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## A Year 'Til Life Starts: Alex Sewell celebrates, waits

Posted by Alex Pearlman

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By Courtney Sacco

Alex Sewell, 22 and a Lynn native, is in his final semester as a painting major at the Massachusetts College of Art and Design. Sewell originally enrolled as a marketing major at UMass Lowell, but he transferred to MassArt after a year to pursue his passion for painting.



Sewell talks to two State House employees during his show's reception at the State House. Â (Courtney Sacco, Feb. 8)



After spending the evening at the reception for his State House show, Sewell and his girlfriend Amber Gulias take the 39 Bus back to his apartment. (Courtney Sacco, Feb. 8)



One of Sewell's paintings caught the eye of a friend while he was hanging out at Sewell's apartment. Sewell was more than happy to give his painting a new home. (Courtney Sacco, Feb. 8)



Sewell starts what will be a very important week, when the finalists of a scholarship he applied for will be announced. (Courtney Sacco, Feb. 13)



On Monday morning, Sewell walks out of his Mission Hill apartment and heads to MassArt. (Courtney Sacco, Feb. 13)



Sewell's apartment is about a 10-minute walk from MassArt. He walks to school almost every day. (Courtney Sacco, Feb. 13)



Sewell waits to cross the street in front of MassArt, the school at which he's spent the last four years of his life. (Courtney Sacco, Feb. 13)



Having arrived over an hour early for his painting class, Sewell sits down to work on an intentionally bad painting. (Courtney Sacco, Feb. 13)



Sewell thought it would be fun to do a painting based on knock-off toys. He works off of a photo of a knock-off Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles gun toy. (Courtney Sacco, Feb. 13)



Having decided that he needs a job, Sewell heads to the MassArt admissions office to apply for a job he saw on a flyer at school. (Courtney Sacco, Feb. 13)



Much to Sewell's surprise, he didn't need to meet with anyone or interview for the job. After he finishes filling out his paperwork, he'll just have to wait for the school to tell him when they need him to work. (Courtney Sacco, Feb. 13)

'A Year 'Til Life Starts' is an ongoing series of photo essays following Boston-area college seniors as they prepare to graduate this spring.

About Courtney -- As a photojournalist and documentary photographer, I'm always looking for a story to tell through photos. Originally from a small town called Ardsley in Westchester, N.Y., I moved to Boston in 2006 for school and never left.

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