Microscopic Details of Entomology
Presenters Caitlin Forkin, Janet Garcia, and Dani Rewis; Biology majors
Mentored by Dr. Gregory Payne

Insects can be found in a variety of environments, some going unseen, either due to camouflage or microscopic proportions. These organisms are often taken for granted and unappreciated regarding their effect and influence on the environment, both regional and wide-spread. In addition to their ecological contributions, including decomposition, pollination, and food sources, insects also add another aspect to our natural world, beauty. When looking closely, the various structures of insects turn into a whimsical, geometrical, textured, and expressive display. All of which go unacknowledged in everyday life. This project is to bring attention to the intriguing and intricate detail of the various insect structures, from antenna types to body shapes, eye dimensions to tarsal detail, as well as the textures and patterns of wings. This artistic display will highlight a variety of insect orders all of which come from the Biology Department’s Insect Library, including Lepidoptera, Diptera, Hymenoptera, Odonata, Orthoptera, and Neuroptera, just to name a few. The images selected and displayed will bring necessary attention to the amazing detail and beauty that hides in plain sight.