

**Artist Statement: 26th Annual Exhibition of Art by Michigan Prisoners**

Artist Name: <sup>5<sup>1</sup></sup> LOL (NEKI ANDERSON)

Hello everyone I DECIDED TO submit 2 pieces hopefully both will be selected for your viewing enjoyment. 1) THE DRAGON (MAIDEN) which is my interpretation on undying, and unbiased Loyalty and Love 2) THE WILL TO SURVIVE which is a depiction of inmates during the world COVID pandemic.

I've enjoyed drawing since childhood, however after entering adulthood time has restricted me from my passion due to working and other responsibilities in order to make a living. Incarceration gives me the time to clear my mind and draw, which is clearly my God given gift due to the fact that after years of no practice what so ever my skills tend to still improve, if its at all possible to make a living from my art skills over my carpentry skills I would choose the pencil over the hammer any day lol. I hope you enjoy and thank you for selecting, enjoy your day peace!

Please edit your Artist Statement to the space provided.