Laura Rapoport  
Re-Purposed Treasures

**Artist Statement**

This piece is about a woman who hides behind her illness and is afraid that she is defined only by her sickness. My work was inspired by women who feel like they are being overpowered by their illnesses as demonstrated by the eye pin in the center of the piece. My intention for creating this piece is to show that there is more to these women than their illnesses. To demonstrate this idea I added elaborate details to the chain of the necklace to signify beauty. Like the woman in my piece, no one should be afraid to express herself and live her life to the fullest, even in the face of sickness. She can still be beautiful. The necklace is attached at many points and is layered in a way that represents strength; though physical strength may be lost, internal strength can only be taken away by oneself. I chose to create a necklace for my piece because I want to emphasize a separation between the head and the rest of the body. One who wears this necklace will be reminded that it is not the physical stan