Day 19 MASK motif
De’VIA 28 Day Challenge

Kat Brockway
"Masked Over the True Identity"
Art studio app on iPad
Description: the oppression has continued. Often the true identity has been masked and bullying by the masked villains.
Karen Christie
Mask of Benevolence
Patti Durr
School Dayz
Pastels copied photos on pastel board
10 x 8
Detail image - description: top right corner has a barred owl carrying a lit lantern with one feather falling away. pix of child's face looking sad, enlarged pix of child's face with smile painted on

Bethaney Hall
"Mask"
8.5 by 11 drawing paper, black ink
Description: Okay- this mask represents omitted information given to those who are interested in the cochlear implant. While I will never get one (I'm content w/ my deafness) - I respect my deaf friends who do even though I don't understand their motives. My issue w/ the audiologists and doctors is how much they push oralism, not encouraging sign language, painting this image that the deaf child or adult will
be hearing- as if it's a cure or miracle. From my understanding the CI gets rid of any hearing you have left. So you're deaf or hard of hearing whether you're wearing it or not. I worry the CI is not allowing deaf children find their deaf spirit.

Takiyah Harris
1. Nobody applauded to Deaf Black Boxer: Eugene "Silent" Hairston
Mixed Medium
10x8
2. Blood Face Off
Mixed Medium
10x8
Storme Ren Heidi
'i was here'
Storme 2015
I have 3, maybe 4 different solutions to this one. Fun, hard, and not easy to fit all my thoughts into just one.
Photography and digital art.
Please no sharing! My daughter is my stand-in. Children are a funny-none. Thanks!

Ellen Mansfield
Inside Deaf DNA baby
Description: Painted on the paper mask. It is inside mask, done it a few weeks ago. it is supposed to be affirmative inside the mask. it is nothing relate with today- "mask motif", R? inside is yourself being Deaf. people in the hearing society tried to fix you from outside. dont see you as deaf person inside first. hmmm it gives me some thinking more.

Ken McBroom
"Generations"
Collage
Tracey Milo
Mask of Cochlea Implant and You
Colored pencil on Bristol Black paper
5x7
Laurie Rose Monahan
"Two-Faced Corporations"
bamboo Paper apps
Description: I believe this drawing can speak itself. It can be any corporation of your thinking but as for DeVIA theme, it apply to Doctors/RX and CI companies.

Stevie Gemmill Naeyaert

"Phantom of the Ear"
"Phantom of the Ear"

Vicki Nordquist
"To Mask or Not to Mask"
Sharpie black pen
ASL Poem

Brenda Pond
Mask
Using 53 app
Nancy Rourke
The Audist
oil on canvas
11 inch by 14 inch
Description: This painting is about Mask of Benevolence. The audist is CI corporations, audiologists, speech therapists, etc. The audist has a "blue tape" mask and sits on a fancy chair like a throne where making profit is critical. The room is small, and yet, it feels huge because of its power. Broken ASL hands are swept under the rug (idiom meaning to conceal something that a person does not want other people to know.) There is the hidden Elephant in the room. The audist is coloured in black, almost invisible, to meaning secret, hidden, lies, dark, and filthy business. Audism.
Darlene Buzzelli Weir
"Deaf Shame"
Graphite pencil on sketch paper 9" X12"
Description: The title of this piece is "Deaf Shame". It shows the hardship of the Deaf having to hide who we really are. Being forced to communicate through speaking and signing with our hands. Suffering abuse if trying to go against what we are told to do. Making us feel shame for being Deaf and not fitting into what society considers "normal". No one see the tears and pain behind the mask. Alexander Graham Bell. He was the biggest advocate to eliminate sign language. He only saw black and white and put the Deaf world on a confuse path.
Tiffany Slieff
"Enough is Enough!"
DeVIA 28 Challenge Day: Mask Profit, Resistance
Color Pencils
8.5 inch by 11 inch
Tiffany Slieff

Description: I am trying to develop my own artistic brand after Maximalism, inspired by Nancy Rourke. My hands have been tied with a blue tape for so many years (represented by a time clock) in a hearing world..which had me formed...as possibly having a BPD.

I have a confession to be made is that I am suspected of having a BPD, Borderline Personality Disorder. Accord to National Education Alliance Borderline Personality Disorder, "People with BPD have extreme difficulties regulating their emotions. Common problems include anger, mood swings, chaotic relationships, impulsivity, unstable sense of self, suicidal attempts and thoughts, self-harm, shame, fears of abandonment, and chronic feelings of emptiness. People with BPD often have intense and stormy relationships. Attitudes toward family, friends and loved ones may shift suddenly. Relationship problems are common and the behaviors are difficult for loved ones to manage effectively. Additionally, stress in relationships can make for even more challenges." I grew with a lack of communication until I was 12-13 year old; therefore, anger was the seed, which was very hard to be letting go of. My temper fed my family building a defense system, so I was taught to be highly
defense instead of be openly communicated. In a few years later, I transferred into a mainstream school, and I took honor classes with no deaf social interaction. I felt very isolated, highly stressed, and never learned how to develop a communication skill. Meanwhile, I grew very depressed knowing that I had a hard time to build a bondings with any hearing people, not just outside but also my family. My family was my true anger, because they are my love of life. That led a very low support system, so I ended up attempting several suicides. People never knew what was going on, because I had been wearing a mask, which was later on becoming several masks due to my unidentify. There are a lot of stories went on, and finally..enough is just..enough. I grew tired being afraid and hid everything and pushed people away before I could hurt their feelings brutally. Art was also lost after losing my identify as I became an adult. Tired of knowing that I have a low network, especially the deaf network. It is really time for me to unmask and ask for some supports.

Enough, I do really want to get myself back as a true potential, happy, confident, motivated, artistic, creative, and more, so its time for me to seek for what is making me happier. There De'VIA is one of my beginnings” art and deaf network. Thank you all so much for making me feel very visible and welcomed. Love you all!

Diane Squires
'Confused'
iPad - ArtRage3