

## ARTIST'S STATEMENT:

### *Heart*

**Emmi Glad Timmons, artist; Jenni-Glad Timmons, author of artist statement**

*Heart, acrylic on canvas (2019)*

Copyright: ©2019 Glad Timmons. This is an open-access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Noncommercial Attribution license (CC BY-NC 4.0), which allows for unrestricted noncommercial use, distribution, and adaptation, provided that the original author and source are credited.

Emmi is a 12-year-old girl who was born with Cornelia de Lange Syndrome (CdLS), a rare congenital condition that occurs in 1 in 10,000 live births and results in a variety of medical and developmental challenges. Emmi is a happy girl despite everything.

Emmi has recently begun unschooling. Unschooling is a style of home schooling that promotes unstructured, child-led learning. Unschooling respects diverse learning needs and styles and thereby encourages hierarchies of actualization, an important goal of partnership cultures. Through the process of unschooling Emmi has learned from her strengths and has developed her passion for painting. She has a gift for being in the present moment, and her art usually reflects just that. She enjoys the process of selecting colours and the feel of the brush on canvas, letting go and just letting things come. She likes to share her art, and the growing interest in her art has enabled her to donate her proceeds to the Canadian CdLS Awareness Foundation. Through her art,

Emmi shows us the potential of what we can create when we let go of traditional boundaries.

---

Correspondence about this article should be addressed to Jenni Glad Timmons at  
[jenni.glad.timmons@utoronto.ca](mailto:jenni.glad.timmons@utoronto.ca)

