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“Don’t Touch That Button, Brad!”

For my Senior Honors Project, I decided to create a 2D animated short that features my original cartoon character from my animation production brand called Niidomations. The concept consists of Brad finding a strange red button that says, “Do not press”. There are three signs surrounding the button that make it clear that the button must not be pressed. Despite the warning, Brad decided to press the button anyway because his curiosity of what would happen got the best of him. Once Brad pushes the big red button, reality itself started to alter into an entirely different look. Brad and the button changed along with reality as well.

This concept is to create a project that effectively explores different animation styles. These styles include the 1930’s black and white cartoon, Southpark, SpongeBob, Videogame pixels, crayon drawing, Pre-K development, comedic ghost, alien, and abstraction. To make this animation successful, I needed to make sure that Brad’s appearance changes throughout each style. Depending on the scene, the signature colors of blue, orange, and yellow would be used in different ways or the shape of the head.

The last important thing to consider with this animation is the music and sound effects. Since there is no dialogue from the character in the animation, the music and sound effects need to help establish what is being presented and help the audience comprehend the plot. To really make every animation style fulfill their types, and to help the viewers understand what they are
referenced from or what type of style they are, the background music needed to match. Sound
effects are also very important because they must exaggerate every movement or transition.

After doing some careful research, finding references, collecting music and sound, creating the
scenes and characters, and using Flip-a-Clip and Adobe Premiere Pro to create the entire project,
it turned out to be a success. According to my mentor, Professor Rodgers Dameron, he was
impressed with how effective the entire animation is. The comedic intention was well created,
the timing of each scene was perfect, and the creation of the altered Brad characters and settings
were strong. He also pointed out which scenes were the most effective, such as the 1930s,
Southpark, and the puppy scene. I am glad this animation was a success, and I appreciate my
mentor for guiding me throughout this process and giving me his feedback.