

Exercise 1: Peer Feedback session

Participants: Shawna, Louisa, Samantha, Talisha, me



Talisha made earbud case, hinged to open and close, earbud nests inside. Weighty, nestles nicely in the palm. She made several regular-shaped rectangles as box parts before settling on a wrapped one that could be hand-shaped/deformed into the curved contours needed.

Shawna's stool was one long single wrap of wire, except for the fourth leg (short leg). She was going for a kinetic sculpture that would stand on its own but just barely (riffing on the experience of tippy stools here in class), wanting to draw a metaphor with the state of society. Same for the lines she used — nothing parallel, lots of space, everything a little wonky.



Samantha used the pliers themselves as the template to build the pincers (wrapping directly around them), but switched patterns to spiral top/bottom and zigzag sides to imply the hinge or joint in the pliers. Two handles were made a long time apart and she found it harder to make them alike.

Louisa's starfish was made in two halves - top first, loops of wire that were not flush to the surface but stood up a bit like the bumps on the skin of a starfish, and a bottom that had apertures like a real starfish. She tried to join with wire but not flexible enough so used fishline to "sew" them together. It's life-sized and satisfying to hold.

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EXERCISE 2: Group Critique / Peer Feedback

Common themes:

- attention to function — jaw open/close, fingers and toes bend at their joints. Wonder if that matters extra when making our own body?
- Misfits happened, re-makes needed when attaching elements together (subcomponents of our own bones, or assembling whole skeleton)
- Collaboration deepened because parts needed to fit to each other (though it also put some constraints on how to be creative)
- Shaping tools - the bones themselves; a wooden dowel with hole drilled to lock the wire in place; lots of freeform hand shaping

Surprises / Insights:

- right/left confusion (is it right side of skull or right side of photo looking at skull (which would make it the *left* side of the skull))
- Type of wire sets limits on your choices - is it soft/easily bent or stiff/hard to shape, does it keep shape or deform while you work on it
- Serendipity – the whole skeleton has looser/gestural lines on its left side, more structural dense lines on its right side — does this relate to classic left brain/right brain split??

