزل" which means home, residence, destination, and dwelling. My purpose and meaning for using this word is to represent the special place that home holds for all of us.

On the second egg, I wrote the Arabic word "سعيد" which means happiness, joy, and contentment. My purpose and meaning for using this word is to represent the joy and contentment a person gets from the family, that is important for one's wellbeing.

On the third egg, I wrote the Arabic word "سلام" which means peace that is essential for comfort and sanity. My purpose and meaning for using this word is to represent the peace which a person finds within the home and family.

On the fourth egg, I wrote the Arabic word "نور" which means light, glow, and illumination. My purpose and meaning for using this word is to represent the vision and guidance which is given by parents to their offspring.

On the fifth, and last, egg, I wrote the Arabic word "قرب" which means closeness and nearness. My purpose and meaning for using this word is to represent the closeness, bonding and warmth between the people closest to us, without which a family is incomplete.

All of these are interconnected. Family means home, and light and happiness and peace and warmth. There are also other important characteristics of a family such as growth, prosperity, and hope for the future; hope that a family holds for the future, for the growth and prosperity of the offspring, and the family as a whole. All of these are important characteristics of a family.

