

**Artist Statement — 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Exhibition of Artists in Michigan Prisons**

Artist Name: Michelle Ellen McIntosh

As a new and upcoming artist, the style of my current pieces center around nature... I love nature, nature is beauty, beauty is nature. One of my pieces this year is my vision of a "Tree of Life", and on this tree are three faces that represent the life of the tree: Life, Peace, and Harmony, which are all essential internal pieces. Sitting atop, perched, wings spread wide is an eagle, which represents a "Warrior", standing alone... you will never see him flying in a flock. I relate to this amazing creature because, I too... stand alone.

Another piece I would love to detail a statement on is my painting on the "Motherland". I felt extremely drawn to this piece because it is where humanity began, its where we all come from. This is a small, yet vibrant depiction of where I wish to be.... Home, where I belong, where the Sun shines its brightest, where elephants roam freely in their natural habitat. Free, at home.