

Art Metals Class: Implementation and Curriculum

Taylor Last (Tech Ed), Mike Styles (Art)
Port Washington High School

Art Metals

The goal of Art Metals is to bring together diverse groups of students to share skill sets and design concepts.

This hands on approach to learning will allow for higher level thinking and planning as students push the limits of the materials and creative expression. Students will create and communicate solutions to the visual problems presented.

Timeline

- 2018-19 School Year
 - Introduced the idea to our curriculum director
- Summer 2019
 - Ran an enrichment summer school program as a pilot.
- Fall 2019
 - Received board approval to add course to 20-21 school year course book

Course Logistics

- Approved for two teachers during the same hour
- 24 students minimum, 28 students maximum
- One semester long
- Supplies pulled from both tech and art department budgets.
- Roughly \$500 per year for supplies (sheet steel is donated)
- Added roughly \$1500 of new equipment

Description:

Art metals is designed to allow students in both Technical Education and Art classes an opportunity to utilize industrial equipment and technologies to create three dimensional projects. Students will learn and apply welding, casting, and coding applications for 3D printing and CNC plasma cutting to create unique works of art.

Prerequisite:

Welding and Fabrication
Sculpture or Ceramics

Project 1

CNC Plasma: Name Plate

LEARNING TARGETS

1. Sketches and Research:

Students will research CNC designs, Letter fonts and Name Crests/Plates. Students will develop 3-4 unique sketches.

2. Tools and Techniques

Students will use the CNC Plasma table to cut their final design. Cleaning front, back and edges using chisels and grinders

3. Design

Students will create an original cohesive design using fonts and imagery that represent the name displayed.
Students will develop a high contrast image to be converted into DFX.

4. Finishing

Students will finish their piece using surface textures and sealing the piece with clear gloss enamel.

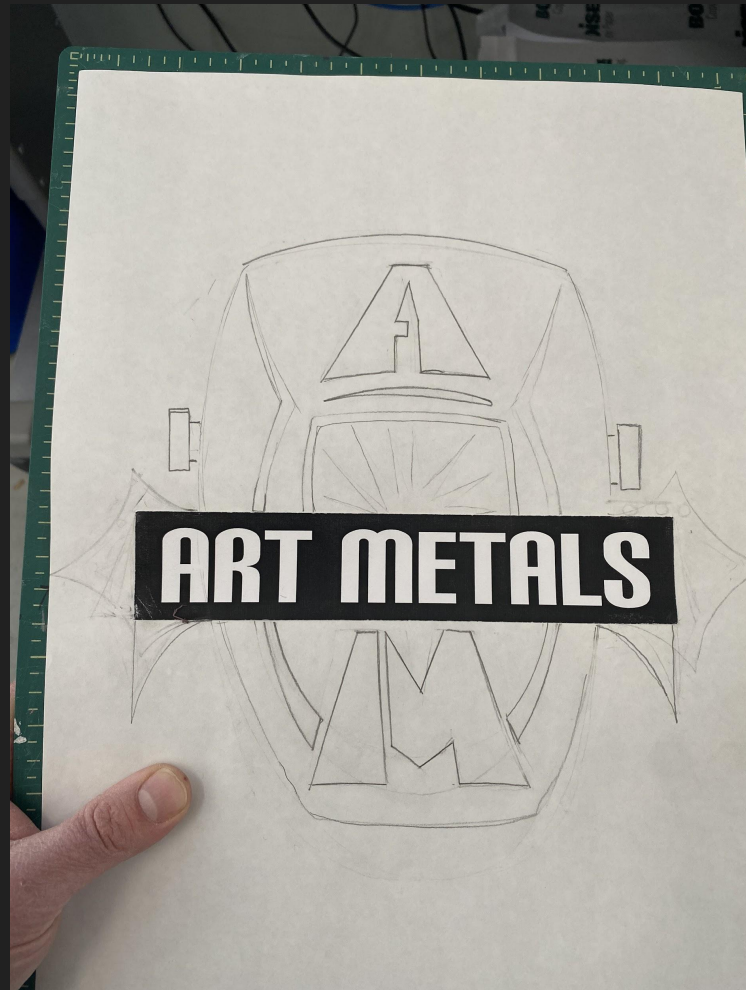
FONT

- Do not find only one font!
- Play around with multiple fonts, different spacing, and CAPs.
- Choose a black background with white letters
- Play with the design of the background (rounded corners of the black rectangle).
- PRINT MULTIPLES TO PLAY AROUND WITH DIFFERENT



LINE ART

- Must be original, but can be inspired by other images.
- Avoid thin areas of loops, as the plasma cutter may ignore them.
- Do not place loops too close together.
- Check for double loops



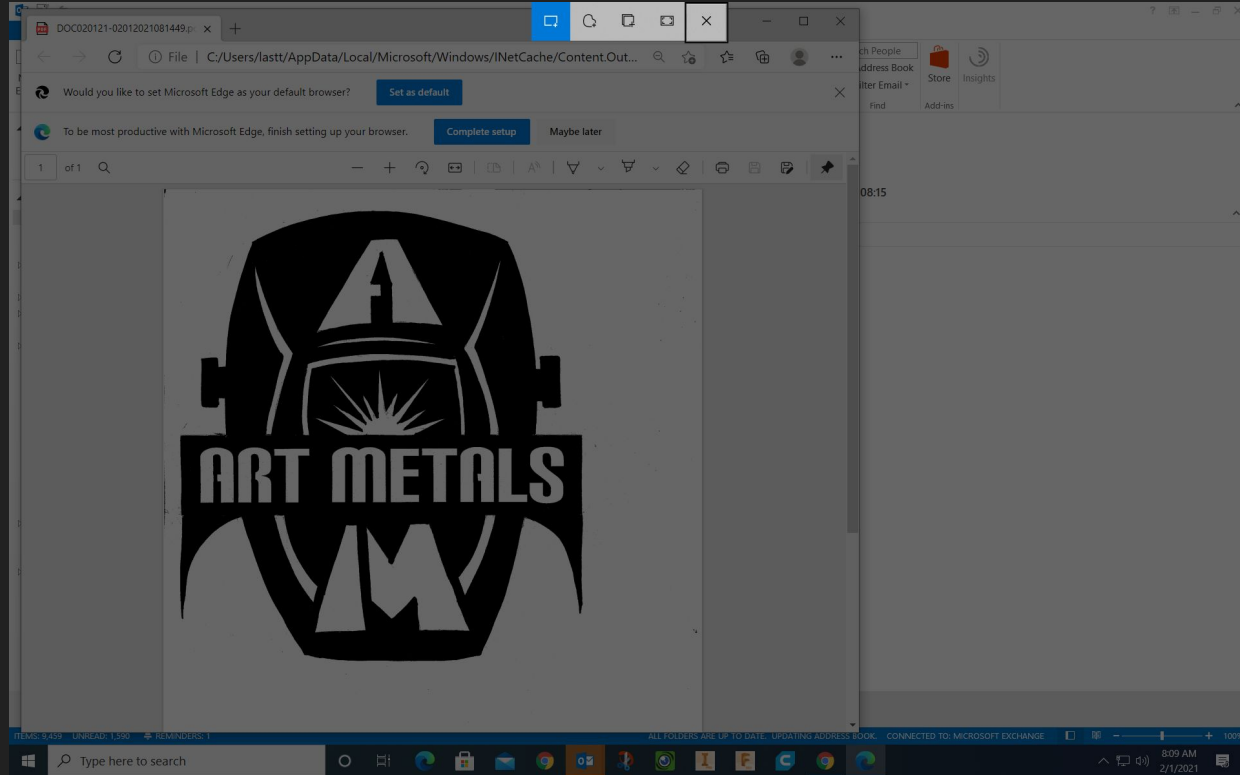
BLACKOUT

- The DXF Converter will create lines, or cut paths along all black/white boundaries.
- The black will be metal, white will be the drop-outs
- Allows for better visualization of the end product.



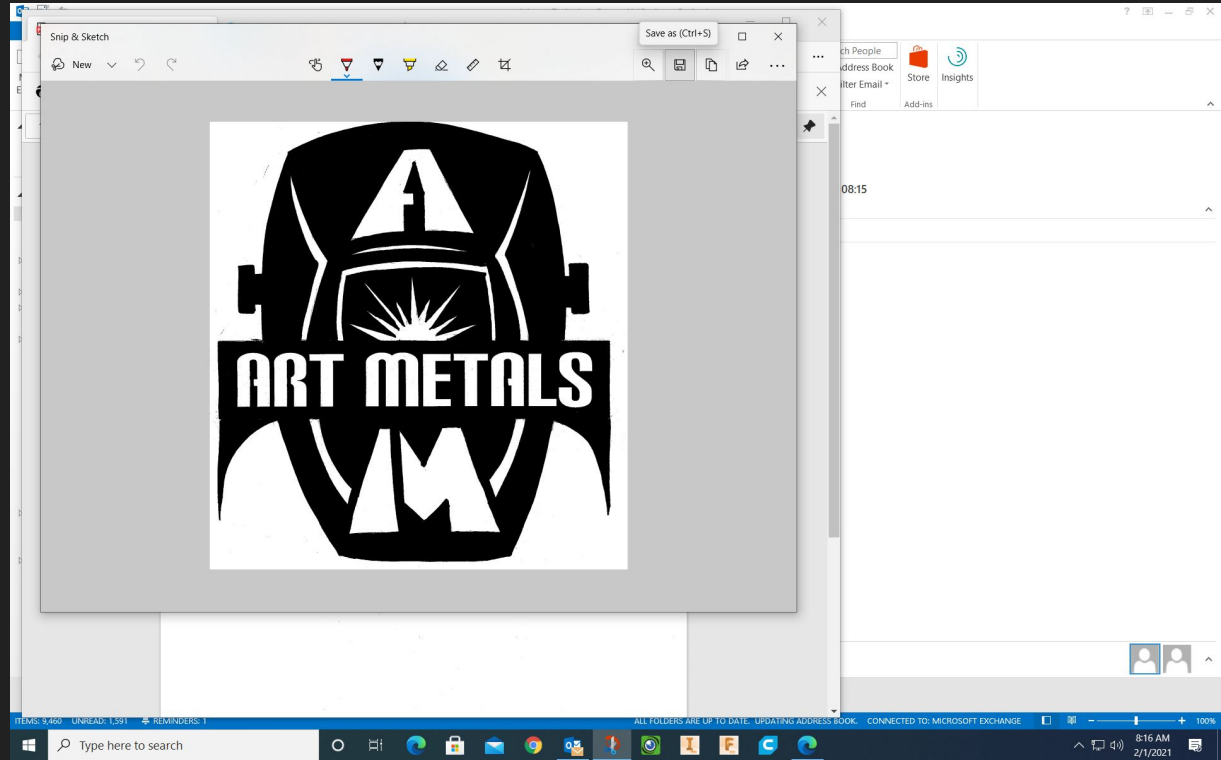
SCAN TO PDF

- Open the PDF that was scanned and sent to your email.
- Press the “Windows Key”, “Shift Key”, and “S” together.
- This opens the snip tool. Click and drag the box just over the image.



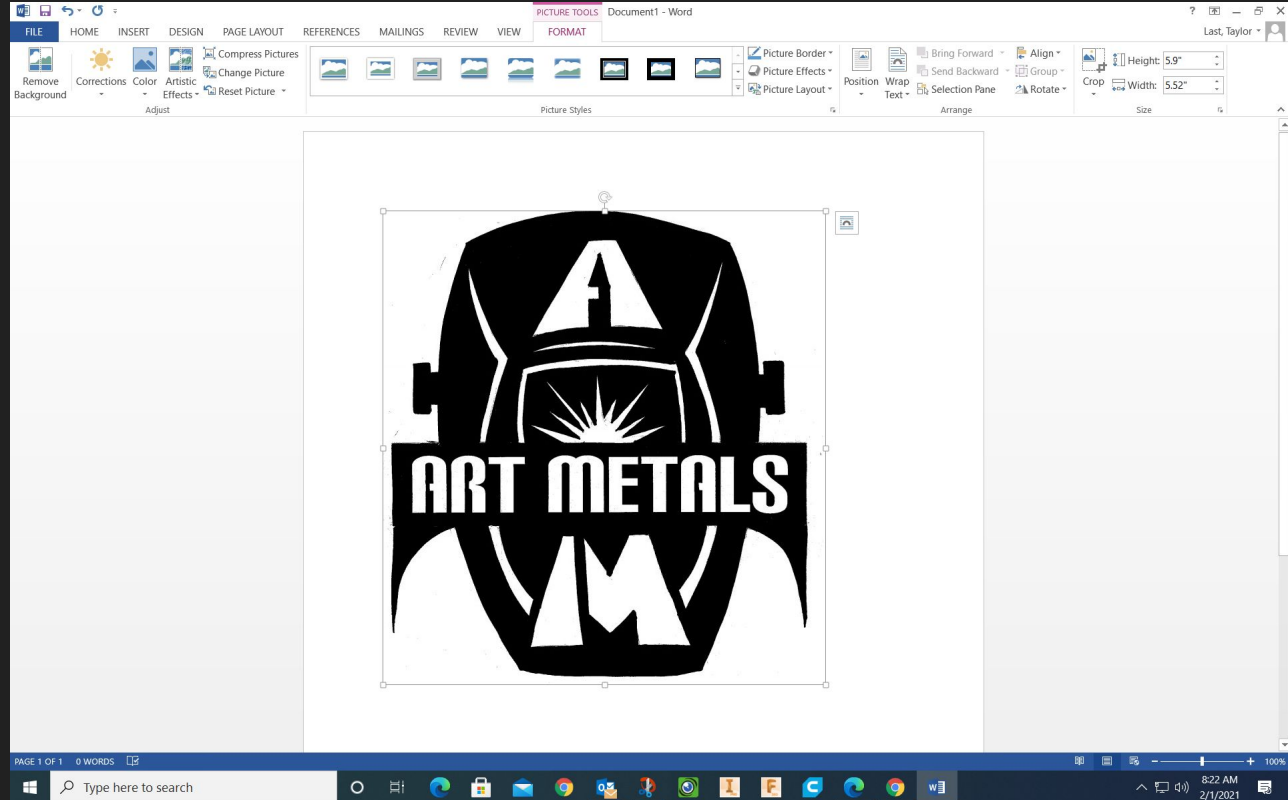
SAVE AS JPG

- After snipping the image, it will pop-up in a different window.
- Open the window and choose to save to your “My Folder” as a JPG.



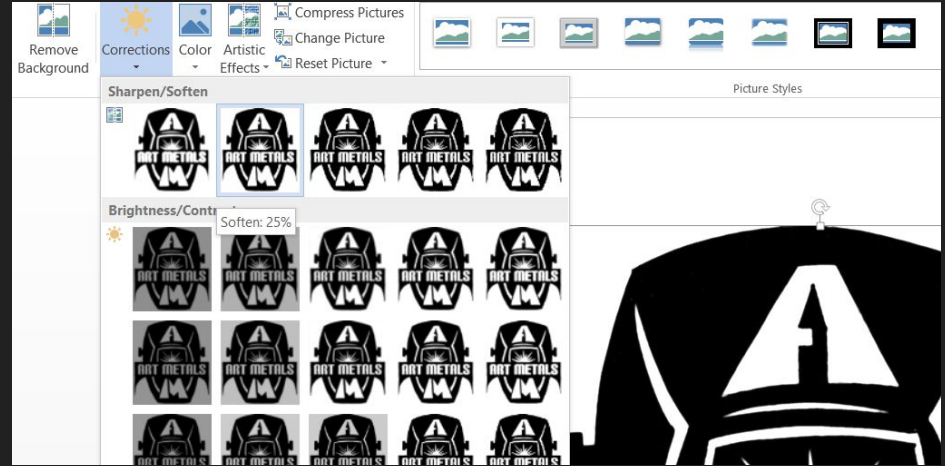
EDITING IN WORD

- Open a word document, go to “insert”, “picture” and find your JPG.



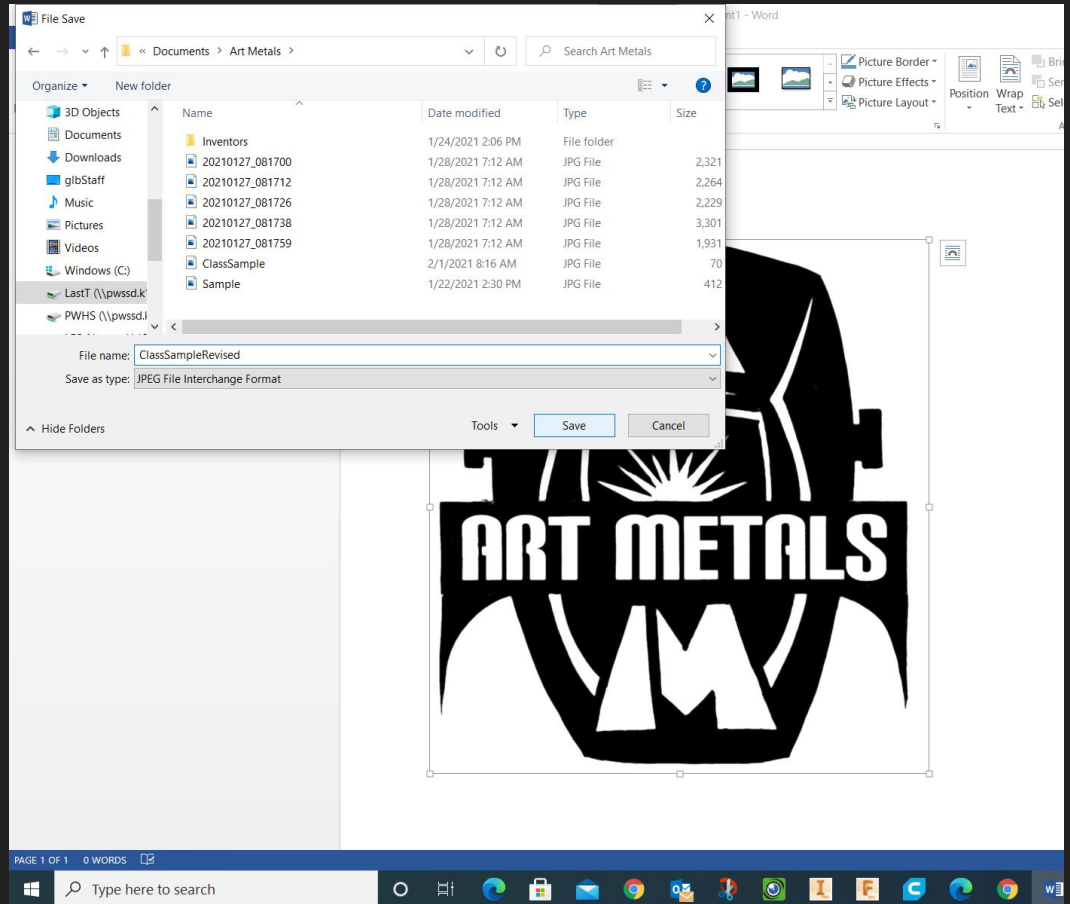
EDITING IN WORD

- Softening to different percentages will smooth choppy lines
- Also, change brightness and contrast to darken any greyscale, and “white-out” any unwanted marks.



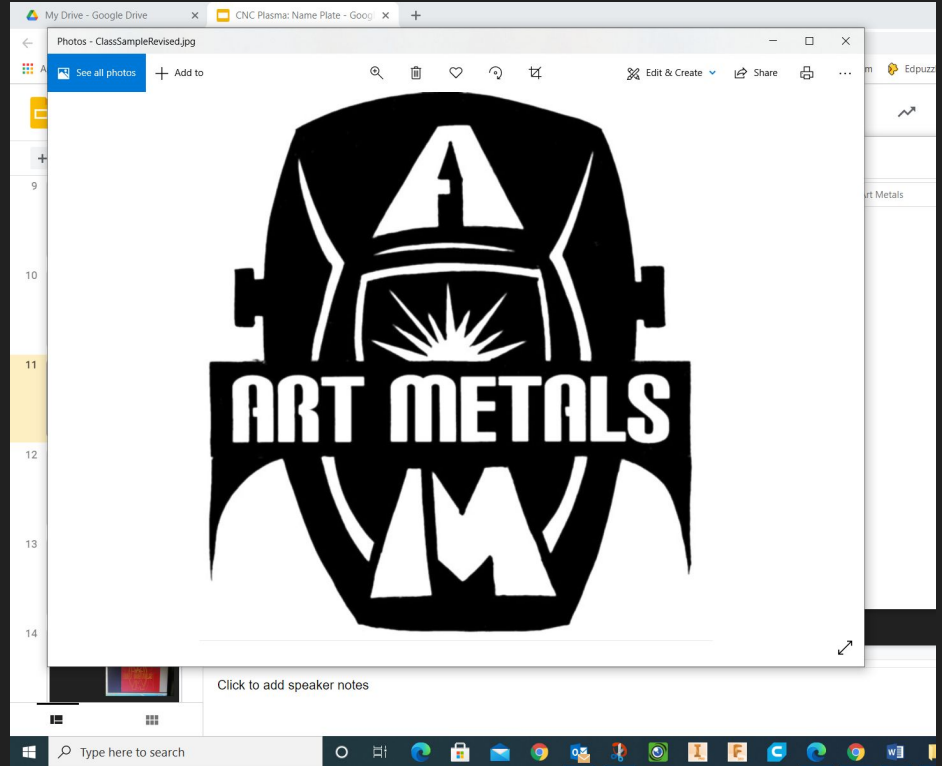
SAVE AS NEW JPG

- Right click and select “save as picture”
- Save with “revised” in the name to ensure you select the right version.
- Can be saved as either JPG or PNG



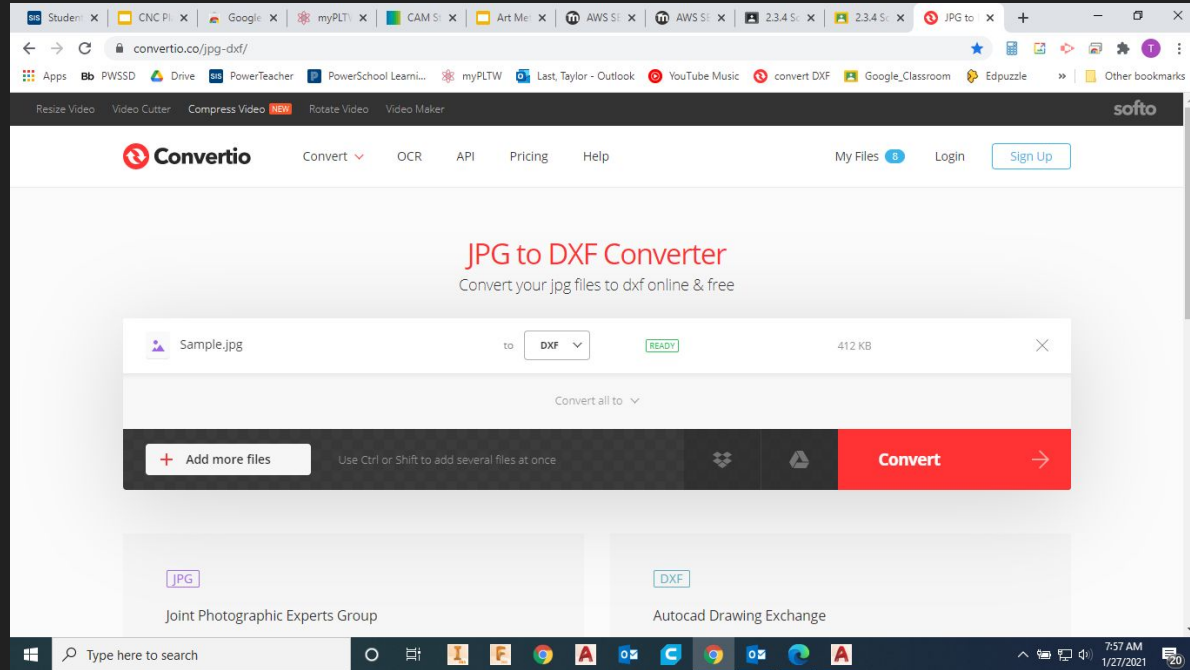
CHECKING PICTURE

- Open the picture to ensure it saved correctly before converting.
- DXF Converter will pick up on very minor differences in greyscale.
- Also, use this step to check for any double loops



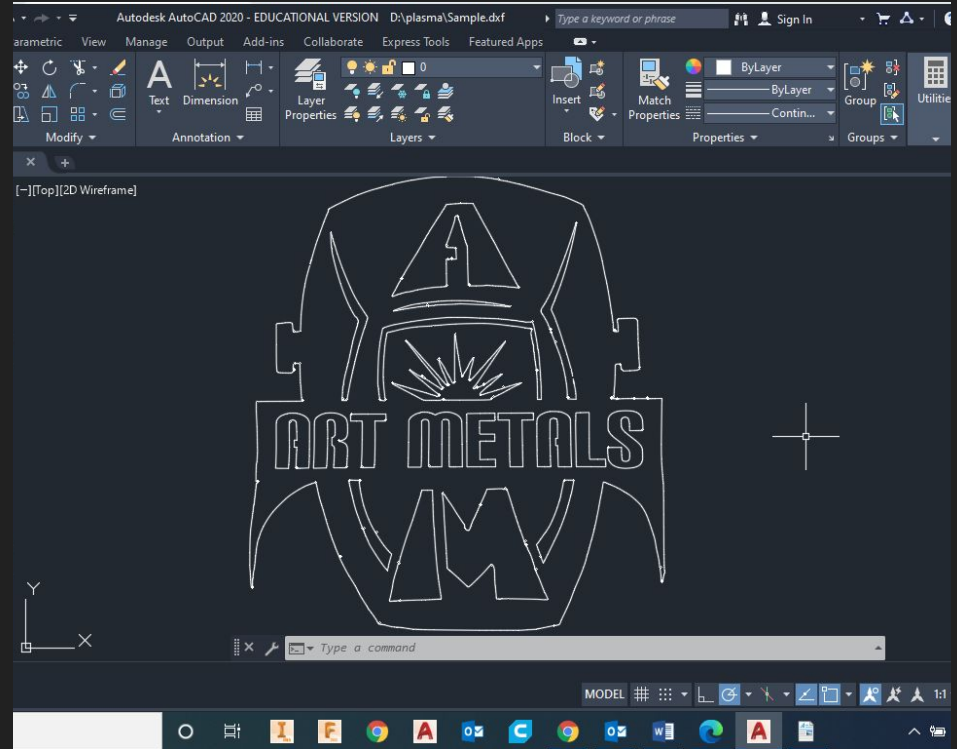
JPEG TO DXF CONVERSION

- <https://convertio.co/jpg-dxf/>
- Scan image or take a picture of an image to get the original file.
- If it is not in JPG format, the converter has other choices.
- Download and save the DXF file produced



AUTOCAD DXF FILE VERIFICATION

- Check for any open loops, or crossed lines
- Be sure there are no double loops (loops within loops, such as the circle inside of an “A”)
- Refining edges and minor modifications can be done.
- Final scaling to the desired size



SHEETCAM DXF IMPORT

PWHS Programs

Tech Ed 21-22

SheetCAM TNG

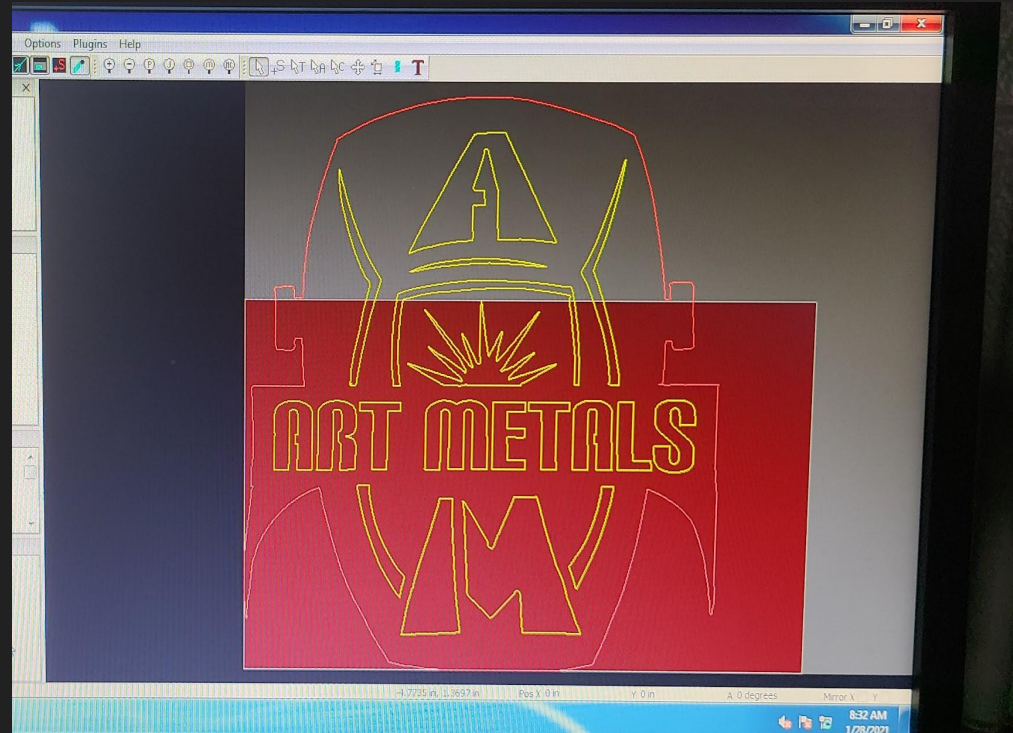
File - Import Drawing

Change File type to DXF

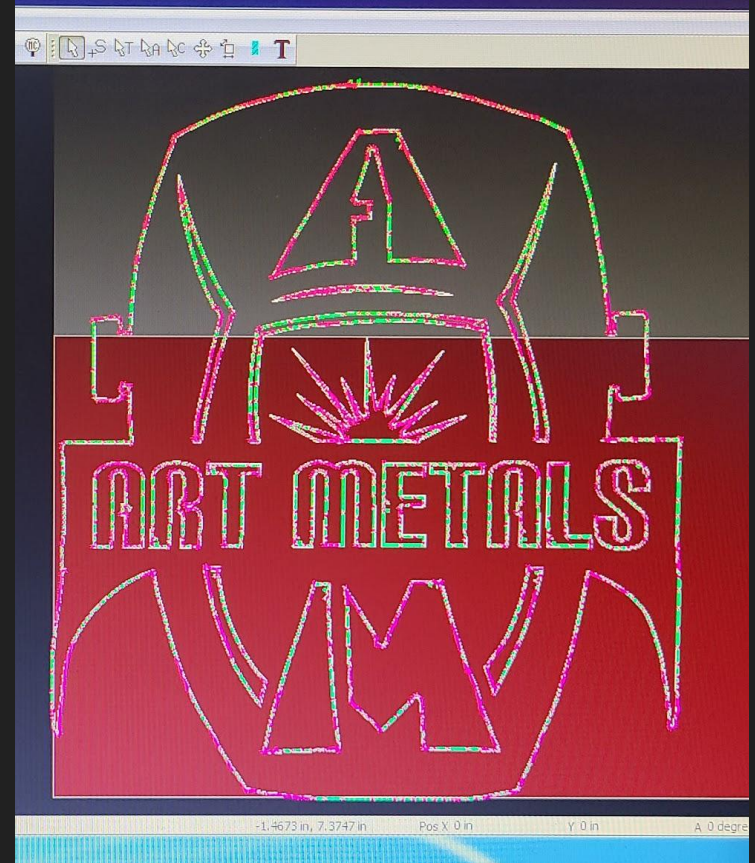
Import your DXF

Outside contours are red,
inside are yellow, open
contours are white

Most open contours are



SHEETCAM TOOLPATH CREATION



SHEETCAM TOOLPATH CHECK



CNC CONTROL SOFTWARE

The screenshot displays the Lone Star Cutting Solutions CNC control software interface. The window title is "L3 CNC Licensed To: Port Washington HS 9H50". The menu bar includes "Config", "Function Cfg's", "View", "Wizards", "Operator", "Plugin Control", and "Help".

At the top, there are buttons for "Program Run", "Move To", "Offsets", "Settings", and "Diag.". The "LONE STAR CUTTING SOLUTIONS" logo is prominently displayed in the upper right.

The main interface is divided into several sections:

- Program Editor:** Shows G-code lines: 010 (Filename: Sample.tap), 020 (Post processor: LSCS plasma THC with scriber), 030 (Date: 23/01/2021), 040 G20 (Units: inches), 050 F1, 060 G53 G90 G40, 070 (Part: Sample), 080 (Operation: Outside Offset, 0, T6: (45 amp) 12aa), and 090 G00 X3.2287 Y4.3697.
- Reference All Home:** A table showing zeroing values for X, Y, Z, and Tool 4, along with Stock Dia.
- Control Panel:** Includes buttons for "CYCLE START", "Feed Hold", "Stop", "Refresh Display", "Display Mode", "Cut Time", "IPM", "Feed Rate", "Override", "RESET", and "Jog Speed".
- THC and Torch Controls:** Features "THC ON/OFF", "ARC SET +127", "Torch ON/OFF", and "Torch Auto/Manual" options.
- Other Controls:** Includes "Load G-Code", "Close G-Code", "Edit G-Code", "Rewind G-Code", "Last Start Point", "Check Part Fit", "Trial Mode", "Set Next Line Number", "RESET", "Jog ON/OFF", "SptFire", "Clear Messages", and "Homing Z-Axis".
- Graphical Display:** A large window showing a blue wireframe of a part with the text "RST METALS" overlaid. A green arrow points downwards on the right side of the display.

The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows the system time as 8:31 AM on 1/28/2021.

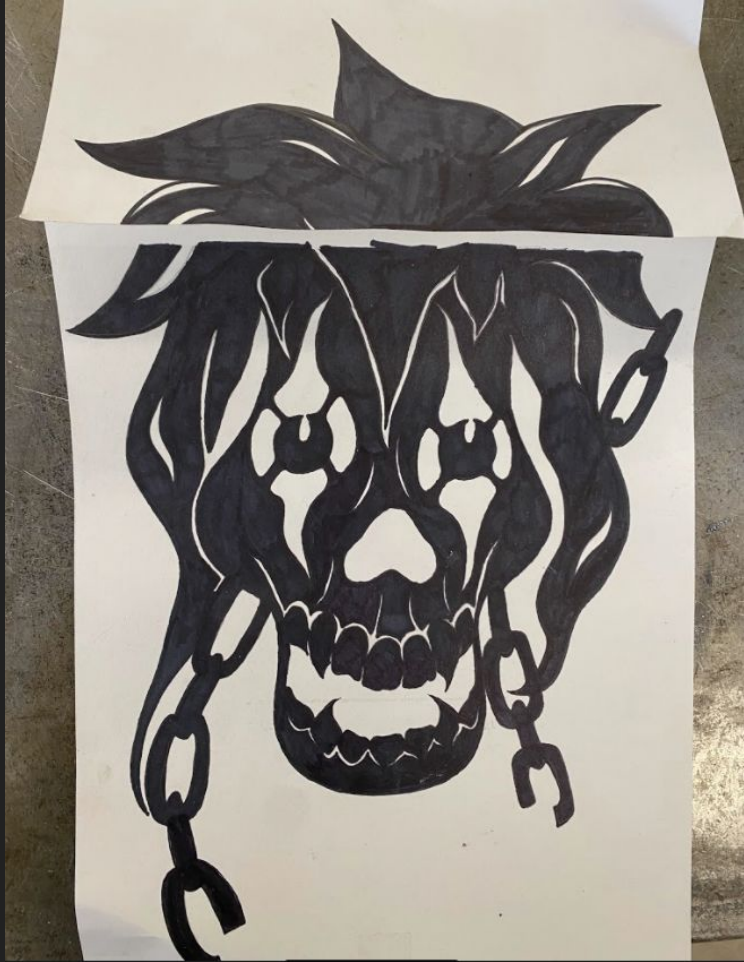
CUT







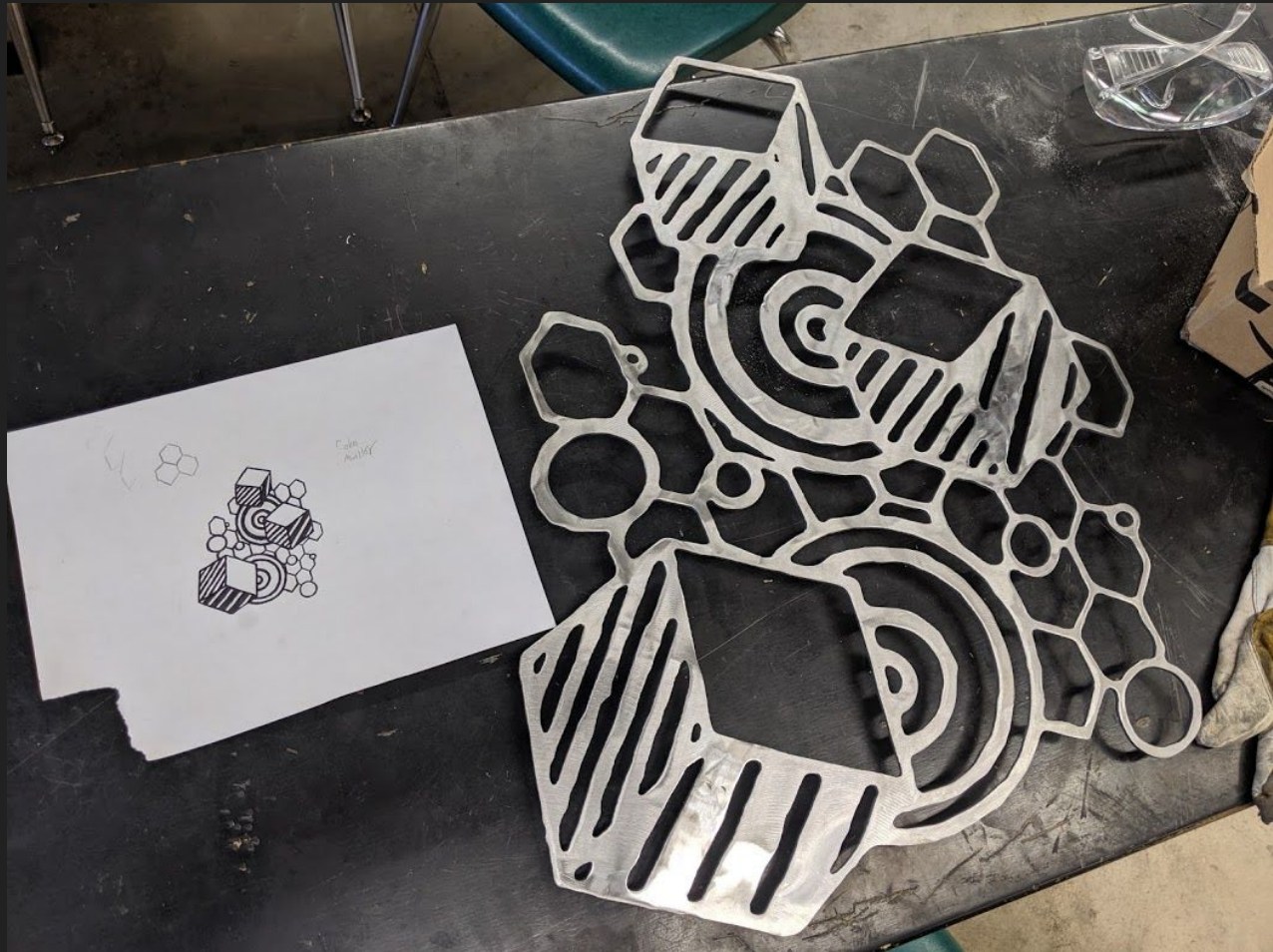








Streichler











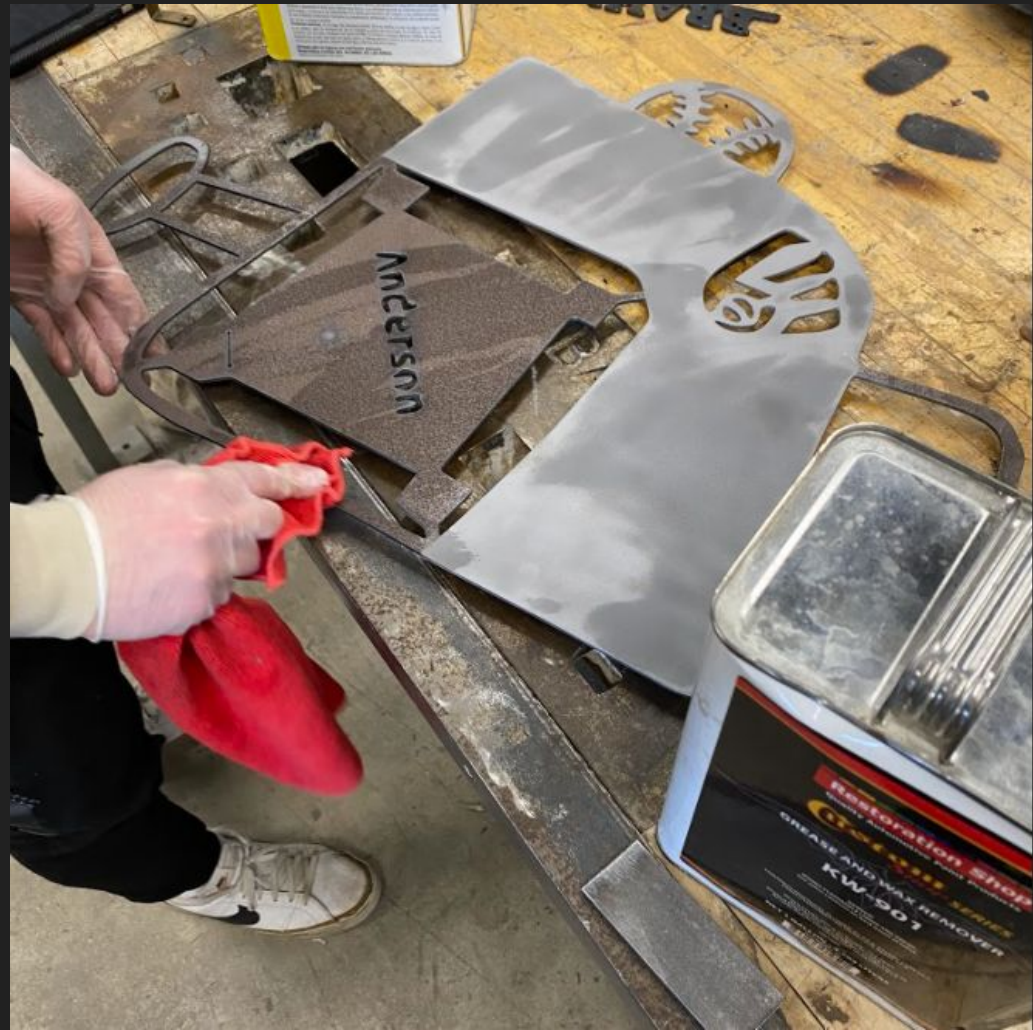




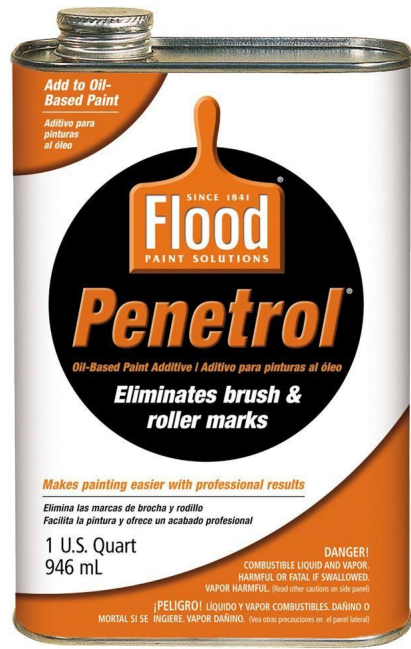
Jon's
Patio











Project 2: LOST WAX CASTING



HOW IT'S MADE: LOST WAX CASTING



Ring Blank



Carving/Sculpting



Wax Sprue



Flask



Slurry



Wax Burnout



Metal Pour



Slurry Removal



Finishing

















Wax Investment Casting





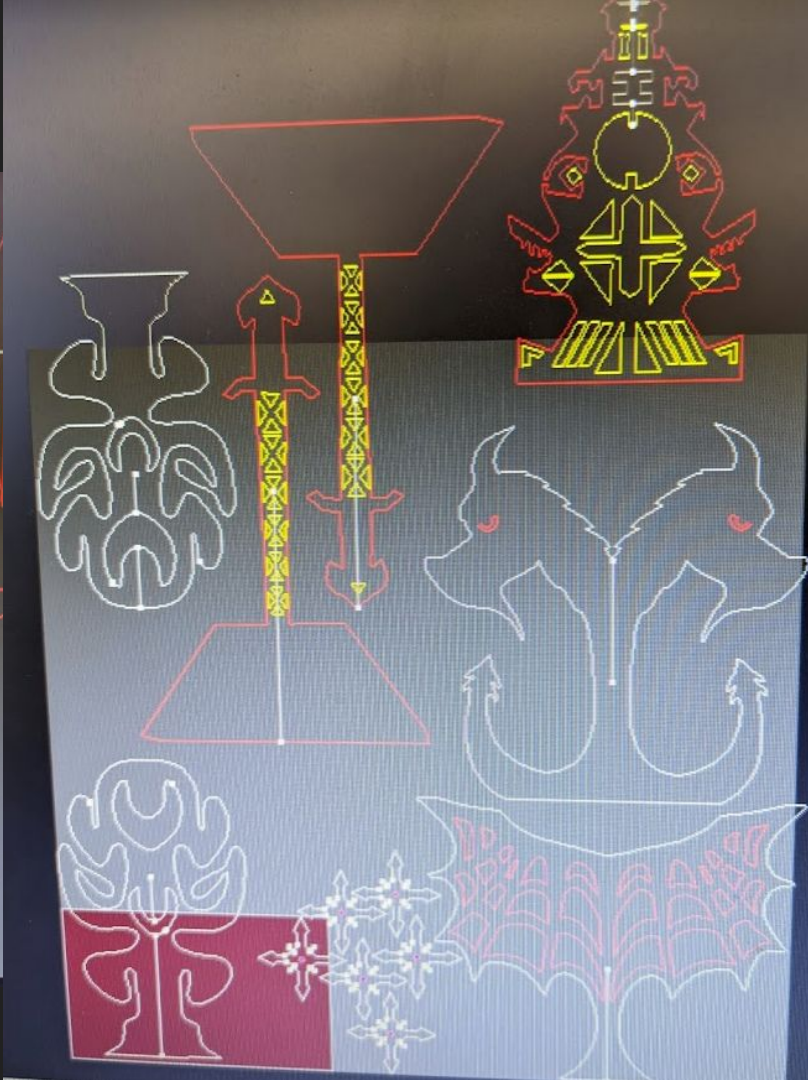
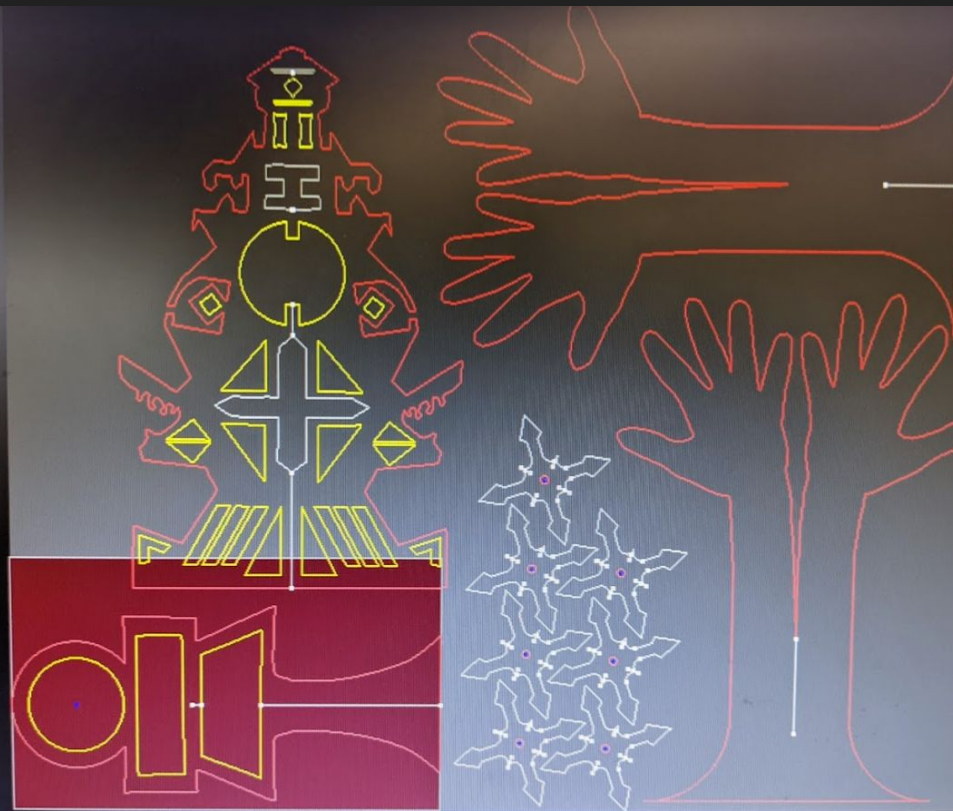




Project 3: Symmetrical Design







T



251 010

Project 4: Personal Narrative

Students get to use a new process or expand off of
an already used process

Sculptural Welding





