

**FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
VIDEOTAPE REMARKS FOR
THE 1995 SCHOLASTIC ART AND WRITING AWARDS CEREMONY
JUNE 17, 1995**

To all of the recipients of 1995 Scholastic Art and Writing Awards, their families and their teachers, congratulations and welcome to our nation's capital. I am sorry not to be with you today, but I share the excitement and pride you must feel on this special occasion.

I am delighted that America's most promising young artists and writers are being hosted at two of our nation's most important cultural institutions - The Library of Congress and the Corcoran Gallery of Art. I am also pleased to join in congratulating the Alliance for Young Artists and Writers - its Board of Directors and national sponsors, for their important efforts to reward and promote a remarkable group of artists and authors, who will no doubt contribute much to this country's cultural heritage.

The level of talent and technical facility represented among these young men and women would be difficult - if not impossible - to duplicate anywhere else in the world. You are a microcosm of America's diverse creative and cultural heritage.

Sadly, we live in a time when arts and humanities education are being devalued. School budgets are being cut and the arts and humanities are especially vulnerable. While we respect the need for fiscal responsibility, we need to recognize that art instruction and writing ability are central to a comprehensive education.

What these young people are doing in their creative pursuits is vital to the direction of our country. Through discipline and verve, they have created new standards of excellence that will help America maintain preeminence in the arts and in culture internationally.

This country has always valued imagination and creativity. In fact, they are part of the legacy of the pioneers and immigrants who founded our nation. Human imagination - your imagination - is the fuel that will lead us into the next millennium. That imagination and your creative spirits must be allowed to guide us in our journey.

Thank you and congratulations to you all.

###

- Ask Katy who she takes to -

OFFICE OF SCHEDULING FOR THE FIRST LADY

DATE

ORGANIZATION/ EVENT	Alliance for Young Artists + Writers
DATE	June 15
LOCATION	Wash, DC
EVENT DESCRIPTION	Awards Nat'l Ceremony
STATUS	ACCEPT ☒ REGRET ☐ PENDING ☐ VIDEO ☐ LETTER ☐
CONTACT MV	Contact - Susan Ebersole (212) 343-6891
NOTES	We did video greeting last year - Should we do another? - include for June 11

[Handwritten signature]

ALLIANCE FOR YOUNG ARTISTS & WRITERS, INC.

THE SCHOLASTIC ART & WRITING AWARDS, FOUNDED 1923

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Sylvan Ebersole
Executive Director

April 15, 1996

Ms. Melanne Verveer
Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of The First Lady
The White House
OEEOB
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Ms. Verveer:

We were so grateful to you last year for facilitating The First Lady's participation in the national ceremony of The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards. Mrs. Clinton's warm greeting in her eloquent video taped message was the highlight of our June 17, 1995 awards ceremony. The Corcoran Gallery of Art hosted the event which was attended by 2,000 students from across the United States, their teachers, families, and friends.

The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards National Ceremony of 1996 will take place at the Constitution Hall on Saturday, June 15, from 4:00 - 6:30 p.m. Once again, we would be honored to have The First Lady's participation in this special event, and we would like to invite Mrs. Clinton to be an honorary speaker at the ceremony.

As last year, the ceremony for The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards will be a wonderful opportunity for the White House to support and recognize the outstanding artistic accomplishments of America's youth. The First Lady will bestow the highest recognition on America's most talented and creative young people. Sharing the stage with Mrs. Clinton will be two distinguished speakers representing the fields of art and literature.

For the students, who represent the mosaic of America's citizens, this is the first time many will have left their hometowns. The magnitude of this experience is exemplified by the efforts made by some of the awardees to attend the event. Service clubs, local businesses and other community organizations help students with travel expenses so that they may attend these events and receive -- in person -- the recognition they have earned. To be honored by The First Lady is more than any of these young people (or we) could hoped for. The White House's support of such an event would provide crucial visibility for the arts and arts education in our country.



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CELEBRATING THE CREATIVE SPIRIT
OF AMERICA'S YOUTH

Video June 15
Holly - we should have not contacted them - KT

Ms. Melanne Verveer

April 15, 1996

Page 2

To remind you of our background, The Alliance is a not-for-profit organization that administers The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards, the largest and longest-running recognition programs for secondary school students in this country. Our entry materials reach 12 million young people in 99% of American schools. The Awards are the only programs in the United States which encourage and reward student development in art and writing throughout their entire secondary school education (grades 7-12).

Annually, The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards screen 250,000 entries, and more than 50,000 students, from diverse cultural backgrounds, receive recognition in their local communities and participate in exhibitions and public readings of their works. The strongest works of regional awardees are forwarded into the national program. Every year more than 1,000 national recipients are awarded more than \$650,000 in scholarships, referrals to colleges and universities, and other honors.

Some of our nation's leading artistic and literary talents have been recognized, early in their endeavors, through The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards including: Joyce Carol Oates, Sylvia Plath, Philip Pearlstein, Richard Avedon, Robert Redford, Duane Michals, and Bernard Malamud. Jurors for this year's art and writing programs included: Philip Pearlstein, Emilio Cruz, Luisa Chase, Peter Lowe, Tim Rollins, Mei-Ling Hom, Byron Kim, Janet Neipris, James Reston, Jr., R. L. Stine, and Esmeralda Santiago.

I hope that the White House will look favorably on our request. The First Lady's participation will mean so much to all those involved with the Alliance and The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards and most especially to all the students whose talents will be acknowledged by a national audiences through The Scholastic Art and Writing Awards. If The First Lady's schedule does not permit her to attend this event, we would be pleased once again to have her video tape a message addressing The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards winners of 1996.

Enclosed please find a schedule of the events we have planned for June 15, 1996. I thank you, in advance, for your help.

Sincerely,



Susan Ebersole
Executive Director

ALLIANCE FOR YOUNG ARTISTS & WRITERS, INC.**The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards National Ceremony of 1996****The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards National Exhibition of 1996**

The Corcoran Gallery of Art, The Atrium

17th Street & New York Avenue, NW

June 8-July 8, 1996

List of activities for June 15, 1996:**Reading by The Scholastic Writing Awards Recipients**

The Library of Congress, Montpelier Room

101 Independence Avenue, S.E.

10:00-12:00 noon

1:00-3:00 p.m.

The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards Ceremony

Constitution Hall

18th & D Streets, NW

June 15, 1996

4:00-6:30 p.m.

The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards Reception

The Corcoran Gallery of Art, The Atrium

17th Street & New York Avenue, NW

June 15, 1996

6:30-8:30 p.m.

ALLIANCE FOR YOUNG ARTISTS & WRITERS, INC.

THE SCHOLASTIC ART & WRITING AWARDS, FOUNDED 1923

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Susan Ebersole
Executive Director

Suggested points for First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton for The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards National Ceremony at Constitution Hall, June 15, 1996

- ◆ Welcome to Washington, DC -- We are so pleased that you, the awardees of The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards, are being recognized at wonderful events here in the capitol -- including, the moving and delightful Reading by The Scholastic Writing Awards recipients held earlier today at The Library of Congress, and the superb national exhibition of 250 works by The Scholastic Art Awards recipients at The Corcoran Gallery of Art. And now I am pleased to be part of this national celebration of youth and creativity here at Constitution Hall.
- ◆ The 1000 young people honored here today have been chosen from 250,000 applicants, by a jury comprised of some of the most creative minds and eyes in this country. This year the jury included Madeleine L'Engle, Louisa Chase, Emilio Cruz, Lucille Clifton, Glen Ligon, Philip Pearlstein, Tama Janowitz, Bob Herbert, Yusef Komunyakaa, Esmeralda Santiago and Rudolfo Anaya.
- ◆ Awardees represent a microcosm of the United States -- you hail from Hawaii, Alaska, you come from rural areas in the Midwest, from suburbs, and from great towns and large cities.
- ◆ The arts are not a frill, in fact, creativity is a goal of education. What is exemplified in the prodigious accomplishments of these young people is the energy and imagination which will launch our country as a creative force in the next millennium.
- ◆ You, the Awardees of The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards are the creative young leaders of this generation. Those of you in the early stages of your secondary academic careers have several years to continue to concentrate on your talents. And those of you who are graduating will have exciting choices about the roads you will take and the role that creativity and the arts will play in your lives.
- ◆ The works here today are linked in aspiration with some of the most significant contributors to our American cultural legacy. Alumnus of The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards include: Philip Pearlstein; Joyce Carol Oates; Sylvia Plath; Andy Warhol; Red Grooms; Richard Avedon; Duane Michals; Truman Capote; Robert Redford; Joyce Maynard; and Bernard Malamud.
- ◆ Imagination and creativity are the attributes which set our nation apart on the international scene. We salute you for the originality, vision and voices you bring to American culture.





1996 Fact Sheet

- ♦ **The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards** -- administered since 1992 by the Alliance for Young Artists & Writers, Inc., a not-for-profit organization -- were founded in 1923 and serve young artists and writers enrolled in grades 7 through 12 in the United States. Through grassroots, volunteer efforts of educators, business people, community leaders, artists, writers, and arts professionals, the Alliance and its partners review **250,000** entries submitted to The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards each year. Program materials are seen by an estimated 12 million students and reach **99%** of America's public, private, and parochial schools. Currently, the Alliance offers **\$139,000** in direct awards and scholarships and nominates students for an additional **\$500,000** in scholarships to sixty participating institutions of higher learning.
- ♦ **The Awards are the largest and longest-running recognition programs** in the United States for visual arts and creative writing. The Awards will be celebrating their 75th anniversary in 1998.
- ♦ **In 1996, 14,000 works of art and 12,500 writing entries will be received in New York City** for inclusion in the national judging process of The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards. Annually, approximately 650 national awards in art and 350 national awards in writing are presented.
- ♦ **Graduating seniors may submit portfolios in art or writing and compete for ten cash grant scholarships of \$5,000 each.** These awards (four in art, one in photography and five in writing) may be applied to any school for any course of study. In addition, 100 school-specific scholarships which range from a half year's tuition to full four year scholarships are also available to students whose portfolios are selected through The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards jurying process.

Other national awards and recognition include: cash prizes, exhibition, and publication.

- ♦ **Gold Award winning works (approximately 225 pieces) will be included in The Scholastic Art Awards of 1996 National Exhibition to be hosted by the Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C.** The exhibition will be on display throughout the month of June. The Corcoran Gallery will host a reception for all national award recipients in this year's program of The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards. National award recipients in The Scholastic Writing Awards have the opportunity to read excerpts from their work at The Library of Congress.
- ♦ **Students from diverse cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds receive recognition through The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards.** Of the top ten portfolio award winners from The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards of 1995, three were of Cuban descent from Miami, two were of African-American descent, one was a recent immigrant from Poland, one was of first generation Philippine descent and three were of European-American descent. Students from all fifty states and from urban, suburban and rural areas participate.
- ♦ **Each year, America's most respected artists and writers take the time to serve on juries and recognize excellence in student art and writing.** Garrison Keillor, John Sloan, Eugene Speicher, Louise Bourgeois, Robert Henri, Romare Bearden, Toshkiu Takaazu, Tim Rollins, David Leavitt, Erma Bombeck, Katha Pollitt, Simon Schama, Joan Snyder, Emilio Cruz, Michael Goldberg, Edwin Schlossberg and many others have lent their expertise to the jurying process for The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards.
- ♦ **Past recipients of The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards include:** Joyce Carol Oates; Truman Capote; Bernard Malamud; Philip Pearlstein; Richard Avedon; and Robert Redford.
- ♦ **National Sponsors of The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards include:** Binney & Smith Inc.; The Hallmark Corporate Foundation; The New York Times; The Maurice R. Robinson Fund; Scholastic Inc.; Strathmore Paper Company; as well as numerous other corporations, foundations and individuals.

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ALLIANCE FOR YOUNG ARTISTS & WRITERS, INC.

THE SCHOLASTIC ART & WRITING AWARDS, FOUNDED 1923

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Executive Director

Mission

Alliance for Young Artists & Writers, Inc., a not-for-profit organization, serves students enrolled in secondary schools by encouraging and recognizing excellence in the visual arts and literary disciplines. The Alliance was established in 1994 to administer The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards (founded in 1923), the nation's largest and longest-running recognition programs for young artists and writers. Steeped in the belief that recognition is an important factor in fostering the voices and visions of young people who will become the next generation of artists, writers, and arts patrons, the Alliance is dedicated to: providing programming and resources in response to the needs of a broad national constituency which will continue to evolve into the next century; empowering arts educators by supporting and rewarding their classroom efforts; and cultivating creativity which is critical for the health and future of America's cultural heritage and economic vitality.

The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards of 1996

The Scholastic Writing Awards

- This year nearly **12,000 individual entries** and **1,400 portfolios** were included in the judging process for national honors in The Scholastic Writing Awards.
- From those submissions, **29 portfolios were selected as Portfolio Nominees** from which the **five \$5000 scholarship winners** were selected.
- In addition, 350 individual works were selected for national honors.

Judges for The Scholastic Writing Awards of 1996 included: Richard Schickel, critic, Time Magazine; Bob Herbert, columnist, The New York Times; Madeleine L'engle, novelist; Esmeralda Santiago, novelist; and R.L. Stine, *Goosebumps*.

While in high school, Joyce Carol Oates, Bernard Malamud, Richard Avedon, Truman Capote and Sylvia Plath, among others, were recognized through The Scholastic Writing Awards for their creative talents.

The Scholastic Art Awards

- This year nearly **14,000 individual entries** and **1,600 portfolios** were included in the judging process for national honors.
- From those submissions, **91 portfolios (art and photography) were selected as Portfolio Nominees** from which the **five \$5000 scholarship winners** (four art and one photography) were selected. All portfolio nominees are eligible for additional scholarship consideration at more than sixty participating colleges and universities that reward students who are recognized through the portfolio portion of The Scholastic Art Awards.
- In addition, 570 individual works were selected for national honors.

Judges for The Scholastic Art Awards of 1996 included: Philip Pearlstein, painter; Sarah Charlesworth, photographer; Mei-ling Hom, sculptor; and Louisa Chase, painter.

While in high school, Duane Michals, Philip Pearlstein, and Robert Redford, among others, were recognized through The Scholastic Art Awards for their creative talents.

The Corcoran Gallery of Art will host an exhibition of selected works from The Scholastic Art Awards from June 8 through July 8. On Saturday, June 15, 1996, The Library of Congress will host the winning students from The Scholastic Writing Awards who will be invited to read excerpts from their award-winning works. Also on that Saturday, all national award-winning students from The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards of 1996 will be saluted at an awards ceremony at Constitution Hall and a reception at The Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C.



The Scholastic Writing Awards of 1996

- This year nearly **12,000 individual entries** and **1,400 portfolios** were included in the judging process for national honors.
- From those submissions, **29 portfolios were selected as Portfolio Nominees** from which the **five \$5000 scholarship winners** were selected.
- In addition, 350 individual works were selected for national honors.
- In each category, up to ten Gold Awards were given in both grade groups (Group I = 7, 8, 9 grades; Group II = 10, 11, 12 grades) for a total of **140 Gold Awards**.
- And up to fifteen Silver Awards were given in each category in both grade groups for a total of **210 Silver Awards**.

Gold Awards are the highest awards presented on the national level. Silver Awards are the next level of recognition presented nationally. Both Gold and Silver Award winning student authors, their families and teachers are invited to attend The Scholastic Art & Writing National Awards Ceremony in Washington, D.C. on Saturday, June 15, 1996, and to read a brief excerpt of their work at an event hosted by the Library of Congress on that Saturday. All national award winning works can be considered for publication. Students will receive a copy of any publication(s) in which their work appears.

Judges for The Scholastic Writing Awards of 1996 included: Richard Schickel, critic, Time Magazine; Bob Herbert, columnist, The New York Times; Madeleine L'engle, novelist; Esmeralda Santiago, novelist; and R.L. Stine, *Goosebumps*.

While in high school, Joyce Carol Oates, Bernard Malamud, Richard Avedon, Truman Capote and Sylvia Plath, among others, were recognized through The Scholastic Writing Awards for their creative talents.

There are six sponsored regions of The Scholastic Writing Awards which administer local programs. Through these programs, many more young writers are able to receive recognition in their local communities. Finalist entries from these programs are forwarded to New York City for inclusion in the national judging process.

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The Scholastic Art Awards of 1996

- This year nearly **14,000 individual entries** and **1,600 portfolios** were included in the judging process for national honors.
- From those submissions, **91 portfolios (art and photography)** were selected as **Portfolio Nominees** from which the **five \$5000 scholarship winners** (four art and one photography) were selected. All portfolio nominees are eligible for additional scholarship consideration at more than sixty participating colleges and universities that reward students who are recognized through the portfolio portion of The Scholastic Art Awards.
- In addition, individual works were selected for national honors

Category	Gold	Silver
Painting	20	80
Drawing	20	80
Mixed Media	10	15
Printmaking	10	15
Sculpture	10	20
Photography	15	35
Computer Graphics	10	15
Video, Film and Animation	10	15
Environmental Design	10	15
Communication Arts and Graphic Design	10	15
Ceramics	10	20
Jewelry and Metalsmithing	10	20
Textile and Fiber Design	10	15
Hallmark Awards	65	

Hallmark Awards represent the most outstanding painting, drawing or mixed media work (as nominated by the Regional Sponsor) from each of the sixty-five sponsored regions of The Scholastic Art Awards. Each student artist will receive a \$100 from The Hallmark Corporate Foundation. Hallmark Award winners will be included in The Scholastic Art Awards National Exhibition. Hallmark Award winning works can be considered for publication. Students will receive a copy of any publication in which their work appears. Hallmark Award recipients, their families and teachers will be invited to attend The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards National Ceremony in Washington, D.C. on Saturday, June 15, 1996. Hallmark Award winning work might be held for up to two years for additional exhibition opportunities.

Gold Awards are the highest awards presented on the national level within each of individual categories. Gold Awards will be included in The Scholastic Art Awards National Exhibition at the Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C. Each Gold Award winning student will receive a \$100 cash award. Gold Award winning works can be considered for publication. Students will receive a copy of any publication in which their work appears. Gold Award recipients, their families and teachers will be invited to attend The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards National Ceremony in Washington, D.C. on Saturday, June 15, 1996. Gold Award winning work might be held for up to two years for additional exhibition opportunities.

Silver Awards are the next level of awards presented on the national level within each of individual categories. Silver Awards will **NOT** be included in The Scholastic Art Awards National Exhibition at the Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C. because of space limitations. Silver Award winning works can be considered for publication. Students will receive a copy of any publication in which their work appears. Silver Award recipients, their families and teachers will be invited to attend The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards National Ceremony in Washington, D.C. on Saturday, June 15, 1996.

Judges for The Scholastic Art Awards of 1996 included: Philip Pearlstein, painter; Sarah Charlesworth, photographer; Mei-ling Hom, sculptor; and Louisa Chase, painter.

While in high school, Duane Michals, Philip Pearlstein, and Robert Redford, among others, were recognized through The Scholastic Art Awards for their creative talents.

ALLIANCE FOR YOUNG ARTISTS & WRITERS, INC.

THE SCHOLASTIC ART & WRITING AWARDS, FOUNDED 1923

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THE SCHOLASTIC ART & WRITING AWARDS **HONORS CREATIVE STUDENTS FROM AROUND THE COUNTRY**

The nation's longest-running and largest student recognition programs of their kind recognize 1000 winners and ten \$5,000 scholarship students in Washington, D.C.

New York, NY—May 21, 1996—One thousand young artists and writers from schools throughout the nation will be honored for their achievements in the arts in Washington, D.C. on Saturday, June 15, 1996. The Alliance for Young Artists and Writers, Inc., a not-for-profit organization which administers The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards, is recognizing 1,000 winners from nearly 250,000 entries received from all 50 states during the past school year.

In addition, 10 high school seniors, five young artists and five writers, have been selected to receive the program's top honors for creating a portfolio of work showing promise of making a significant contribution to the arts. These Portfolio Award recipients will each be awarded a \$5,000 scholarship towards their secondary education. Their teachers will receive a Teacher's Portfolio Award and a \$1,000 cash grant.

"We are creating a context for young people to consider creativity as a way of life--becoming an artist, a designer, a writer or a communicator contributes to the greater good of our culture," states Susan Ebersole, Executive Director of The Alliance for Young Artists and Writers, Inc. "This program is so important and unique because it encourages the creativity of our secondary school students during the formative years for their development of artistic and literary expression."

More than 2,000 students, parents and teachers will gather in Washington, D.C. on June 15 for a day of ceremonies honoring the winners' creative achievements. Among the events will be a reading by The Scholastic Writing Awardees of their own work at The Library of Congress. The National Awards Ceremony will take place at Constitution Hall, where each student in attendance will be recognized by name. A reception will follow at The Corcoran Gallery of Art. The Scholastic Art Awards National Exhibition of 1996, containing 225 works of student art, will be on display at The Corcoran Gallery of Art from June 8 until July 8.



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CELEBRATING THE CREATIVE SPIRIT
OF AMERICA'S YOUTH

The 1995 Awards recipients join some of the nation's foremost artists and writers who received early recognition from The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards, among them, Bernard Malamud, Joyce Carol Oates, Richard Avedon, Red Grooms, Duane Michaels, Joyce Maynard, Phillip Pearlstein and Robert Redford.

The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards, founded in 1923 by Scholastic Inc., are the country's largest and longest-running recognition programs for secondary school students. The Awards are conducted by the Alliance for Young Artists & Writers, Inc., a not-for profit organization. Nearly 250,000 entries are submitted annually to local programs of The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards, like the regional program in New York City, across the United States. Each year, more than 1,000 young artists and writers are recognized on the national level for their creative achievement.

Judges for The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards of 1996 include novelist Madeleine L'engle, Time Magazine critic Richard Schickel, painter Philip Pearlstein, and photographer Sara Charlesworth.

The Alliance for Young Artists & Writers, Inc. is supported by Arthur Andersen & Co, SC; Alex. Brown & Sons, Incorporated; Binney & Smith, Inc.; J.M.R. Barker Foundation; The Chase Manhattan Bank; The Cooper Union Center for Design and Typography; General Electric Company; Goldman, Sachs & Co.; Harris Family Foundation; Richard A. Hadar; The Hallmark Corporate Foundation; The Alexander Julian Foundation for Aesthetic Understanding & Appreciation; David B. Lasater; Dwight E. Lee; The New York Times Company; PaceWildensteinMacGill; Parachute Press, Inc.; Penguin USA; Pocket Books; The Aaron M. Priest Literary Agency, Inc.; Quad/Graphics; Robinson-Morrill Fund; Rosenman & Colin, L.L.P.; The Maurice R. Robinson Fund, Inc.; Scholastic Inc.; Strathmore Paper Company; Texaco Foundation; Viacom Inc.; Warner Books Inc.; and by many other individuals, foundations and corporations.

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Susan Ebersole
Executive Director

MEDIA ALERT

TOP HONORS AWARDED TO THE NATION'S MOST TALENTED YOUNG ARTISTS AND WRITERS

Who: The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards of 1996, now in their 73rd year, administered by the not-for-profit Alliance for Young Artists and Writers.

What: A special reading by the award-winning student writers at The Library of Congress, followed by an awards ceremony at Constitution Hall recognizing 1,000 national winners of The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards. A reception will follow at The Corcoran Gallery of Art, the site of an exhibit showcasing more than 200 winning student art works judged to be the best by some of the country's most renowned painters, photographers, sculptors and computer graphic artists.

Where & When

Saturday, June 15, 1996

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| 10:30 am - 3:00 pm | Reading by The Scholastic Writing Awards winners
The Library of Congress, Montpelier Room
101 Independence Avenue, S.E. |
| 4:00 pm - 6:30 pm | Awards Ceremony
Constitution Hall
18th Street and D Street, N.W. |
| 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm | Reception
The Scholastic Art Awards National Exhibition of 1996
The Corcoran Gallery of Art
17th Street and New York Avenue, N.W.
*The exhibition will be on display from
June 8 - July 8, 1996 |

Press Contact:

Gabrielle Torello, Scholastic Inc.
(212) 343-6897

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The Santa Fe New Mexican

April 27, 1996, Saturday

SECTION: Local; Pg. B-3

LENGTH: 417 words

HEADLINE: White House ceremony honors N.M. art programs

BYLINE: Barbara Ferry/States News Service

BODY:

WASHINGTON First lady Hillary Rodham Clinton and actor Richard Dreyfuss were among the notables lauding New Mexico community arts programs at a White House ceremony Friday.

The ceremony recognized 109 federally funded programs that teach the arts to low-income kids. "This is to honor you who see promise in every child," the first lady said.

In a high-level plug for community arts programs for young people, a White House panel prepared a report documenting how such programs can foster creative enrichment and academic improvement. The report was released Friday afternoon at the White House by the first lady, Dreyfuss and Jane Alexander, chairwoman of the National Endowment for the Arts, among others.

The report, "Coming Up Taller," by the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities, says that "safe havens" of music, theater, dance and visual arts programs have proved "particularly potent" in stemming violence and drug abuse and in keeping students from dropping out of school.

But in a time when funding for the arts is targeted as an unnecessary frill by some, these kinds of programs are fighting for their survival.

"The nation that considers the arts expendable is in danger of becoming expendable itself," Dreyfuss said.

To drum up support for community arts, the President's Committee on the Arts and Humanities sought particularly innovative programs in cities around the country.

In Santa Fe, they found two programs worthy of national recognition. Santa Fe's Center for Contemporary Arts was highlighted for its teen-sponsored programs such as a low-rider car show and a theater group made up of former gang members.

Carlos Uribe, director of programs for teen-agers at the Center for Contemporary Arts in Santa Fe, is cited in the report for encouraging children to draw. "It doesn't have to be the greatest piece of artwork," he said. "You can throw it away as soon as you do it. But for the moment, you are ultimately free, and there's almost no place on this planet where you can experience that."

The White House also honored the Santa Fe Opera for its program training Native American children to write and perform their own opera.

The first lady did not let the occasion go by, though, without stumping for her husband. "This November's election will help decide which direction our country is going and whether we will continue to invest in arts and culture," she said.

The New York Times contributed to this article.

LOAD-DATE: April 29, 1996

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The New York Times

April 26, 1996, Friday, Late Edition - Final

SECTION: Section C; Page 3; Column 5; Weekend Desk

LENGTH: 556 words

HEADLINE: Arts Backed as Aid For Troubled Youths

BYLINE: Bp RALPH BLUMENTHAL

BODY:

In a high-level plug for community arts programs for young people, a White House panel has prepared a report documenting how such programs can foster creative enrichment and academic improvement. The report, "Coming Up Taller," by the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities, says that "safe havens" of music, theater, dance and visual arts programs have proved "particularly potent" in stemming violence and drug abuse and in keeping students from dropping out of school. It is to be ceremonially released this afternoon at the White House by Hillary Rodham Clinton, the actor Richard Dreyfuss and Jane Alexander, chairwoman of the National Endowment for the Arts, among others.

The committee reviewed 218 programs in 36 states and the District of Columbia, including a California program, "Sentenced to the Stage," in which juvenile offenders in the Los Angeles area joined drama and dance workshops as a condition of their probation, and a Manhattan media workshop, the Educational Video Center, where high school students shoot programs for their own show, "YO-TV." Not all programs in the country made the report.

The executive director of the committee, Ellen McCulloch-Lovell, called the report the first of its kind. "Nobody and certainly not a Presidential-level committee has ever taken 14 months to study what's happening on a community level," she said.

The report does not offer detailed evidence of just how the arts enhance learning, although it includes references to earlier studies. Rather, the report seems aimed at strengthening the programs and crediting those, from government officials to artists and volunteers, who have supported them -- and sometimes, as Ms. Lovell put it, "have gotten bashed for assaulting our values." Indeed, it allows some of the program directors to define their own programs.

Ms. Lovell said that the report drew on previous studies for the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities that found the arts playing a crucial part in children's educational development. The report cited "correlations between arts education and improvements in academic performance and standardized test scores, increases in student attendance and decreases in school dropout rates."

But she said that many of the programs themselves were so short of funds t'at they had not been able to study their own impact. "We need to do more research on why the programs work," Ms. Lovell said.

Among the examples in the report is a visual arts program started by artists in Birmingham, Ala., for children who were hanging around their art studios. In Somerville, Mass., a television director who met local youths began teaching them to document their neighborhood with video cameras. In Pittsburgh, the Manchester Craftsmen's Guild offers young people an apprenticeship training program in ceramics, computer imaging, drawing and photography; many of the participants go on to college.

Carlos Uribe, director of programs for teen-agers at the Center for Contemporary Arts in Santa Fe, N.M., is cited in the report for encouraging children to draw. "It doesn't have to be the greatest piece of artwork," he said. "You can throw it away as soon as you do it. But for the moment, you are ultimately free, and there's almost no place on this planet where you can experience that."

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: April 26, 1996

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AP Worldstream

October 06, 1995; Friday 03:54 Eastern Time

SECTION: International news

LENGTH: 551 words

HEADLINE: With Dinner and a Song, Clinton Honors Artists, Patrons, Writers

BYLINE: SANDRA SOBIERAJ

DATELINE: WASHINGTON

BODY:

Bob Hope will take a medal from the president, but President Clinton can keep the Oval Office.

"They asked me to be president, but I always told them the money wasn't right and besides, my wife wouldn't want to move to a smaller house," the comedian said as he arrived Thursday at the White House for an elegant dinner honoring him and 17 other recipients of the 1995 National Medal of the Arts and the Charles Frankel Prize in Humanities.

The president and first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton presented the awards earlier Thursday, to a group that also included poet Gwendolyn Brooks, opera singer Licia Albanese, painter and sculptor Roy Lichtenstein, and author and historian David McCullough.

"We must dare, as the artists and poets do, to break free of the past and create a better future, rooted in the values that never change," Clinton said as he opened the black-tie dinner with a toast.

Hope, 92, said he wasn't asked for his shtick, but would be ready if called.

"If I'm asked, I'm ready. I could always just talk about some of the presidents," cracked the frail comedian, adding that he was at the White House when Presidents Truman and Eisenhower were in office, and some 20 times since.

Violinist Pinchas Zuckerman and pianist Marc Neikrug performed, but were upstaged when Clinton took the piano bench and coached a military-band pianist through "Blue Moon Over Kentucky," while bluegrass musician William S. "Bill" Monroe crooned.

After an impromptu rendition of "God Bless America" by the president, Mrs. Clinton and all 17 award winners, Clinton, almost giddy, coaxed Hope into leading a sing-a-long of "Thanks for the Memories."

With federal arts subsidies under attack in the Republican-led Congress, talk among the dinner guests writers, dancers, musicians and museum directors sometimes turned political.

Playwright Tony Kushner, whose prize-winning "Angels in America" dramatized AIDS, love and life in the 1980s, worried that his first White House visit might be his last.

"If Bob Dole gets elected, I won't be able to come back. Either I wouldn't get invited or I wouldn't accept," said Kushner.

In all, Clinton honored 17 individuals and one organization for outstanding contributions to the nation's cultural life.

The 1995 National Medal of Arts recipients are: Albanese; Gwendolyn Brooks, poet; Gerald and Iris Cantor, art patrons; Ossie Davis and Ruby Dee, actors; David Diamond, composer; James Ingo Freed, architect; Bob Hope, entertainer; Lichtenstein; Arthur Mitchell, dancer and choreographer; Monroe, and Urban Gateways, an arts education organization in Chicago.

The Charles Frankel Prize, now in its seventh year, was named for the late Columbia University philosophy professor and assistant secretary of state for educational and cultural affairs.

The 1995 winners, selected by the National Endowment for the Humanities and honored for their scholarship or philanthropic leadership, are: William R. Ferris, scholar and director of the Center for the Study of Southern Culture, Oxford, Mississippi; Charles Kuralt, CBS correspondent and author; David Macaulay, author and illustrator; McCullough; and Bernice Johnson Reagon, performer, founder of Sweet Honey in the Rock, museum curator and historian.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: October 06, 1995

Copyright 1995 The Washington Post
The Washington Post

September 28, 1995, Thursday, Final Edition

SECTION: STYLE; Pg. C03

LENGTH: 574 words

HEADLINE: First Lady Defends NEA; Art Fellowships Presented at the White House

BYLINE: Jacqueline Trescott, Washington Post Staff Writer

BODY:

On the eve of the 30th anniversary of the National Endowment for the Arts, Hillary Rodham Clinton yesterday gave public funding for the arts and humanities a resounding endorsement.

Speaking from the East Room, Mrs. Clinton spoke of cultural richness and "individual expression" at the presentation of the NEA's annual National Heritage Fellowships. A dozen of the country's practitioners and innovators of traditional arts and crafts, such as ornamental ironwork and Navajo basket weaving, were honored.

"In these challenging times when some may seek to divide us, when some question the value of public support for the arts, we must remember art is not a frill or extravagance," Mrs. Clinton said. "Art is a vital part of our national character. Art in all its forms unites our people, for it speaks the common language of our intellect, our emotion and our spirit."

It was the first time in their 14-year history that the Heritage Awards were presented at the White House, a strong symbolic gesture of support for the strapped NEA. The arts agency has undergone a year of political attacks from Republican leaders on Capitol Hill, who called for killing the agency or stripping it down to the bare bones. And as negotiations over the new federal budget draw to a close, Congress has cut an unprecedented 40 percent of the NEA's funds. To survive, the agency is drawing up a major reorganization, including layoffs.

In addition to the budget cuts, Congress severely curtailed the distribution of individual grants. At one time even the Heritage Awards, which are based on citizen nominations and carry a one-time award of \$ 10,000, seemed to be on the chopping block, but they survived.

Hillary Clinton indicated she and other arts supporters were willing to continue the fight. "I hope we as a people can be inspired again to renew our faith in our government -- which is, after all, all of us -- and its commitment to the arts," she said, also disputing the critics' position that the arts serve mainly a privileged class.

"If public support for the arts disappears, those most affected will not be the richest

Americans but the millions of citizens who rely on the NEA to bring the arts to their local schools and communities," she said. "The artistic achievements we celebrate with these Heritage Fellowships are not the preserve of some cultural elite. It is born of the people, it is shared with the people and it is the people who honor these great artists today and every day when they bring pleasure, when they provoke and when they force us to ask questions about who we are and where we are going."

Those honored came from all every corner of America. The recipients are Bao Mo-Li of Flushing, N.Y., a Beijing-style opera performer; Mary Holiday Black of Mexican Hat, Utah, a basket weaver; Lyman Enloe of Lee's Summit, Mo., a master fiddler; Donny Golden of Brooklyn, an Irish step dancer; Wayne Henderson of Mouth of Wilson, Va., a guitarist and guitar maker; Bea Hensley of Spruce Pine, N.C., a blacksmith; Nathan Jackson of Ketchikan, Alaska, a woodcarver and metalsmith; Danongan Kalanduyan of San Francisco, a master of Filipino kulintang music; Robert Jr. Lockwood of Cleveland, a blues musician; Israel Cachao Lopez of Miami, a co-creator of the Afro-Cuban mambo; Nellie Star Boy Menard of Rosebud, S.D., a quiltmaker; and Buck Ramsey of Amarillo, Tex., a preserver and performer of cowboy culture.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: September 28, 1995

Copyright 1995 Star Tribune
Star Tribune

June 23, 1995, Metro Edition

SECTION: News; Pg. 21A

LENGTH: 715 words

HEADLINE: Take arts off the hit list - they belong to us all

BYLINE: Hillary Rodham Clinton

BODY:

This is an ominous time for those of us who care deeply about the arts in America.

A misguided, misinformed effort to eliminate public support for the arts not only threatens irrevocable damage to our cultural institutions but also to our sense of ourselves and what we stand for as a people.

One of the great successes of the arts in America is that they are not the preserve of any "cultural elite."

Through museums, libraries, schools, dance companies and concerts, the arts are truly part of the public domain, accessible to all and capable of encouraging every person's artistic expression and sensibility.

The National Endowment for the Arts, in partnership with individuals, corporations, foundations and other patrons of the arts, has helped transform whole communities by bringing the arts and artists to millions who otherwise might never have had the opportunity to explore firsthand our shared artistic heritage.

The president has shown that we can balance the budget over the next 10 years without undermining our commitment to the arts.

The NEA budget accounts for less than 0.02 percent of the federal budget.

Eliminating this small but vital agency would have grave consequences for local economies.

Federal support for the arts helps attract tourists, stimulate business, expand the tax base and improve the quality of life - a huge return on a small investment.

Despite a 30-year bipartisan commitment to the arts, there are those who argue that public support is a luxury we can no longer afford.

They mistakenly suggest that the arts are enjoyed only by a small, wealthy minority.

But if public support for the arts disappears, those most affected will not be the richest Americans but the millions of citizens who rely on the NEA to bring the arts to their local schools and communities.

I find it ironic that those who talk the loudest about America's loss of civility, character and values - particularly those arising from Western civilization - are often the first to recommend obliterating the agencies responsible for promoting arts programs that make Sophocles, Shakespeare, Mozart and O'Keeffe available to our children.

They fail to appreciate what every generation of Americans has intuitively known - that the artistic imagination is critical to our civilization and our democracy.

They forget the prescient words of John Adams: "I must study politics and war that my sons may have liberty to study mathematics and philosophy. My sons ought to study mathematics and philosophy . . . in order to give their children a right to study painting, poetry, music."

The power of the arts is not simply to provide pleasant esthetics but to help move us forward as a democracy.

Human expression, as conveyed through the arts, enables us to understand better the complexities of life and gives us a bridge to the world preceding and surrounding us.

Most important, exposure to our cultural traditions enriches the lives of our children.

Too often, we see children who, instead of discovering the joys of painting, music, sculpting or writing, express themselves through acts of frustration and even violence.

The arts offer an alternative to the more disturbing elements of our popular culture, and a safe haven that allows children to explore their creative potential, transporting them beyond the bounds of their difficult circumstances.

Their exposure to the roots and diverse richness of human civilization will enhance their understanding of their own heritage and the world in which they live.

Clearly our nation faces difficult choices. But as the rhetoric heats up over the role of government in our society, I hope we will remember that public support for the arts is a down payment on our future.

It is an investment in the values we claim to honor and in the cultural traditions in which democracy has flourished for 218 years.

Now is no time to turn our backs on that legacy or its promise.

Hillary Rodham Clinton is honorary chairwoman of the President's Committee on the Arts and Humanities. This article is adapted by the New York Times from her remarks at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in early June. GRAPHIC: Illustration

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: June 23, 1995

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*...I was very impressed by
the quality of the work....*

*I think the work represented a
sense of freedom and creative
expression — which is clearly an
American dream....*

*I felt I had been handed a
wonderful present: a whole new way
of looking at the world in a simply
told and poetic piece of writing....*

Celebration

*I was surprised to see some
good, thoughtful drawing
which emphasized visual inquiry
and discovery....*

*The poems made observations
which were insightful, astute
and open-eyed....*

*I felt many of them were being
given a good foundation —
they were learning to see, feel and
bringing the two together....*

*There were pieces dedicated to
other writers and pieces inspired by
their reading. I quite liked that!...*

*I came away recognizing the
promise of youth and the similarities
of different generations....*

*I wish I had written this story last
week, let alone during high school.*

*Encouragement is the key to
excellence. There is plenty of talent
in the world, however, it is those
with ambition and support who seem
most likely to succeed....*

PRESENTED TO
THE PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE
ON THE ARTS
AND THE HUMANITIES

& CRISIS

*What Artists and Writers
Are Saying About
the Arts and Creativity
in American Schools*

JUNE 1995

ALLIANCE FOR YOUNG ARTISTS & WRITERS, INC.

THE SCHOLASTIC ART & WRITING AWARDS, FOUNDED 1923

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Susan Ebersole
Executive Director

June 5, 1996

To: June Cshih
Office of The First Lady
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From: Susan Ebersole
Executive Director

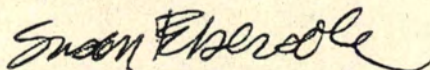
Fax: (202)456-5709

RE: The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards National Ceremony, June 15, 1996

Dear June:

As promised, here are some suggested points for The First Lady's speech. Please let me know if you have any questions or if we can be of further help. Thank you.

Sincerely yours,



Susan Ebersole
Executive Director



ALLIANCE FOR YOUNG ARTISTS & WRITERS, INC.
THE SCHOLASTIC ART & WRITING AWARDS, FOUNDED 1923



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SUSAN E. EBERSOLE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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Alliance for Young Artists & Writers, Inc.
Benefit Dinner and Auction
June 18, 1996

Alliance for Young Artists & Writers, Inc.
Benefit Dinner and Auction
June 18, 1996

Tables seat ten. Please list your guests or those
with whom you wish to be seated:

1

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The Corcoran Gallery of Art and The Library of Congress
in conjunction with the
Alliance for Young Artists & Writers, Inc.

cordially invite you to attend

a celebration of the national award winners from

THE SCHOLASTIC ART & WRITING AWARDS OF 1996

Alliance for Young Artists & Writers, Inc.
The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards
555 Broadway
New York, New York 10012
(212) 343-6890 (212) 343-6484 (fax)

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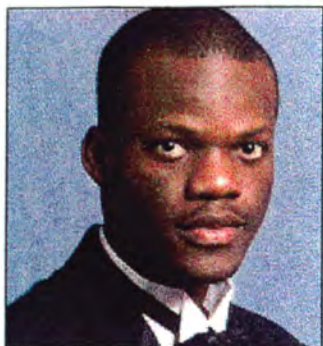


The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards of 1996

Saturday, June 15, 1996

Washington, D.C.

PROFILE



Joseph Mbeh

GRADE:
Twelfth Grade

SCHOOL:
Suitland High School Arts
Program, Forestville, MD

TEACHER:
Sherry Surratt

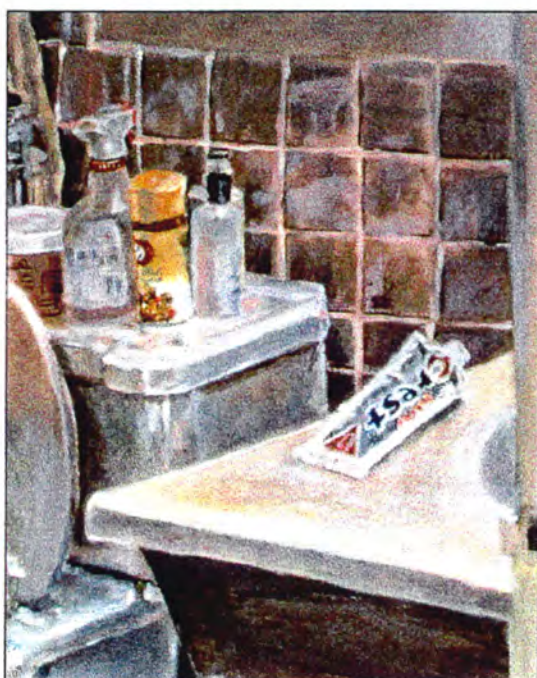
"Cartoons were my first artistic inspiration. At the age of eleven, I spent time each day drawing cartoons. That year I moved to America from my first home in Cameroon."

"Art is a journey that I go through every time that I pick up a brush."

"Through the guidance of my drawing teacher, I am able to see, feel, and give life to any artwork that I produce."

PRESS CONTACT:
Gabrielle Torello
Scholastic
(212) 343-6897

NATIONAL ART PORTFOLIO WINNER





THE SCHOLASTIC
ART & WRITING AWARDS
OF 1996

PROFILE



Phoebe Farag

GRADE:
Twelfth Grade

SCHOOL:
Hackensack High School
Hackensack, NJ

TEACHER:
Lisa Klein

"Being a Coptic Orthodox Egyptian has contributed greatly to my work as a writer. As the first generation of my family to grow up in America, I believe I must carry on the faith and the history of my ancestors....There are many untold stories that can be brought to light and be benefited from; I think my job is to find them and tell them."

PRESS CONTACT:
Gabrielle Torello
Scholastic
(212) 343-6897

NATIONAL WRITING PORTFOLIO WINNER

Through the Darkness

There, glimpsing through the branches
of a two-trunked tree
icicles configure
around its rim
it stands stationary
like a star
the wind and the ice
howling around it
unable
to penetrate the
powerful, glowing light
that exudes from it
and forms a halo around it
guiding and illuminating
the frosted, glistening snow
on the rooftops and the branches
the street lamp glimpses through.

"I composed this poem seated at the window in my bedroom in mid-winter, my paper illuminated only by the street lamp outside glowing through the falling snow."

*The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards is a program of
the Alliance for Young Artists & Writers, Inc., a not-for-profit organization*

PROFILE



Oi Pin Chan

GRADE:
Twelfth Grade

SCHOOL:
Abraham Lincoln High
School, Brooklyn, NY

TEACHER:
Howard Wallach

"I visited a McDonald's near my house at breakfast time each day for many weeks. I sat with the regulars, talked with them, and took pictures."

"I hope people will see the humanity of my 'breakfast club' subjects."

"In my pictures, I wanted to show the incredible mixture of people who live in Brooklyn."

PRESS CONTACT:
Gabrielle Torello
Scholastic
(212) 343-6897

NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY PORTFOLIO WINNER



PROFILE



Anand Desai

GRADE:
Twelfth Grade

SCHOOL:
Phillips Exeter Academy,
Exeter, NH

TEACHER:
Doug Rogers

"Two works which perhaps have had the most impact on my life, my thought, my love of language, and awe for the strength/power of the pen are Virginia Woolf's *To the Lighthouse* and T.S. Eliot's *The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock*. Woolf's genius and Eliot's intellectuality were inspiration for my writing, but also very humbling"

PRESS CONTACT:
Gabrielle Torello
Scholastic
(212) 343-6897

NATIONAL WRITING PORTFOLIO WINNER

Excerpt from "Conversation"

I sat at the white marble table that warm August evening, waiting for dinner, watching my grandmother. The smooth, thick smell of boiling lentils with bay leaves, the sizzling splashes of vegetables tossed into hot oil spilled out from the kitchen and filled my home like liquid. The gold bracelets on my grandmother's arms sang to the rhythm of her quick strokes, back and forth, back and forth, until a soft ball of dough was thin and round, ready to be cooked. She stirred cloves and cardamom into a pot of boiling rice until their flavors leaked out with the steam. Then my grandmother shut off the stove and walked to me slowly. I began to stand, saying to her that I would come around the counter to get my food, that she didn't need to carry the heavy plate and hot bowl. Saying that I knew

walking was hard for her, that it was all right. But she put her hand on my shoulder, and took the bowl and plate from my hands; her smile told me to sit down. I said thank you quietly to myself, knowing that we do not say that in my home. She turned around, and still smiling, she shook her head and waved her small index finger at me, back and forth, back and forth, telling me not to say thank you, telling me to leave formalities like that for strangers. I remembered that I saw her shake that same finger at everyone who entered our home, everyone whom she fed.

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THE SCHOLASTIC ART & WRITING AWARDS 1995

E.S. Moon

1.

*I know that I am not
a blackbird. I like warmth,
to choke on blankets in the
heat of sleep. All night
heavy birds swaggered
on dripping telephone
wires letting rain flood their beaks.
Even when I threw open the window,
to bring them fire
they just shook cold from their
feathers, and continued to drown,
dark eyes vacantly reflecting
the light from my room.*

2.

*E.S. Moon sits two rows
in front of me, black
hair lifted high off his head,
feathered and wild, like fighting
egrets. I see everything in
pieces through the hazy wilderness
of his matted webs, and I know
he hates perfection as much as I
do. At night, he slumps in a corner,
scissors in hand, and cuts the eyes
out of magazine models. He says
prettiness is ordinary, easily
understood—by measuring the slight
slope of noses, whiteness of smiles.
This girl would be beautiful if she
were born without eyes.*

3.

*The old women that live
beside the school chop wood
each morning, wear blueberry
nightgowns beneath their coats.
They've lost all angles, all definition
and move against the weather with
boneless grace. Cold falling
down on the roads, freezing the rains,
I drive, waiting to pass you somewhere
on the highway. You and I have
crooked noses. When winter comes,
we can hide in the dusty corners
of our bodies and sleep.*

ALLIANCE FOR YOUNG ARTISTS & WRITERS, INC.



555 BROADWAY, NEW YORK, NY 10012-3999
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SUSAN E. EBERSOLE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Washington, DC
Daily -- 837,041
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SCHOLASTIC ART & WRITING AWARDS

Painter Closes In on His Dream

*Inspired as a Young Man,
Bladensburg Artist Is Winning Awards*

By Lisa Frazier
Washington Post Staff Writer



Joseph Mbeh, left, a native of Cameroon, is a regular at Suitland High School's art studio. His talent has impressed his elders, including Ronald Johnston, coordinator for the visual and performing arts magnet school at Suitland.

The student, Joseph Mbeh, is smiling, now blushing. His art teacher, "Doc Thompson" he calls her, is hugging him, patting him on the back and lavishing praise on him.

Mbeh is sitting on a stool at a work station in the high school's art studio. His prize-winning artwork—an oil painting of his bathroom sink, medicine cabinet and counter, a charcoal-and-pencil portrait of his grandmother, a van Gogh-inspired oil painting of his boots, and more—is spread against a wall behind him. "Doc," whose real name is Carol Thompson, is standing next to the stool, peering proudly through wire-rimmed glasses at her young protégé.

"He lives it. He breathes it. He loves it," Thompson is saying about her student's passion for art. "There are so few kids who come along who you know are going to be artists."

Mbeh, the humble 18-year-old senior who seems almost uncomfortable with all the attention, is one of those students, said Thompson, who founded the visual arts magnet program at Suitland High School in 1989 and still teaches drawing there. This year alone, Mbeh has won two prestigious awards: an international scholarship valued at \$7,000 in U.S. currency from the Canada-based Elizabeth Greenshields art foundation in which he competed against artists up to 30 years old; and \$5,000 from the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards presented by the New York-based Alliance for Young Artists & Writers Inc.

Chuck Wentzel, program director for the Alliance, said about 20,000 young artists, including Mbeh, entered their portfolios in regional contests, and judges narrowed the field to 1,200 semifinalists, then 100 finalists and ultimately five winners. The judges looked for originality, consistency and the emergence of a distinct voice in the artwork, Wentzel said.

"The potential is clearly there for these young people to achieve as artists," Wentzel said of Mbeh and the other winners. "Our track record speaks pretty well in identifying emerging artists."

Mbeh also has won a scholarship package valued at about \$80,000 from the Maryland Institute College of Art in Baltimore, which could be used over four years if he chooses to attend college there after graduation from high school. And he has been accepted to his "dream school," Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art in Manhattan, but even with his scholarships, he is about \$20,000 short of the four-year room and board costs.

He has placed first in other local and national art and poster contests, and he has spent summers studying in some of the country's finest arts schools.

His talent aside, Mbeh's quiet determination sets him apart, those who know him say.

Proof of that is his mother's change of heart about his chosen field, they say. Initially reluctant to embrace her son's dreams of becoming an artist, she dreamed of raising a lawyer or doctor. But without realizing it, she encouraged his creativity by growing furious at him when she caught him tracing pictures from magazines.

"She told me to do my own thing and stop copying," he said. "From then on, I was determined."

The more she preached about all the talented but starving artists in the world, the harder he worked to make her believe that he won't be one of them. Considering what she and her son had lived through, however, that wasn't an easy sell.

Mbeh was 11 when he moved from a tiny village in Cameroon, in central Africa, to join his mother in the United States. He was about 4 when she fled a bad marriage to his father, a failed businessman, to seek a better life with her sister in Prince George's County. In the years after his mother left, Mbeh lived what he describes as a nomadic life in Cameroon, moving from his father's home, where he was not allowed to attend school, to live with a friend of his mother's, then with his grandfather.

"The first day that I got to my grandfather's house, he told me to sit down so he could have a word with me," Mbeh wrote in a brief story about his life. "He told me the benefits and values of education and that I must go to school. That is how my schooling began."

But his grandfather died in 1985. Mbeh was just 7, and the wandering began again. All the while, he longed for his mother, who was working feverishly to raise the money, complete the paperwork and convince Mbeh's father to allow him and his younger brother to relocate to the United States. About four years later, she succeeded in getting Mbeh, but not her younger son, who remains in Cameroon.

"I was excited after missing my mother for so long," Mbeh said. "It was like a dream, because in my country, America is like the land of opportunity. So when I was told I was coming here, it was great excitement."

When he arrived at the airport that summer, he spoke no English and wasn't even sure he could recognize the aunt who was waiting for him. He didn't, but she had no trouble picking out his frightened, lost face in the crowd.

"She came over and hugged me," he said. "It was kind of like the beginning of a dream."

Mbeh sees his life that way, as one big opportunity. Perhaps that is why he doesn't like to squander his free time, even lunch break at school, which he often spends painting. When a blizzard covered most of the region with more than two feet of snow in January, Mbeh didn't consider it a welcome break from school; he just set up his canvas and paints in the bathroom at home in Bladensburg and went to work.

He is the kind of student, for example, who would rather hear what he is doing wrong so that he can correct it than receive heaps of praise and miss out on a challenge. Once during his sophomore year at Suitland, he went to Thompson to ask why his work wasn't being entered in art contests.

"She kept saying, 'You're good, you're good,' but I was never entered in a contest. So I went to her and asked why," Mbeh said.

She told him the truth: He was talented, but he needed to trust himself more, stretch out, practice, and the recognition surely would come.

"After that, even though I was crushed, I made sure I didn't hear anything like that ever again," Mbeh said.

He is the kind of student who worries whether success is coming too quickly, whether all the people who are admiring his work now will still find it appealing in, say, 10 or 15 years.

"You kind of think about it," he said. "How long can you keep this up?"

But that just makes him work harder. He expects to earn about a 3.8 grade point average this semester.

"He is always coming asking for more and more," Thompson said. "Because he does that, he grows, and he is wonderfully open to accepting direction."

He is the kind of student who doesn't take credit for his own success. The list of people he wants to thank is as long as his list of awards:

The grandfather who first told him the value of education; the grandmother who cared for him in Cameroon; the mother who fought to give him a better life; Shirley Zachery, his teacher at William Wirt Middle School, the first to consider the cartoons he liked to sketch as art and the one who encouraged him to apply to the Suitland magnet program ("the best thing to happen to me," he said of her); her husband, John, who always makes sure he has a ride wherever he needs to go; the entire staff in the Suitland art program; Landover Christian Church, where he is a deacon ("I'm a church boy, so I just trust in God. I believe he has a plan for me," he said); and on and on.

"It's refreshing to work with someone who's extremely gifted and has the attitude he has," said Carmella Doty, chairwoman of the art department at Suitland.

As for his future, Mbeh said he believes there is no question where it will lead. "I think I give about 200 percent of my time and effort to my art," he said. "I have to. This is what I love. This is what I want to do with my life."

ALLIANCE FOR YOUNG ARTISTS & WRITERS, INC.

THE SCHOLASTIC ART & WRITING AWARDS, FOUNDED 1923

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THE ALLIANCE FOR YOUNG ARTISTS & WRITERS, INC. **HOSTS FIRST BENEFIT DINNER AND AUCTION AT CHRISTIES, NY**

New York, NY--May 21, 1996--On the evening of Tuesday, June 18, 1996, the Alliance for Young Artists & Writers will host its first benefit and auction to support its mission of celebrating and encouraging the creative achievements of American youth. The Alliance, a not-for-profit organization established in 1992, administers The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards, the nation's largest and longest-running recognition program for secondary school students.

The celebration will be held in the main gallery of Christie's, NY, where an exhibition of selected student works from The Scholastic Art Awards of 1995 will be on view. More than 250 guests, including many leaders of the arts, business, education and publishing communities are expected to attend. The event will start with a cocktail reception and silent auction, followed by a dinner and a live auction of contemporary artworks, manuscripts and first editions donated by 25 renown artists and writers who believe in the mission of the Alliance, among them Christo, William Wegman, Jenny Holtzer, Mel Bochner, Donald Sultan, Tim Rollins and KOS, Yvonne Jacquette and Joan Snyder. Meredith Vieira of ABC will host the event and Kathleen Guzman, President of Christies East, will serve as Auctioneer.

Honorees for this evening of festivities will be writer Terry McMillan; designer, philanthropist and Alliance Board member Alexander Julian; artist William Wegman; and Strathmore Paper Company, celebrating their sixty-year corporate sponsorship of the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards. Other attendees include designer Calvin Klein and artist Faith Ringgold.

The Honorary Committee for the event includes leading supporters of the arts, culture and arts education in this country representing the art world, motion picture and publishing industries, as well as corporate and philanthropic communities. Among the members of the Committee are: Maurice Berger, Alexander Bernstein, Ronald and Frayda Feldman, Molly Friedrich, Lukas and Cornelia Foss, Sid and Nancy Ganis, Richard Hadar, Charles Harris III, Alexander Julian, Kathleen Kennedy and Frank Marshall, Dwight Lee, Faith Ringgold, Frank Oppedisano, Quality Quinn Sharp, Mr. and Mrs. Leon Polsky and Sylvia Hewlett.



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OF AMERICA'S YOUTH

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ALLIANCE FOR YOUNG ARTISTS AND WRITERS **ANNOUNCES THE LEONARD BERNSTEIN PORTFOLIO AWARD**

*"...the best way to 'know' a thing is in the context of another discipline."
Leonard Bernstein*

New York, NY--May 27, 1996--Alliance for Young Artists & Writers, Inc., with the Leonard Bernstein Center for Education Through the Arts in Nashville, TN, is announcing The Leonard Bernstein Portfolio Award, recognizing a high school senior exemplary as an artist and scholar.

The Leonard Bernstein Portfolio Award will be offered through The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards. The first winner will be selected in the Spring of 1997 and will receive a \$5,000 scholarship to continue his or her education. The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards, founded in 1923 by Scholastic Inc., are the country's largest and longest-running recognition programs for secondary school students.

Folios submitted for The Leonard Bernstein Portfolio Award should contain an overarching metaphor explaining the learning journey of the student. Students are asked to document their goals as an artist and include their reflections on the creative process.

"The Leonard Bernstein Portfolio Award is designed to honor exceptional student work demonstrating the centrality of the arts to learning," states Alexander Bernstein, Chairman of the Board of the Leonard Bernstein Center for Education Through the Arts. "Leonard Bernstein was an artist, a scholar and a teacher. He personified the creative and interpretive artist who also excelled in scholarship. As a mentor to young artists and as a teacher, he sought to instill these qualities in young people."

"We are delighted to be collaborating with the Leonard Bernstein Center in offering The Leonard Bernstein Portfolio Award," says Susan Ebersole, Executive Director of Alliance for Young Artists & Writers. "We have found that this kind of recognition for a young person can be a transforming experience at a critical point in their life."

The Leonard Bernstein Portfolios will be evaluated by a committee of interdisciplinary artists, teachers and scholars through the Leonard Bernstein Center. They will look for organization, learning, meaning, expressivity, exemplification, and multiple perspectives.

The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards are conducted by the Alliance for Young Artists & Writers, Inc., a not-for profit organization. Nearly 250,000 entries are submitted annually to local programs of The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards across the United States. Each year, more than 1,000 young artists and writers are recognized on the national level for their creative achievement. In addition to the Leonard Bernstein Portfolio Award, 10 other national Portfolio Awards are granted, five to artists and five to writers.

Some of the nation's foremost artists and writers have received early recognition from The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards, among them, Bernard Malamud, Joyce Carol Oates, Richard Avedon, Red Grooms, Duane Michaels, Joyce Maynard, Phillip Pearlstein and Robert Redford.

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SCHOLASTIC
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Celebrating the Creative Spirit of America's Youth
Call for Entries 1996
The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards

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Animation, Environmental Design, Com

Drawing, Mixed Media, Printmaking, Sculpture, Photography, Computer Graphics, Video, Film and

Celebrating the Creative Spirit of America's Youth for Entries 1996

Faith Ringgold, author of *Tar Beach*,

the award-winning children's book, lives in



Key to Artists
and Writers featured

prelude, fugue & riffs

News for friends of Leonard Bernstein

Autumn 1995

Logodaedalist



Leonard and Burton Bernstein, 1946.

by Burton Bernstein

It is certainly not an intimate revelation — of the sort so fancied by my brother's many industrious biographers — to say that Lenny loved words every bit as much as he loved notes. But most people do not know that he was a hopeless logodaedalist. For that matter, most people do not know what "logodaedalist" means. It means, quite simply, one who is cunning in words —

or, as I more than a few times have wisecracked, a cunning linguist.

Just as notes played about in Lenny's head, so did words: English words, Latin words, Czech words, Fijian words, backward words, upside-down words, inside-out words — it didn't matter, as long as they were words. Words, like notes, were essentially great fun to play with, and having great fun was what Lenny liked best. Probably far too many of

his waking, working hours were taken up with wordplay: difficult British crossword puzzles (of the Eric Chalkley/APEX variety), lengthy postprandial sessions of his beloved cutthroat anagrams (in which it's everybody's turn all the time), and the more casual, spontaneous exercises of mental Jotto (regular Jotto but without the aid of a pencil and paper, only your memory and powers of deduction). Automobile, airplane (continued on page 5)

To Our Readers

Leonard Bernstein was one of those lucky people who did not make the distinction between work and play. Whether he was playing a piano sonata or a round of anagrams, his mind was fully engaged. He was having *fun* — a word he used to describe a broad spectrum of beloved activities, from roller coasters to syllogisms to a Bach fugue.

It's no accident that Mr. Bernstein spent so many of his waking hours (and many of his sleeping ones) solving tricky, British-style crossword puzzles. While appearing to engage the left side of the brain (the logical, analytical part of the intelligence), such puzzles actually "fool" the brain into freeing up its intuitive, creative right side — the side that makes the leaps and connections crucial to the solution of the puzzle.

Far from being a waste of time, this kind of mental aerobics was the perfect exercise for Leonard Bernstein's composing muscles. Similarly, a raucous after-dinner game of anagrams with family and friends, while not appearing to be an activity conducive to the quiet, contemplative composing hours that followed, was actually Mr. Bernstein's favorite way to limber up his synapses for the late-night work ahead.

See BETA Fund article on The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards on Page 2.

The BETA Fund

BETA Fund Supports Alliance for Young Artists and Writers

THE BETA FUND

The Bernstein Education Center Through the Arts (BETA) Fund is pleased to support the Alliance for Young Artists & Writers, Inc. The Alliance administers The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards, which were founded in 1923 and have become the longest-running and largest recognition program for student creativity in the nation. On June 17, 1995, more than one thousand Awards recipients, ages 12-19 and from all fifty states, were honored at The Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C. Ceremonies began at The Library of Congress with a reading by the Writing Awards recipients and culminated at the Corcoran where 1,600 Awards recipients, their families and teachers, were greeted by a videotaped message from First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, in which she called the Awardees "a microcosm of America's diverse, creative and cultural heritage."

This year's national Awards recipients were selected from a pool of more than 250,000 art and writing entries submitted in twenty categories, including: painting, photography, sculpture, computer graphics, fiction, poetry and playwriting. Judges for this year's program included such esteemed artists and writers as Philip Pearlstein (a former Awards recipient), Spalding Gray, Tama Janowitz, Esmerelda Santiago, James Reston, Jr., Fran

Leibowitz, and Emilio Cruz.

The Scholastic Awards program reaches into 99% of America's public, private and parochial schools, and the Alliance distributes more than \$500,000 in cash awards scholarships annually. Former winners include: Joyce Carol Oates, Sylvia Plath, Truman Capote, Bernard Malamud, Richard Avedon, Duane Michaels and Red Grooms.

With The Leonard Bernstein Center for Education Through the Arts and with underwriting from the BETA Fund, the Alliance sponsored and published a white paper entitled "Celebration & Crisis: What Artists and Writers Are Saying About the Arts and Creativity in American Schools," which was presented to The President's Committee on the Arts

and Humanities in June of this year. Based on the observations of 60 panelists who reviewed 30,000 student works of art and writing considered for the national awards in the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards program, the white paper codifies what these artists believe to be the issues for arts educators and policy makers to consider. The paper also offers insight into what young people are saying today, what art forms they are choosing to investigate and what resources they are employing to deliver their messages. Two papers, one by Dr. Maurice Berger, Senior Fellow, The Vera List Center for Art and Politics, New School for Social Research, and one by Dr. Dennie Palmer Wolf, Executive Director, Performance Assessment



Wilfredo Diaz, 18, and his award winning artwork.

Collaboratives for Education, Harvard School of Education, compose the report. Rita Dove, Poet Laureate of the United States (1993-95) contributed an eloquent introduction.

In keeping with the philosophy of the BETA Fund, the Alliance for Young Artists & Writers, Inc. is dedicated to the belief that recognition is an essential aspect in the development of the visions and voices of young artists and writers. Providing programming and resources, empowering arts educators and students, and cultivating creativity are all central to the Alliance's mission. Together their efforts build a context in which young people can come to understand that participation in and support of the arts in their lives serves to contribute to the greater good of our communities and to our nation's future.

For more information, contact Susan Ebersole, Executive Director, Alliance for Young Artists and Writers, Inc., 555 Broadway, New York, NY, 10012. (212) 343-6891.



Student winners of The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards.



PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE ON THE ARTS AND THE HUMANITIES

OCTOBER 1995

Chairman's Report

As this President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities (PCAH), appointed by President Clinton on September 21, 1994, completes its first year of operation, I want to report on several activities. Over the last twelve months, the President's Committee has met in plenary session five times while the several Working Groups we have organized to enable the Committee members to advance our objectives have met still more often. One group, for example, is researching the importance of arts and humanities education for youth; another group is developing strategies for cultural tourism; while yet another is exploring ways to increase private support for the arts and the humanities.

We expect to report on these and other initiatives at our next meeting on October 18, 1995. The meeting will be held in Washington, D.C. at the Nancy Hanks Center in the Old Post Office.



The President's Committee is studying possible new resources to finance the arts and the humanities in the United States and is generating information for policy makers on trends in private funding. We are making use of our open meetings and our publications to get research and ideas into the public forum. Members of the Committee, the Executive Director and I have addressed nearly 50 groups and conferences in the last year. We have spoken on government policy for cultural life; the importance of heritage; the political debate over the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Institute of Museum Services; the prospects for increased private sector support; and, of course, about the President's Committee, its purposes and projects.

With the agencies, we are developing a cultural tourism program for the October 1995 White House Conference on Travel and Tourism and cooperating with them on recommendations to the conference, which were released in a recent position paper on "Cultural Tourism in the United States."

At the White House Conference, the PCAH will issue a report, *Exploring America Through Its Culture*, which, buttressed by research, makes the case for cultural tourism. The report is being prepared through the generosity of the American Express Company in cooperation with the Japanese-American National Museum. The report finds that cultural tourists are motivated by history, heritage, popular culture and the arts. Such tourists are better educated, spend more, stay longer at their destinations and bring new revenues to America's unique cultural attractions.

The President's Committee is now exploring ways to measure the impact of arts and humanities education on other areas of student achievement. When the NEA recently released its report, *Schools, Communities, and the Arts: A Research Compendium*, the GE Fund, the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies and PCAH agreed to disseminate highlights of these findings on the effectiveness of arts education. The publication, intended for easy use by parents, teachers, administrators and policy makers, will be ready in October.

The President's Committee is also involved in another interagency partnership with the Food and Nutrition Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture involving young artists who will design the new posters for Food Stamp offices across the country. In August, USDA selected six visual arts organizations to work with young people to provide powerful designs that communicate a nutritional message: the Art Team in Los Angeles, California; the Albuquerque United Artists, New Mexico; Young Artists, Young Aspirations in New Orleans, Louisiana; Gallery 37 in Chicago, Illinois; Project ABLE in Poughkeepsie, New York; and the Cultural Council of Jacksonville, Florida.

These are just some of our many activities. You and I know, however, that we are operating in a climate of great uncertainty. While the House and Senate have passed the Interior Appropriations bills, and significant cuts to NEA, NEH and IMS appear certain, there are still many steps along the way before we know the dimensions of Federal support for cultural life in the United States. What is clear is that these agencies and the President's Committee will continue to exert as much leadership as possible. By keeping a national perspective on cultural heritage and development, by looking for creative approaches and by convening and convincing leaders to work together, we intend vigorously to make the case for sustaining the web of support for the humanities and for the arts from all sectors of American life: individual, corporate, foundation and government.

John Brademas

JOHN BRADEMAS

PRESIDENT'S
COMMITTEE
EXPLORES
FUNDING TRENDS,
BEGINS WORK
FOR 1996 REPORT
TO THE PRESIDENT

President Clinton directed the President's Committee to prepare an in-depth report examining the health of the nation's cultural sector and suggesting ways to enhance financial support for the humanities and for the arts. With calls for privatization of the Federal cultural agencies still ringing in the nation's capital, the Committee's task has taken on a new urgency.

The President, in his June letter to Chairman John Brademas, directed the President's Committee to address the following goals:

"First, in articulating the fundamental and intrinsic values of the arts and the humanities, the report should describe 'the cultural sector' and its contributions to American life — educational, economic and social — as well as indicate how cultural organizations further understanding among diverse groups in our society."

Second, because the mission of the President's Committee is to stimulate more involvement

(continued on page 4)

See Alliance article on 2nd page...

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Alliance for Young Artists and Writers Present Report to PCAH

At the June 27th, 1995, meeting of the President's Committee, the Alliance for Young Artists and Writers, Inc., represented by Alexander Bernstein, Susan Ebersole and David O'Fallon, presented *Celebration and Crisis: What Artists and Writers are Saying about the Arts and Creativity in American Schools*, a report on writing and visual arts in American classrooms. The report expressed the following concerns: "If the limitations of our nation's art students are indicative of broader problems in American social, educational, and cultural life, it is crucial that we not longer relegate one of our most important resources for learning to the backseat of education. To abandon our young in this area is to lose sight of the

reality that is they who will advance and protect our nation's intellectual and cultural legacy as we move into the twenty-first century." Despite these concerns, the report also found much to commend in students' work. *Celebration and Crisis* eloquently addresses the need to cultivate the creative process in American schools.

The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards, administered by the Alliance, promotes arts in education through its scholarships and referrals, enabling students to further their education in art and writing. Founded in 1923, it is the longest-running and largest creative recognition program in the United States. For copies of this report, and information about the Alliance, call 212/343-6892.



THE PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE
ON THE ARTS AND THE HUMANITIES
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NORWICH BULLETIN

Norwich, CT
Daily - 35,000
February 9, 1996

SCHOLASTIC ART & WRITING AWARDS

NFA arts take top state awards

By CARA MATTHEWS
Norwich Bulletin

NORWICH — As usual, Norwich Free Academy art students raked in commendations at the annual Connecticut Art Awards competition.

Students at the school say it's hard not to get caught up in the art program, with about 20 different classes offered and a museum on campus.

"I basically chose to come here because of the art program," said Steve Mykietyn, a senior from Canterbury who won a gold key award for a self-portrait drawing.

Just the atmosphere in the program makes art sink in, he said.

About 20 art students picked up 27 awards at the ceremony last month. About 425 prizes were awarded out of 1,200 entries in the competition, which is sponsored by the Connecticut Art Education Association and Scholastic Inc. Winning pieces from the state will be judged in a national competition.

Director of the Arts Frank Novack said teachers encourage students to develop their own styles. He said the school provides a life to vary



Carol Phelps/Norwich Bulletin

The NFA award winners. Front row from left, Matt Loux, Christina Soulas, Steven Mykietyn, Mike Johnson, Bryan Tyler. Second row from left, Kristina Mulholland, Amanda Magnano, Amy Tomlins, Andrea Simkowski, Kate Algieri and Melissa Bernard.

greatly.

"We try not to peg them," he said. "We push for quality."

Judges marveled at the sophistication of student Amy Tomlins' entry of a mixed-media collage egg-beater surrounded by newspaper clippings of O.J. Simpson, Novack said.

Tomlins, of Norwich, won one of five Hallmark awards in the state for a self-portrait collage and a gold key award for painting, mixed me-

dia and art portfolio. She placed in the printmaking group.

Christina Soulas of Bozrah, who also won a gold key for her art portfolio, said coming up with ideas and messages to get across through art is challenging.

"I used to fool around, but I never really had any interest (in art) before I came here," she said.

Soulas also won silver keys for a mixed media piece and a printmaking piece.

Senior Kristina Mulholland of Preston said some colleges don't offer the variety of courses at the school. She won a gold key for a textile and fiber design she made.

After spending a year making a pewter vase with copper flames hanging off it, senior Amanda Magnano of Norwich won a gold key in jewelry and metalsmithing. With the award came an honorary membership to the Society of Connecticut Crafts.

Other winners were Kate Algieri, Matt Loux, Michael Johnson, Bryan Tyler, Andrea Simkowski, Katie Martineau, Melissa Bernard, Ben Algieri, Michael Kilcollum, Jesse Glaude, Eric Klingman, Cindi Bertrand, Justin Gignac and Jason Cote.

WESTPORT NEWS

Westport, CT
2 Times / Week - 13,585
February 13, 1996

SCHOLASTIC ART & WRITING AWARDS

Local artist speaks at awards dinner

Westporter Alberta Cifolelli was guest speaker at the recent Scholastic Art Awards dinner at the University of Hartford. Ms. Cifolelli, a painter and professor of art, was a recipient of a National Scholastic Scholarship. Other past winners include Robert Redford, James Rosenquist, Andy Warhol, Robert Indiana, Richard Anuszkiewicz, Red Grooms and Philip Pearlstein.

Ms. Cifolelli's talk was titled "Being an Artist." In addition to the Connecticut award winners, attendees included The Connecticut Association of Art Educators, University of Hartford Art School faculty, Connecticut Association of Arts administrators, Connecticut Commission on the Arts and representatives from Scholastic Art Awards.

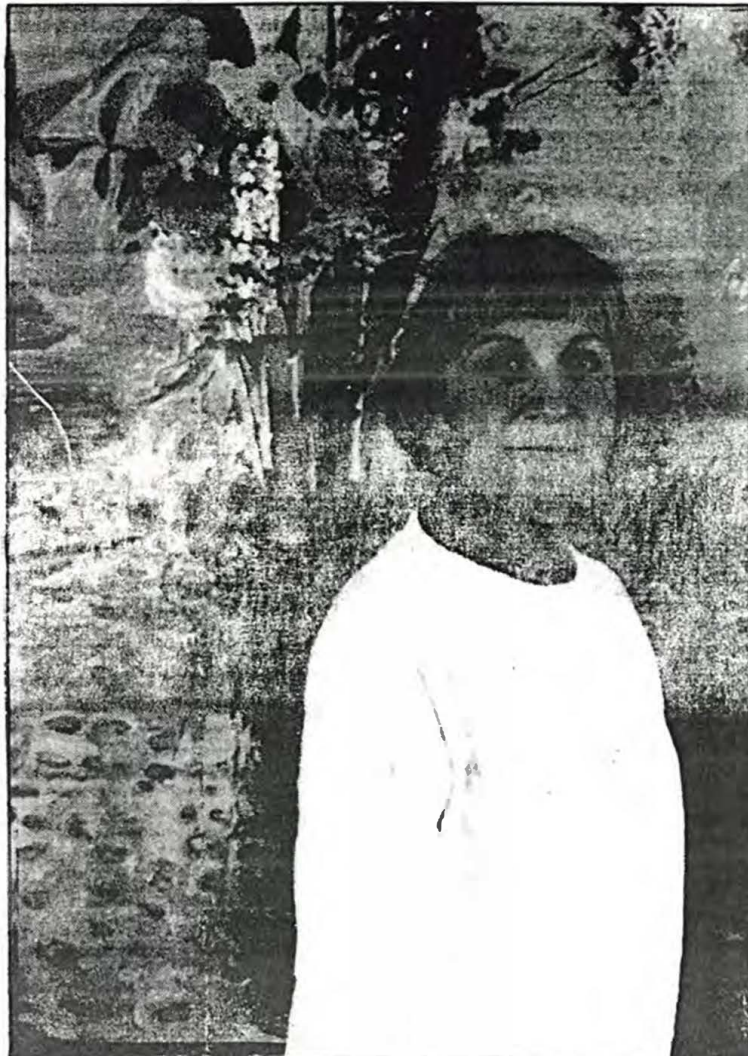
Ms. Cifolelli, who was introduced by Dr. Humphrey Tonkin, president of the University of Hartford talked about what it means to be an artist and what it takes to meet the challenges. Her remarks, which were directed at the young award winners, about to embark upon a career in art were based on some of her own experiences. Ms. Cifolelli stated what could be described as a 'boys' school

with an enrollment of 400 boys and 20 girls. She chose this over the comprehensive high school because the 'boys' school offered an art major with a respected teacher. In her speech she emphasized the importance of trusting your own instincts to get the education needed to be an artist.

Ms. Cifolelli also stated that the most essential thing to understand is the process of making art. "Understanding the process: the discipline;

the courage that it takes to make it; the self criticism; the loneliness and the triumph of success will bring integrity to all you do. This understanding is necessary if you make art, criticize it, sell it, curate it — whatever you find yourself doing."

Ms. Cifolelli has had more than 40 one-woman exhibitions and will show her work in an invitational exhibition at Gallery Brockton in Tokyo, Japan in March.



ALBERTA CIFOLELLI in front of one of her oil on canvas works.

— Contributed photo

AUBURN CITIZEN

Auburn, IL
Weekly - 1,600
February 15, 1996

SCHOLASTIC ART & WRITING AWARDS



Auburn High School senior Nancy Boskovitch is the recipient of a Hallmark Award from the Scholastic Art Awards of 1996 by Bank One in Springfield. Her artwork "Girl with Water Bottle" is on display through February 23 at the Bank One lobby in Springfield and will then be sent to New York for further judging. Amy Howard, AHS art teacher, is at left.

Boskovitch awarded top honor in art competition

Nancy Boskovitch, an Auburn High School senior, has been awarded a Hallmark Honor Award as part of the Scholastic Art Awards of 1996, sponsored by Bank One in Springfield.

Boskovitch's artwork, "Girl with Water Bottle" is on display until February 23 at the Bank One lobby in downtown Springfield. She was one of four student artists in the area to be awarded this honor, the highest

in the program. She received her award at a ceremony February 4.

After the exhibition at Bank One, Boskovitch's artwork will be transferred to New York for further judging. She will then be eligible to win one of five Hallmark Awards with a cash prize of \$100.

Her art teacher, Amy Howard, commented that for the next year, Boskovitch's art piece will be part of a traveling exhibition touring the United States.

MANCHESTER CRICKET

Manchester, MA
Weekly - 2,515
February 16, 1996

SCHOLASTIC ART & WRITING AWARDS

Bain Looks To Career In International Relations

The following article about local student Christina Bain was written by Tom Grelish of The Peabody Citizen and is reprinted here with his permission.

Christina Bain isn't sure where she'll hang her hat once she begins her career in a few years. But Bain does hope that her career path brings her to foreign lands: that's because the Bishop Fenwick senior hopes to work in the area of international relations.

"I definitely will be going into international relations," said Bain. "Maybe I can become the ambassador to France or work in the international business field. There are a lot of opportunities in the field and I'm really interested in it."

Bain, who has never missed making the honor roll at Fenwick, has already been accepted at Boston College and is awaiting word on her early acceptance application to Harvard, which is her top choice for college. She has also applied to Boston University, Columbia, Cornell, Smith and Barnard.

Bain's scholastic record at Fenwick is impressive. She devoured advanced placement history as a junior and this year is taking advanced placement courses in calculus, French and English, as well as honors-level classes in physics and government. All this while being exceptionally busy with extra-curricular activities.

Bain is on the state planning board of the Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership Foundation, chairs Fenwick's Students for Acting Responsibly chapter, is president of Fenwick's Amnesty International chapter, participates in the drama club, is a member of the school's cultural committee, and participates in plays at the Hammond Castle in Magnolia.

And let's not forget that Bain is a homeroom rep at Fenwick, has won the school's International Foreign Language Award, the Religious Academic Award, the French 4 Award, and was a Boston Herald Scholastic Award winner as a sophomore. She also played tennis for a season at Fenwick.

And there's more. Bain has been a member of Fenwick's math team for four years, is a member of the National Honor Society, works part-time at Casa Da Moda in Beverly, has worked as a guide for the Manchester Historical Society, was named winner of the Smith Book Award, and Bain is also an accomplished artist, working mostly with pencil and charcoal. Her art talent is so strong that Bain has won awards at the Boston Globe art show.

"I like doing cultural type things and I love history," said Bain. "That's why I'm involved with the Manchester Historical Society. And I enjoy working with Amnesty

International. I don't agree with all the organization's policies, but I don't think someone should be punished for their political views."

Maybe when she's an ambassador. Bain can do something to alter the international political mood. She certainly has the energy to do so and her ability to learn and grasp information speaks for itself.

VOICES SUNDAY - WEEKLY STAR

Newtown, CT
Weekly - 18,000
February 18, 1996

SCHOLASTIC ART & WRITING AWARDS



STUDENTS RECOGNIZED — Art students Jessica Lamourex (left), a junior, and Heather Springsteen, a senior, in Leeza Connor's (right) class at Nonnewaug High School in Woodbury, recently won awards in the Scholastic Art Award Art Show which took place January 14 to February 2 at the University of Hartford. Heather won a Gold Key for her print, which will be displayed at the National Scholastic's exhibit in SoHo in New York City. Jessica won an honorable mention for the print shown above. (Greene photo)

MILFORD DAILY NEWS

Milford, MA
Daily - 15,000
February 21, 1996

SCHOLASTIC ART & WRITING AWARDS

Franklin Students Are Art Scholars

FRANKLIN - Twelve Franklin High School students have received recognition in the 1996 Scholastic Art Awards Program which honors outstanding artistic efforts of individual students from grades seven to twelve.

This year's Franklin High School students receiving awards include five Gold Key winners sophomore, Cheryl Colantoni for her charcoal drawing still-life; juniors Kelly Casilio and Kelly Fitzgerald for their charcoal drawings of interiors of the school, Sara Casilio for her oil pastel drawing of her bedroom, and senior Nate Mulliken for his charcoal drawing of back-stage of the high school lecture hall.

In addition, seniors Jason Gillis, Nate Mulliken and Lara Varrochi had their portfolios nominated for scholarship consideration. Alisha Taylor, a freshman, received a silver key. Awarded honorable mentions for their work were eighth-

grader Michael Guerra, freshmen Sarah Baxter and Amelia Schroeder, junior Alicia Casilio and senior Jason Gillis. All are students of George Ratkevich, Doug Michaud and John MacPhee.

Gold key, silver key and portfolio nominee recipients were given their awards at ceremonies held last week in Boston at the State Transportation Building/City Place where the art work will be on exhibit through March 1.

In March, gold key award-winning work and nominated portfolios will be forwarded to New York for further judging. The National Scholastic Art Awards exhibition will be held in late spring at the Corcoran Museum in Washington, D.C.

The art awards were first given in 1927 and have been sponsored by the Boston Globe since 1946.

KNOXVILLE NEWS - SENTINEL

Knoxville, TN
Daily - 125,965
February 8, 1995

SCHOLASTIC ART & WRITING AWARDS



Judging the entries

Beauvais Lyons kneels among some of the 1,700-plus pieces of art entered in the Tennessee Scholastic Art Awards contest during judging Saturday.

J. Miles Cary/News-Sentinel staff

Awards presented

State group sponsors young artists' contest

Awards were presented Saturday to student artists from a 13-county area of East Tennessee.

The young artists are this year's honorees in the East Central Tennessee Scholastic Art Awards program, sponsored by the Tennessee Artists Association.

They received Certificates of Merit, Silver Keys or Gold Keys.

Winners of Gold Keys will compete at the national level. Finalists go to New York for national judging in March.

The 1995 East Central

Tennessee Regional Scholastic Art Awards exhibit features 195 artworks at the Candy Factory, World's Fair Park during the month of February.

Anderson County High School: Silver Key — Charles Alvis. Certificate of Merit — Charles Alvis and Christina Aube.

Central High School: Silver Key — Patricia Sand and Shannon Turner. Certificate of Merit — Susie Ellis, Adam Rowe, Patricia Sands and Shannon Turner. Fulton High School: Certificate of Merit — Keon Brown, Jason Kendall and Howard Montgomery. Gresham Middle School: Certificate of Merit — Shawn Dickerson and Hannah Long.

Halls High School: Gold Key — Trisha Brady, Scott Vance, Adrian Varnes and Andy Weldon. Silver Key — Trisha Brady, David Cotter, Tim Keller and Adrian

Varnes. Certificate of Merit — Michael Black, Trisha Brady, Eric Brown, Kacye Castenir, Stephanie Dyer and Rocky Holland, Autumn Little, Jamie McMahon, Jeremy Scates, Travis Tummel, Adrian Varnes and Sumer Wheeler. Halls Middle School: Silver Key — Anita Hatfield. Certificate of Merit — Annie Morton. Powell High School: Silver Key — Chris Smith and Courtney Spires. Certificate of Merit — Chris Smith, Courtney Spires, Shoshonah Taylor. Robertsville Junior High School: Gold Key — Adam Cofer and Philip Stevenson. Silver Key — Jason Goff. Certificate of Merit — Hunter Brown, Jessica Casteel, Leslie Maddox, Teri Montgomery, Ian Phillips, Andrea Thaler and Jim Watson.

Whittle Springs Middle School: Gold Key — Alicia Berry and J. D. Caldwell. Certificate of Merit — Mason Child, Tabitha Ramsey, Michelle Ray, Laura Underwood and Priscilla Valentine.

CAPEWAY NEWS

Middleboro, MA
Weekly - 60,582
February 14, 1995

SCHOLASTIC ART & WRITING AWARDS

MHS students receive Scholastic Art Awards

MIDDLEBORO — The Boston Globe Scholastic Art Awards for 1995 have been announced. "The quality of work this year was exceptional and the judges had to make many hard decisions," said Dr. John Michael Gray, Program Director. Students from Middleborough High School who have received awards this year are senior Becky Harr, a silver key for her textile and fiber design "Circles in Disguise"; and sophomore Karen Asmussen, a silver

key for her colored pencil illustrations of the children's book "The Moon." Receiving honorable mention were Joe Mills for his oil pastel self portrait and Kaisa Holloway for her pen and ink illustration of Shel Silverstein's "Eight Balloons". Other MHS students submitting work were Matthew Fletcher, Jon Verhaegen and Jacob Chartoff.

This program is the most prestigious one nationwide and recognizes

the visual arts of junior high and high school students. Each school throughout the state may submit only a limited number of entries and approximately 5000 entries are judged every year. Gold key winners work on the State level are sent to NY for the National Judging.

A reception for all winners was held Sunday, February 12 at the State Transportation Bldg. in Boston where the work was on exhibit.

PROVIDENCE JOURNAL BULLETIN

Providence, RI
Saturday - 188,932
February 18, 1995

SCHOLASTIC ART & WRITING AWARDS

IMPULSE: Five things to do this weekend

MASS
CONN R.I.

Rhode Island Scholastic Art Awards exhibition at the Providence Art Club, 11 Thomas St., Providence

For more things to do, see What's Happening, next page.

Go skating at Veterans Memorial Ice Rink on Phenix Ave., Cranston

The Northeast International Auto Show continues at the Rhode Island Convention Center, 1 Sabin St., Providence

1 Talent and fashion shows, readings and entertainment are part of *On Being Black*, a Black History Month event at the Masonic Temple, 883 Eddy St., Providence, today from 2-6 p.m. Admission is \$5. And the Rhode Island Black Heritage Society Heritage Weekend continues today from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Westin Hotel, West Exchange Street, Providence, with *Celebrating Our Roots of Diversity*. Included in the program are historical and ethnic exhibits, children's theater, entertainment and showing of the film *The Promised Land*. Tonight from 7 to 1 a.m. is the Black Heritage Ball and Dinner, with music by Just-Uz II featuring The Osbornes. Tickets are \$60.

2 Want to know what some of Rhode Island's most creative students have been up to lately? Check out the Rhode Island Scholastic Art Awards exhibition at the Providence Art Club, 11 Thomas St., Providence, from noon to 3 p.m. And while you're in the neighborhood, you could view the several exhibits at the Museum of Art, Rhode Island School of Design at 224 Benefit St., which is open from 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

3 Interested in cars? The Northeast International Auto Show continues at the Rhode Island Convention Center, 1 Sabin St., Providence, from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Admission is \$6 general; \$1 children 7-12; children under 7 free.

4 You can have a hot time, Louisiana-style, at Rhodes-on-the-Pawtuxet in Cranston at the 3rd annual Cajun & Zydeco Mardi Gras Ball. There's music and food and, if you want, costumes. Admission is \$25 at the door. The celebrating begins at 7:30. Supplying the music will be Cajun band Steye Riley and the Mamou Playboys, zydeco group C.J. Chenier & the Red Hot Louisiana, and Magnolia.

5 Despite the thaw, you can still go skating. Veterans Memorial Ice Rink on Phenix Ave., Cranston, from 2:30 to 3:40 p.m. Admission is \$3 general and \$2 children. Skate rentals are \$5.

COMMUNITY COURIER

Hershey, PA
Weekly - 185,000
February 22, 1995

SCHOLASTIC ART & WRITING AWARDS

LD Scholastic Art Winners

Art students in the Lower Dauphin (LD) Senior High School have been chosen scholastic arts certificate of merit winners.

Those winners are: Nancy McHose, Pete Laudermitch, Erin Finney, Sarah Wallenjack, Andrew Heilman, Jennifer Scheaffer, Erin Butz, Tina Schmitt, Molly Cope, Forrest Carlough, Stacey Weller, Brooke Lingle, Jessica Gamer, Michelle Kenney, Zachary Weber, Jordan Arnold, Debra Lingle, Dan Slabonik, Connie Seiders and Amanda Pearl. McHose, Laudermitch, Finney, Wallenjack, Schmitt, Cope, Weber, Arnold and Seiders are all members of Lower Dauphin's chapter of the National Art Honor Society.

The local art exhibit was displayed during the week of January 22 to 28 at the Hershey Library. Pieces that were chosen in the local exhibit were forwarded to Harrisburg for regional judging. The regional exhibit was displayed during the week of February 6 to 11 at Strawberry Square. Winners at the regional level received silver or gold keys. Gold key winners are then sent to New York City for national judging.

An award ceremony was held on Sunday, February 19, at the Forum in Harrisburg. All participating teachers as well as gold and silver key award winners were be invited. A reception was held following the ceremony at Strawberry Square.

Students Win Writing Awards

Several students from Hershey High School and Hershey Middle School have received awards in the Scholastic Writing Contest, a national contest for students in grades seven through twelve. They are as follows:

Students in grades seven to nine receiving Gold Key awards were: Nora Harris (Short Story), Jason Miller (Short Story), Karsten Grinderslev (Short, Short Story), Colleen MacLean (Poetry) and Lisa Venbrux (Essay).

Nicole Martin (Essay) won an award in the grades 10 to 12 division.

Students in grades seven to nine receiving Silver Key awards were: Nicole Dague (Short, Short Story), J.E.B. Fugate (Short, Short Story), Stephanie Palumbo (Short, Short Story), Lisa Venbrux (Short, Short Story), Daniel Spector (Science Fiction), Erin Gattens (Humor), Jen

Caputo (Poetry) and Matthew Purcell (Poetry).

Also, Charlotte Murray (Short Story), Melissa Martenis (Humor), Melissa Martenis (Essay), Lauren Moser (Essay), Greg Venbrux (Essay) and Ling-N Zou (Essay), won in the grades 10 to 12 division.

Students in grades seven to nine receiving Certificates of Merit were: Erin Gattens (Short Story), Karsten Grinderslev (Short, Short Story), Mark Mellstrup (Science Fiction), Mary Johnson (Poetry), Eric Stonfer (Poetry) and Craig Bauer (Essay).

Also, Bryan Parnell (Short Story), Christopher Gliot (Science Fiction), Nicole Martin (Humor), Hilary Faus (Poetry), Alpey, Culpán (Essay), Jennifer Eck (Essay), Dorothy Lami (Essay) and Lin Joyce (Essay), won in the grades 10 to 12 division.

LD Students Win Writing Awards

Central Pennsylvania Scholastic Writing Awards have been given to ten Lower Dauphin students for their essays, short stories and science fiction stories.

Students currently enrolled in grades seven to twelve in public or non-public schools in the United States, United States territories, United States sponsored schools abroad and Canada are eligible. Students are grouped in grades seven to nine and grades ten to twelve.

Following is a list of students who have been selected for local recognition. Gold and silver key winners will be judged regionally. Gold key win-

ners move on to national judging.

Gold key winner: Allison Harvey for short, short story.

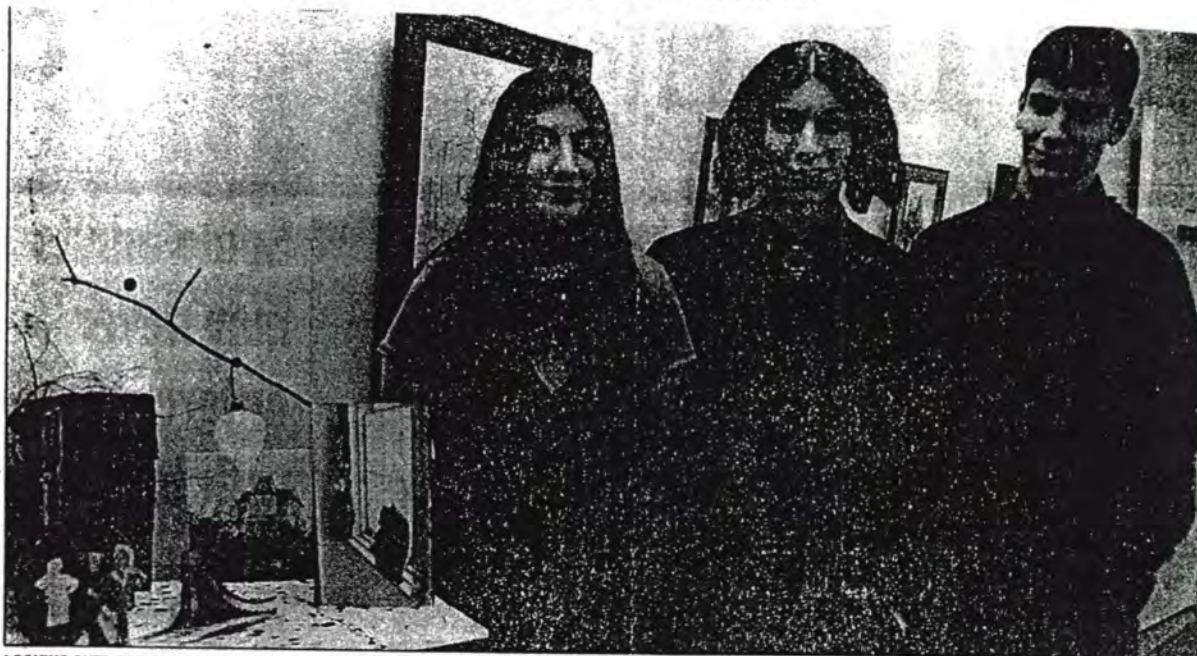
Silver key winners: Andre Behrens for short story, Jennifer Kenny for short story and Jonathan Raser for short story.

Certificate of merit winners: Emily Gifford for short story, Lori Kanckstedt for short story, Joanna Manders for essay, Andrew Nagel for science fiction, Amanda Pearl for short, short story and Emily Shertzer for short story.

Stories will be on exhibit until Sunday, February 26, at Strawberry Square in Harrisburg.

Albany, NY
Daily - 107,600
February 24, 1995

SCHOLASTIC ART & WRITING AWARDS



LOOKING OVER ARTWORK on display in the Questar III administration room during the first exhibition of student art work are Natalie, Raymond and Jonathan Russo, students at Maple Hill High School, Castleton.

Family shares flair for art and music

Call them unique, but also call them talented.

Sixteen-year-old Natalie Russo, a junior, and her 17-year-old brother, Raymond, both students at Maple Hill High School in Castleton, are moving up in the art world. Along with brother Jonathan, 16, Natalie's twin, an accomplished pianist and trumpet player, all gathered at reception in their honor at Questar III in Castleton.

Natalie, a photographer, and Raymond, who works in mixed media and makes jewelry, were both selected to have their artwork on display in the administration room of Questar III; the Rensselaer-Columbia-Greene Counties BOCES building on Schuurman Road in Castleton for the first student art show. When officials heard about Jonathan's musical talent, he was asked to accompany them with music at the reception.

The student art exhibit will be on display until March 15, when it will be moved to the conference gallery space at Schodack Park and stay up until May 9.

Constance Dodge, art teacher at Maple Hill High School, says Natalie's photographs are "extremely well-done." She began taking photography as a ninth-grader and has been working independently ever since.

Kathleen
Dooley



YOUNG LIFE

Most of the photos on exhibit were taken during a trip to Italy last summer. She used her father's Minolta SRT101 camera. "It's an old tugboat," Natalie said with a laugh. She calls the display an Italian trip-tch.

When Natalie, ready for more challenging work, brought her portfolio to Hudson Valley Community College in September, teachers put her in the Photography Level II class. Dodge said she was allowed to skip the first class because of the quality of her portfolio.

Natalie plans to major in advertising or fashion at college. Her work was also on display at the Hudson Valley Invitational for the past two years.

Raymond does figurative work and has his own approach, according to Dodge. His figures are reminiscent of Picasso images. His linocut monotype prints are one of a kind, she added. He has eight pieces on display, including a self-portrait in oils. He has been studying art for four

years at Maple Hill High School and plans to major in fine arts next year.

Raymond says he prefers to paint and make jewelry and likes oils, acrylics, pastels and clay. The 17-year-old is also taking a drawing class at Sage Junior College of Albany.

During high school, he received a Scholastic Gold Key award for three consecutive years for his artwork. He also completed a residency at Rensselaer County Council for the Arts in Troy and had work on display at the Broadway Gallery in Albany. He has also taken part in the Invitational High School Art Exhibition at Hudson Valley Community College.

This year he's painting a 34-by-8½-inch mural in the Maple Hill Middle School that is a monochromatic in bluetones with an international theme. It contains his versions of Stonehenge, the Taj Mahal, the Statue of Liberty, the Great Wall of China, the Sydney Opera House and other landmarks. Both he and his sister were exchange students in Italy last summer as part of Youth for Understanding and Rotary International programs.

Raymond has already been accepted by seven different colleges and plans to choose one. He looks forward to opening an art gallery or a restaurant someday.

Jonathan says he plays piano for his own enjoyment. He prefers classical and impressionistic music and learned keyboarding at age 7. He plays trumpet and is a member of the school band.

One of the highlights of his young musical career was playing for a "A Grand Time" at Proctor's Theatre last year with the Empire State Youth Orchestra and area pianists. Last summer, he was an exchange student for five weeks in the Czech Republic as part of Youth For Understanding exchange program. While there he studied with a professor from the Janacek Conservatory.

All three siblings have been involved in different lessons since a young age. "Our parents always encouraged us," said Raymond, although their father, Raymond Sr., says the artistic talent didn't come from either him or his wife. The father says he is a plumber, while mother Joan is a secretary, and they live in a typical suburban section of Castleton. All three also credit their teachers at Maple Hill for having encouraged them over the years.

MESSENGER (Syracuse Market Area)

Baldwinsville, NY
Weekly - 7,175
March 22, 1995

SCHOLASTIC ART & WRITING AWARDS



Barbi Touron, Steve Smith, Megan Gavin, Stacey Bell, Elisha Dellios, and Nicole Dellios all won gold keys in the scholastic art and photo competition. Missing from the photo are Kim Brenon and Scott Deyett.



Barbi Touron won a gold key with this photo.



Kim Brenon was awarded with a gold key for this photograph.



This piece by Zhao Qung Dong won an honorable mention award for painting.

Creative juices flow at Baker High School

Baker High School has announced this year's Scholastic Art/Photo winners. Judging was intense, with over 5,000 pieces entered.

Portfolio winners and gold key pieces are currently being judged in New York for additional honors and scholarships.

Baker High School did very well

this year, winning two portfolios; one by Stacey Bell in photography and one in art by Scott Deyett from OCM BOCES.

Nicole Dellios ceramics piece won the Syracuse Ceramics Guild Award for best ceramics and the MONY Award for best three dimensional piece.

Additional awards include six

gold keys, four silver keys, and 21 honorable mentions.

The gold key winners were Barbi Touron, Steve Smith, Megan Gavin, Stacey Bell, Elisha Dellios, Nicole Dellios, and Kim Brenon.

Silver keys went to Alan Davis, Robert Liadka, Felicia Rothman, and Kelly Thomas.

Honorable mention went to Noah Jacobsen, Joy Spatzuzi, Stacey Bell, Barbi Touron, Kara Sumner, Marc Pandozzi, Melanie Kastler, Tiffany Brzostek, Zhao Qung Dong, Claude Valdes, Ron Bush, Carrie Evans, Matt Osier, Megan Gavin, Jessica Rudy, Heather Holland, Amy Sharfstein, and Nicole Dellios.



Mr. Miller and Nicole Dellios are shown with her ceramics piece that won two awards in the scholastic art competition. This piece won the MONY award for best three dimensional piece and the Syracuse Ceramics Guild award for best ceramics.



This Elisha Dellios sculpture won a gold key award.



This photo by Stacey Bell won Honorable Mention.

FOND DU LAC REPORTER

Fond du Lac, WI
Daily - Sunday - 20,000
March 24, 1995

SCHOLASTIC ART & WRITING AWARDS

Springs students step onto the national art stage

By Paulette Kilmer
Of The Reporter Staff

Four students who have taken nearly every art course St. Mary's Springs High School offers will cap off their senior year by competing in a national art contest in New York City.

Ginger Casper, Genesis Floeter, Rachel Fox and Amy Zills won gold keys at the recent regional Scholastic Art Awards exhibition to advance to the national competition.

Pat Reiher, St. Mary's Springs art teacher for the past 12 years, pointed out "It's unusual for a school of our size to get four of 15 entries invited to the Scholastic Art Awards exhibition."

"The contests are highly competitive," Reiher said. "The students gain sophistication from participating."

Like football coaches hoping to sign up prom-

ising players, colleges send scouts to exhibitions because the rigorous selection process guarantees stellar work. Participation in juried shows looks impressive on resumes.

But while contests can open important doors for students, Reiher doesn't emphasize competition.

"Teaching them to make things strictly for shows limits their perspective," she said. "I want them to draw upon their imagination and feelings constantly. We develop thinking skills so they can see what makes good art."

Reiher continuously displays her students' work in the art department. She teaches her students to evaluate their peers' work and, thus, to understand what makes pieces magical.

"My classes teach them the visual and verbal language of art," she said. "Everybody's an art-

ist. Everybody has something to say. I urge them to solve creative problems. They may pursue beautiful, scary, intriguing, mournful solutions — and all be right."

"I'm very proud of these students," Reiher said. "They are great role models. Students grow each time they show their work. Their success tells the others you can go places with art."

The students readily returned Reiher's compliment.

"Mrs. Reiher really helps people," said Ginger Casper. "No way could we do what we do without her. She's an inspiration. You can see her love for art and students everyday, just the way she treats us."



"I urge (students) to solve creative problems. They may pursue beautiful, scary, intriguing, mournful solutions — and all be right."

— Pat Reiher,
St. Mary's Springs
High School art teacher

▲ Art is the tie that binds four St. Mary's Spring seniors who will be represented at a national exhibition in New York City this spring. Genesis Floeter, standing, works on a portrait while Rachel Fox and Ginger Casper combine their efforts on metal jewelry and Amy Zills, right, creates a multi-media sculpture.

Photos by Brian Fairbanks/ The Reporter

BALTIMORE SUN

Baltimore, MD
Daily - 38,633
April 27, 1995

SCHOLASTIC ARTS AND WRITING AWARDS

Epstein applauds 'flood-tide' of poetry

By Diane Scharper
Special to The Sun

A poet with a deep sense of drama and of place. Daniel Mark Epstein writes of the woman throwing her baby from a burning house on Cathedral Street, the man without legs rolling himself along Park Avenue, the jockey riding at Laurel: "I was light but held my horse's sides / between my legs like a vise, / broke fast and rode hard for the rails, / had my share of the winners but loved them all. / I was the horse's mind, he was my heart."

A resident of Baltimore, Mr. Epstein is excited about the poetry renaissance that is taking place here. As part of this rebirth, he will read his poetry at 7 p.m. tonight at Halcyon Gallery in Fells Point.

"All the readings, the raps and the slams indicate the present health of 'the spoken word,'" he says in an interview. "I remember Baltimore's literary renaissance of the 1970s. Then things got quiet, and the passion for poetry waned. It waned about as far as it could go. But now we are in the flood-tide."

Mr. Epstein's passion for poetry, however, has never waned. Winner of several awards — including the Robert Frost Prize, the Stephen Vincent Benet Prize and the Prix de Rome — Mr. Epstein was born a poet, or so it seems.

Born in 1948, he grew up in a Maryland suburb of Washington. From his mother, whose family came from the Eastern Shore, he inherited a sense of language, literature and poetry. From his Jewish father, who was of Lithuanian descent, he inherited a free spirit and a love of story. From both parents, he took a profound mysticism.

That mysticism is central to Mr. Epstein's poetry. It can be seen in his belief in a God who, as Mr. Epstein puts it, "is ever drawing like towards like and giving them the opportunities to get acquainted. We must learn how to recognize those



Daniel Mark Epstein

opportunities."

Something of a prodigy, Mr. Epstein always loved poetry. His mother read the classics to him, starting him on such poets as William Butler Yeats when he was very young. He began writing poems in the late '50s, when he was 10 or 11. In his early teens, he received two important poetry awards — one from Scholastic magazine, the other from The Lyric, a respected poetry journal.

Both of those awards, he says, pale in comparison with a letter he received at the age of 13 from Elliott Coleman, then director of the Johns Hopkins Writing Seminars. Mr. Coleman — poet and well-loved mentor to many writers, including John Barth, Russell Baker and A. R. Ammons — praised the young poet and encouraged him to continue writing.

Mr. Epstein did continue. He wrote six books of poetry, two plays, two critical studies and a biography. All of them have been well-received, with the *Sewanee Review* predicting that Mr. Epstein would become

POETRY READING

Who: Daniel Mark Epstein
Where: Halcyon Gallery, 909 Fell St.
When: 7 p.m. Thursday
Admission: \$4
Call: (410) 675-6870

one of the best poets of the century. His most recent book, the biography "Sister Aimee," was acclaimed by the *New York Times*.

"I write poetry to express my joy and my longing, to explain myself to myself," Mr. Epstein says. "Writing poems makes me most alive. It taxes all of my abilities and strengths."

It also takes five or six hours of writing a day, Mr. Epstein explains. Then comes the revision: He just finished a poem that had 50 drafts. It consisted of 28 lines and took three weeks to write.

Several of Mr. Epstein's poems address members of his family, describing the child afraid of thunder, the aged grandmother, the dying grandfather. Generally, though, Mr. Epstein's poems are not personal. Their subjects are literary and historical figures — including people from local history.

Some of the poems tell a story whose point is a larger meaning. "The Boy in the Well," the title poem of his forthcoming book, is about a boy who climbed into a well and was unable to get out. Someone had told him that he could see stars during the day if he looked from a pit dug deeply enough. The boy saw stars but lost everything else: "He doesn't know anymore if it's day or night. / By now the children have come home from school, / All but the bravest."

That poem, Mr. Epstein explains, is about soul-making and the risks people take to live full lives. "Life is a process of soul-making," he says. So is poetry.

ANCHORAGE DAILY NEWS

Anchorage, AK
Daily -- 76,488
April 29, 1995

SCHOLASTIC ART & WRITING AWARDS

NAMES & FACES

• The 1995 Alaska Scholastic Art Awards at the University of Alaska Anchorage Arts Building Gallery will present artwork in all media from junior and senior high school students throughout the state. Local artists include: Keetra Dixon of Chugiak High School, and Emily Hannigan, Jennifer Hayes, Ian Hively, Misty Tyson and Ching Ping Tseng of West High School.

• **Jolene Jones** of Anchorage has qualified for the college's Laureate Society by achieving at least a 3.75 grade-point average during fall semester 1994 at Whitworth College in Spokane, Wash. Jones is a graduate of Robert Service High School.

• **Linda Longacre** of Anchorage has qualified for the college's Laureate Society by achieving at least a 3.75 grade-point average during fall semester 1994 at Whitworth College. Longacre is a graduate of Robert Service High School.

• **Nathan Camp** of Glennallen has qualified for the college's Laureate Society by achieving at least a 3.75 grade-point average during fall semester 1994 at Whitworth College. Camp is a graduate of Glennallen School.

FAYETTEVILLE OBSERVER-TIMES

Fayetteville, NC
Saturday -- 80,511
May 6, 1995

SCHOLASTIC ART & WRITING AWARDS

By Jennifer Los

It has been an exciting time recently at the Fayetteville Academy, especially for two juniors.



Los

Her science-fiction piece, "Book-mice," is presently being reviewed for selection as this year's gold and silver awards for Scholastic Art and Writing Awards. More than 13,000 entries were received by this contest.

Another junior, Matt Locey, has been selected as a regional contest winner for the North Carolina

Malisa Myers received a letter announcing that she was one of 25 finalists in her category of a writing contest sponsored by the Alliance for Young Artists and Writers.

FAYETTEVILLE ACADEMY



Writing Award. His poem, entitled "Children of the Dawn," will advance to the state competition in October. This N.C. Writing Project's contest is sponsored by the N.C. Teacher's Association and the N.C. Writing Project.

The students of Fayetteville Academy weren't the only ones in the spotlight, however. Sarah Taylor, who teaches biology, ecology, and AP biology, has recently been

invited to a Congressional conference with visiting members of the Committee on Land-Grant Colleges of Agriculture. This public forum will be held April 24-25 at the Jane S. McKimmon Center on the campus of North Carolina State University at Raleigh to discuss the future of agriculture, food systems, and natural resources in North Carolina.

North Carolina is one of six states participating in part of a three-year study of Land-Grant Colleges of Agriculture. The conference, which will be structured for gaining the opinions and insights of visitors, hopes to aid the Board on Agriculture in its study.

■ On Saturday, April 8, The North Carolina Bandmasters Association Southeastern District Band Solo and Ensemble Festival was held at Pembroke State University. Congratulations to Jason Smucny for earning a superior rating on his clarinet solo.

NEW YORK TIMES

New York, NY
Daily -- 1,230,127
July 11, 1994

SCHOLASTIC ART & WRITING AWARDS



Some of the 14 members of the first graduating class at Wildcat Academy in Manhattan, an alternative high school, and their families celebrated after commencement ceremonies last month.

Wildcat Academy, Class of 1994

The first graduation at Wildcat Academy in Manhattan meant more than the success of 14 students. It vindicated a new program for young people who founder in New York City's mammoth, impersonal public high schools.

"None of these kids would have made it anywhere else," said Amalia V. Betanzos of the students who graduated last month. Ms. Betanzos, the school's founder, is a former Board of Education member who was appointed by Mayor Edward I. Koch and served until 1990.

She started the school in 1992 under a Board of Education program to organize borough academies, founding it through Wildcat Services, a nonprofit social-service agency she heads. Most of the 120 students in the school were truants elsewhere, said Ron Tabano, the headmaster.

Most Students Are Referred

A fourth are on probation or parole, a handful have asked guidance counselors to attend court hearings with them and one has testified before Congress on the dangers of guns.

The school is open to any high school student.

The graduates say their problems began when they felt lost in overcrowded schools whose guidance counselors and administrators did not know their names, an assessment their teachers agree with. "Before I came here I was just cutting out of school," said Jasmine Bruno, a 17-year-old graduate who was a chronic truant at Sheepshead Bay and Chelsea Technical high schools. "Nobody even knew it. Here, you try to cut out,

they don't tolerate it."

Unlike most city high schools, Wildcat contacts parents every time a student is late or absent. Excuses of late subway trains are investigated, and students sometimes arrive a few hours late to find their mothers waiting for them.

"They realize we care," Ms. Betanzos said. "We know if they are here or not, so they don't get so angry."

The school, on the sixth floor of a former paper warehouse at 161 Hudson Street, is organized like a detention center but run like a refuge from

An alternative high school in TriBeCa succeeds against the odds.

the street. Attendance is mandatory from 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. The only elevator stands across from the headmaster's office, and students trying to sneak in late up a flight of stairs find that alarms sound when the stairwell doors are opened.

But students say the open office doors of the school's five full-time teachers offer the most to the 85 percent attendance rate, higher than rates in other alternative degree programs, which average 77.3 percent.

"I know I could leave," said Ms. Bruno, who says she hopes to become a chef and open a restaurant. "But they make learning fun."

Sharon Romano, who teaches so-

cial studies and photojournalism, piqued students' interest with quiz-show formats and field trips to the Apollo Theater in Harlem. Gary Glebas, another teacher, calculates grades in dollar figures.

"Tests are worth \$100,000, quizzes \$25,000," he said. "If you become a millionaire, you get an A."

Students win Wildcat Academy jackets, hats, T-shirts and backpacks to reward high achievement. The prizes, bought with a grant from the Manhattan Institute, a research organization, foster school identity, Mr. Tabano said.

Perhaps the most unexpected success this year came when 10 art students won prizes in the Scholastic Magazine art competition for works in stained glass and wax.

"I was surprised it won," said Karen Guy of her stained-glass creation. Ms. Guy, who missed her graduation ceremony after giving birth to a boy, said she wants to go to college.

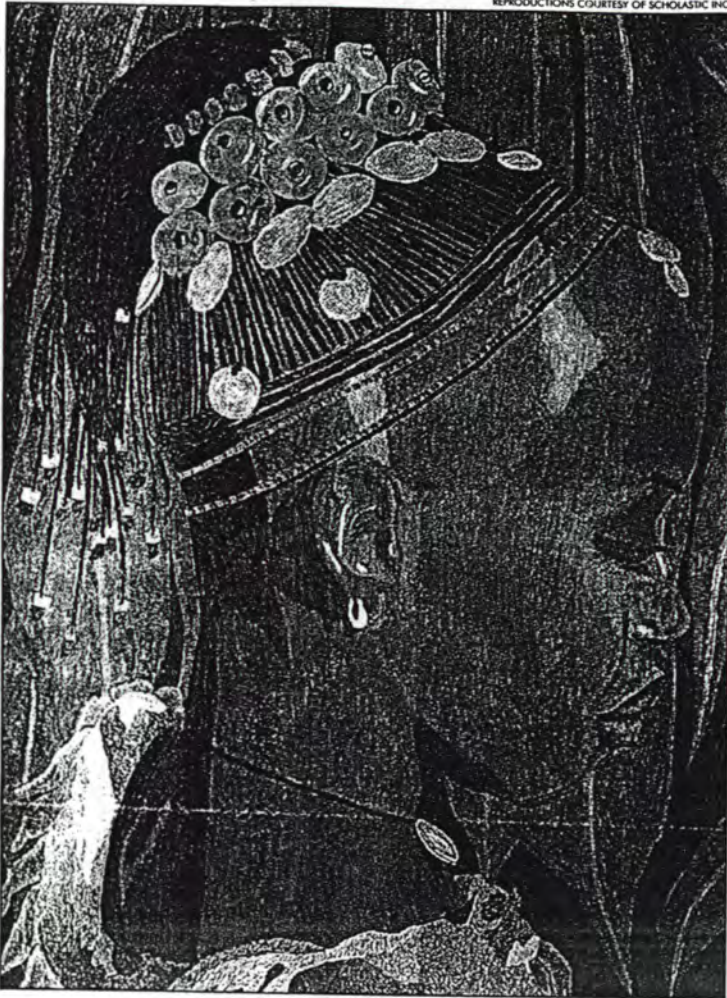
"Art is good because you don't have to come in with a great background," said Luba Koziolkowsky, the art teacher. "You don't have to read well or have great study habits. Art makes them stick with projects and helps them develop discipline."

Despite the school's success, how it will be financed next year remains unclear. The \$655,000 the school received from the city's Safe Streets, Safe City program budget was cut, and money must be found in the Board of Education budget, said Robert Terte, a board spokesman.

"We haven't seen the final budget figures," said John J. Ferrandino, executive director of the Division of High Schools. "But funding the school is a very high-priority item."

ARTS

REPRODUCTIONS COURTESY OF SCHOLASTIC INC.



AWARD-WINNING ARTWORK: Drawings by Renae Shows (above), a 14-year-old at West Jones high school in Laurel, Miss., and Ryan Bothwell (below), a 17-year-old at Carl Sandburg high school in Orland Park, Ill. This year the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards brought in more than 250,000 works from 6th- to 12th-graders across the United States. Over 50 institutions of higher learning contributed \$350,000 in scholarships.



Scholastic Awards Boost Confidence For Creative Kids

By Laurel Shaper Walters

Staff writer of The Christian Science Monitor

BOSTON

ERIC AKIL CARTER, a senior at Albert Einstein High School in Kensington, Md., used to call himself "the self-proclaimed greatest artist of all time."

Now that he is a National Portfolio Winner in the 1993 Scholastic Art Awards, Eric has an easier time convincing others that his artistic work is worthwhile.

"With the award, I don't have to prove anything to people; I get respect," Eric says.

Respect for creativity is the foundation of the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards.

The annual contest was established nearly 70 years ago by Maurice Robinson, founder of Scholastic Inc., which publishes classroom magazines.

"He was concerned that young people were getting a lot of accolades for athletics and not being rewarded for serious creative pursuits," says Susan Ebersole, director of the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards.

Some Scholastic award-winners have gone on to become well-known artists and writers. Sylvia Plath, Joyce Carole Oates, Truman Capote, and Richard Avedon were all Scholastic winners during their high school years.

"We want to validate the choice that some young people make to pursue a creative career," Ms. Ebersole says.

The Scholastic competition is one of the largest contests for student writers and artists in the United States.

"Scholastic is quite prestigious," says Oron Barnes, who teaches art at Albert Einstein High School and encouraged Carter to enter the contest. "It is very difficult to win because of the number of kids applying and the fact that you have to go through the regional competitions."

About 250,000 middle and high school students in all 50 states participated in 63 regional Scholastic competitions held this year. Local businesses and schools sponsor these events and host exhibitions of the winning entries.

The 15,000 regional winners go on to the national competition. About 750 students win cash or scholarships in this final competition, which is judged by curators, artists, writers, and educators.

More than \$90,000 worth of scholarships and cash prizes were awarded in about 20 categories.

This year, Scholastic introduced the

Portfolio Award for high school seniors. Ten awards were given to graduating students whose portfolios "show the promise to make a significant contribution to their chosen fields." The Portfolio Award includes a \$5,000 scholarship for tuition at college or art school.

But as Mr. Barnes points out, "when you are going to a school that costs \$20,000 a year, a \$5,000 scholarship isn't going to determine whether you go to that school or not."

To further help with tuition costs, Scholastic expects between \$350,000 and \$500,000 more in scholarships to be generated from the portfolio nominee program. The judges, among them novelist Tama Janowitz and poet Amy Clampitt, made 150 recommendations for scholarships at 50 participating art schools and universities.

Scholastic matches participating schools with competitors who have been accepted by those schools and makes recommendations for scholarships.

Rebecca Hirschfield, a senior at Hunter College High School in New York City, received word that she had won a Writing Portfolio Award two days after she got college acceptance and rejection letters in the mail.

"This came at an important time for me," she says. "It made me feel that at least some aspect of me was worthy of recognition."

The award may also help Hirschfield convince her first-choice college to move her off the waiting list. She and Scholastic have both sent the college letters letting them know about the award.

Beyond the help she may get in gaining admittance to college, Hirschfield says it feels good to know that her writing appeals to "total strangers." The award also helped solidify her decision to pursue a writing career.

"If you never get recognition for your work, you're much more likely to decide that you don't really have a chance in the oh-so-competitive world of creative writing," she says.

Julie Robbins, a senior at Breckenridge High School in Breckenridge, Texas, won a Writing Portfolio Award for her poetry. She plans to use her scholarship to attend Southwestern University in Georgetown, Texas.

"It just floors me that people like my stuff," Julie says. "The award made me feel a lot more confident as a writer. I thought for a long time that this [writing] would pretty much just be for me. But it's becoming a little more tangible now to think about it as a career."

'We want to validate the choice that some young people make to pursue a creative career.'

- Susan Ebersole, director of Scholastic awards

On Exhibit

MUSEUMS • ART SPACES • GALLERIES

The Washington Post

June 24, 1997

Art Shows' Ageless Talents

By Hank Burchard

SHAME ON US for being so slow to notice the shockingly good scholastic art show at the Corcoran. This weekend is your last chance to see it.

We put off going because we thought, oh, wow, high-school art-class stuff, and waited till we went to see the new old-folks art show there (more about that in a minute).

Oh! Wow! These kids are terrific. If you didn't know that these drawings, paintings, sculptures, ceramics, textiles, photographs and craftworks had been done by junior and senior high-school students, little except their freshness and exuberance would clue you in.

The show ought to scare the hell out of just about any professional artist. The kids are that good. How good? Well, most of the 225 works in this show are better than most of what you're likely to see in any major contemporary art gallery. The youngsters' work is not only more original and interesting, it's better crafted. Our schools may be going to pot, but there obviously still are plenty of fine art teachers.

It's hard to imagine a tougher test than the one these young artists passed. Getting accepted to the typical professional juried show is a piece of cake compared to surviving selection from 15,000 school entries. It is cruel hard to single out a few of the works, because we must slight a score of talented and disciplined kids for each one mentioned, but keep an eye out for:

"Quest for Identity," a haunting but hopeful ceramic self-portrait by Nii-Ama Akwete, 16, of Groton (Conn.) School;

"Metamorphosis," a triptych drawing of the inner, outer and actual athlete by Graham Allen, 15, of Charlotte (N.C.) Country Day School;

"Waiting," an enigmatic and riveting portrait by Jason Allen, 16, of Milwaukee;

"Torn Away," a portrait symbolic of the loss of both a child and one's childhood, by Roman Carpenter, 17, of Dobyns Bennett High, Kingsport, Tenn.;

"Work in Progress," a Durer/Escher-evoking drawing by Candice Dangerfield, 16, of Elyria (Ohio) High;

"Catty Wampus," a laugh-you-to-sleep quilt by Chance Nussel, 17, of Pinckneyville (Ill.) High;

"Rain a Heroine," a cool, crazy and concupiscent comic by Scott Ruhl, 15, of Alan B. Shepard High, Palos Heights, Ill.;

"Anger," a parent's-nightmare painting by Surry Schlabs, 17, of Ramstein (Germany) American School;

And a festive vest made of candy wrappers with pull-tab buttons by Yukuri Takano, 17, of Superior (Wis.) High.

For a handy quality comparison, after the scholastic show, schlep across the Corcoran to the Hemicycle Gallery, where stands assembled the cream of Art Sites', works by 10 contemporary artists selected from exhibitions at the Washington Project for the Arts, Arlington Arts Center, Greater Reston Arts Center, McLean Project for the Arts and Rockville Arts Place. We bet you'll find the scholastic show far more memorable, with the conspicuous exception of "Vessel Series: Crucible" (1993), an elegant and intimidating sculpture of prison-grade chain-link fencing by John Ruppert of Baltimore.

Happily, to get to the Hemicycle Gallery, you'll first have to go through "Still Working," a semi-knockout exhibition of recent works by 32 "underappreciated" American artists ages 60 to 98. The show was assembled by Stuart Shadelky, a teacher at the Parsons School of

Design in New York. He's a painter who had enjoyed considerable success but, as he was rising 40, found himself fading from the art scene.

"I discovered that although I believed myself to be a young artist, I was seen to be too old for a youth-driven art world," Shadelky says in the exhibition catalogue. "My track record had become a deficit in a community more interested in neway firsts than developed vision."

Now (gasp!) 50, Shadelky has spent the last several years combing the country of the young for artists of age. He found plenty of them still hard at work after as many as seven decades. Some had been youthful phenoms who fell out of fashion; others have always chosen to work outside the mainstream of art, dominated as it is by commercial crassness, backbiting/backscratching grantsmanship, patronizing patrons, media madness and the whims of whichever critics happen to be hot at the moment.

Most aging artists, like most tyros, dwell in richly deserved obscurity, including some of those in this show. The test of the marketplace may often be cruel and unfair, but in the long run it's the only valid one: If your stuff is really good, it probably will sell, perhaps even before you die. (A lot of trash sells too, but eventually it fails to resell, as collectors come to their senses.) But some of the artists in this show are so good it's hard not to shed a tear over what we've been missing:

Jack Boul, 67, of Bethesda, didn't hear the bell when the Barbizon School let out. Stuck solidly but not stolidly in the 19th century, he paints small, exquisite landscapes according to how a scene first impresses him, "when the eyes are half-open, before the details get in the way." All of his works are vaguely familiar, not because we've seen similar paintings but because we've seen similar scenes.

Hans Burkhardt, who died at 90 a few months ago, once shared a studio with Arshile Gorky, and hung out with people like Mark Tobey and Raphael Soyer, but his dark and dense mixed-media landscapes suggest he spent a lot of gloomy winters in his native Swiss Alps before he settled in sunny California in 1937. If Burkhardt went to the heaven his crucifixioned canvases foreshadow, they surely waved him straight through the gates.

Sherman Drexler, 69, finds nudes hidden in the surfaces of rocks and concrete blocks he scrounges around Newark, N.J., and paints them for the rest of us to see. But his assemblages—the one in the show has 65 sections—never seem to find the unity his long study and effort would lead one to expect. Perseverance may be its own reward.

Frederick Hamnersley, 75, on the other hand, paints colorful abstracts that by themselves seem to be somewhat strained examples of "Los Angeles Abstract Classicism."



The old: Olli Sihvonen's "Addendum" (1990), painted when he was 69.

But here, with 16 arrayed together, there appears a wholeness infinitely greater than the parts.

Charles McGee, 70, a professor emeritus of Eastern Michigan University, is such a fine craftsman it injures his work. "Noah's Ark Series: Ecosystem" (1994), is so beautifully made from polychromed aluminum that the eye cannot resist focusing on its jewel-like details, so that his statement becomes a babble of lovely elements.

Michele Russo, 85, who says he was born "somewhere back East," fought his way through the Great Depression with the Old Left radicals. He's been in Portland, Ore., home of the Limp Left, since 1947, still fighting for causes, and currently is painting a senescent series called "Mockeries and Ecstasies on a Chaotic Theme." It amuses Russo that his feminist purpose is continually misunderstood: it will amaze many that his canvases absolutely pulse with sexual passion.

David Shiva, 80, of New York City, probably still is best known for his death mask of friend Dylan

Thomas (1914-53), but has developed half a dozen different disciplines since his early bronze portraits. His "Mangrove" (1994) is not only an eye-entrancing abstract whirl of wonderfully crafted peeled branches and rope, it's so evocative of the entanglements of a mangrove thicker than anyone who's ever fought through one is likely to start sweating and scratching.

What's most striking overall about this show is the youthful energy of the artists. Just as the scholastic show belies the youth of its creators, this one defies the age of its artists. One comes away from the Corcoran wondering, if our children and our elders are so creative, why is there such a muddle in the middle?

THE SCHOLASTIC ARTS NATIONAL EXHIBITION — Through Monday, ART SITES' — Through July 2.

STILL WORKING — Through Aug. 22, at the Corcoran Gallery of Art, 17th Street and New York Avenue NW, 202/638-3211. Open 10 to 5 every day but Tuesday, 10 to 4 on Thursdays. Suggested donation: adults \$3, students and seniors \$1, family \$5. Metro: Farragut West. Wheelchair accessible.



The young: "Anger," by 17-year-old Surry Schlabs.

Turned On at the Corcoran

June 2, 1995 — *The Washington Post*

SEX DREAMS could turn to nightmares under the influence of an oddly exhilarating exhibit at the Corcoran. The museum's Hemicycle Gallery has been given over to six women artists whose explicit intent is to inspire desire—and perhaps castration fantasies.

Like the old classic striptease artists, they manage to levitate our libidos without actually showing anything. The show's sexy as hell, but there's nothing in it for a bluestocking to thump and whine about. Never a nipple nor a penis is to be seen, not an anatomically correct orifice, not even an identifiable torso. Curator Suzanne Ramljak has brought wit, unbridled imagination and an undercurrent of unease to this assemblage of erotic abstractions.

Some of the pieces are jolly fun, such as Patricia Anderson's series of lyrically curvaceous plaster forms, but many of them are more menacing than titillating. Visitors are likely to be left limp by Carol Shuford's "Spouting Vessel" (1993), which suggests a rutting boar crossed with a giant anemone with a dark, fur-lined gut. Heidi Lasher-Oakes's "Biological Abstraction" (1994) is a macrame monster such as peoples the dreams of pimply pubescent adolescents. Alyssa Dee Krass does

sleazy-queasy rings and things that are cleverly kooky and utterly unactionable. Nancy Bowen's bulbous exbodiments inspire nameless dread, and Phoebe Adams, in "Providing Passage" (1994), dishes up a delectable nonobjective no-no.

Juxtaposed to all this delightful dirty dancing is the Corcoran's annual showcase of the winners of the national scholastic art competition. While perhaps not quite up to last year's stunning standard, the show will ease the heart and mind of anyone who thinks the current generation of kids is lost.

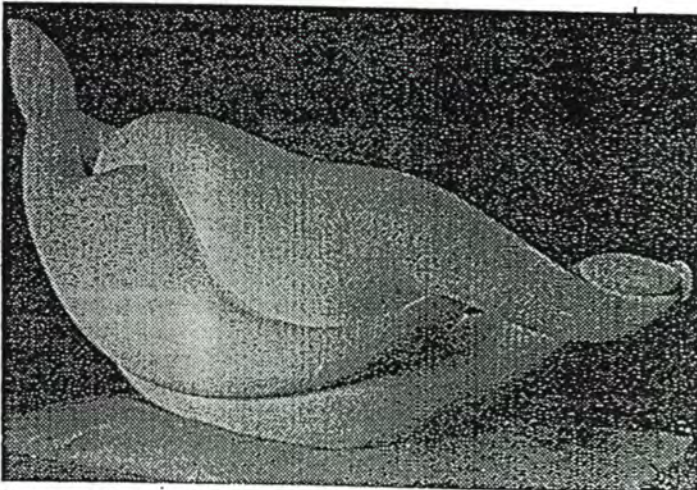
As always, the workmanship is sophisticated and the strongest

works are the portraits, particularly the self-portraits, which indicate that these artists not only know more than we did when we were in high school, they understand more. And there's a refreshing, reassuring humorous vein running throughout the show.

— Hank Burchard

SEDUCTIVE MATTER/SENSUAL FORM
— Through June 26.

SCHOLASTIC ART AWARDS NATIONAL EXHIBITION — Through July 3. Both at the Corcoran Gallery of Art, 17th Street and New York Avenue NW. 202/638-3211. Open 10 to 5 Wednesday through Monday and till 9 Thursdays. Suggested donation \$3 adults, \$1 students and seniors, \$5 family. Metro: Farragut West. Wheelchair accessible.



You sexy thing: Patricia Anderson's "Beached."

BOSTON SUNDAY GLOBE

Boston, MA
Sunday -- 812,021
February 6, 1994

SCHOLASTIC ART & WRITING AWARDS

1,000 students honored in 44th annual Boston Globe Scholastic Art Awards

More than 1,000 students from across Massachusetts have received honors in the 44th Boston Globe Scholastic Art Awards, an annual competition for artists in grades 7-12 in all public, private and parochial schools in the state. Of those award winners, 261 students received Gold Keys, the highest honor. Their work will be sent to New York to be judged with other work from around the country for cash prizes and additional honors in the National Scholastic Art Awards this spring.

In addition to the Gold Key winners, six panels of judges also selected 309 Silver Key winners and 556 Honorable Mention winners.

The program is administered by the New England Art Education Conference in cooperation with the Massachusetts Art Education Association. The program recognizes the outstanding achievement of young artists and encourages them to pursue further studies in the visual arts. This year more than 2,000 pieces of art in 13 categories were submitted to the statewide competition. Categories include various painting and drawing media, printmaking, sculpture, jewelry, ceramics, textile and graphic design, photography and computer graphics.

Senior high school students were invited to submit portfolios of their work for local and national scholarships. These portfolios were reviewed by a separate panel of judges, and four students were awarded \$1000 Boston Globe scholarships. These students are: Christie Grubbs from Walnut Hill School in Natick, Allison Ireland from Masconomet Regional High School in Topsfield, Ashley Lazonick from Cambridge Rindge & Latin School and Kristen Palana from Joseph Case High School in Swansea. The judges chose these four plus an additional 99 portfolios to compete in the national competition where all 103 portfolios will

be reviewed. State judges reviewed the Gold Key work and selected five Hallmark nominees from which one outstanding entry will be chosen in the national competition as the best drawing, painting or mixed media work in Massachusetts.

Nominated for the Hallmark honor prize are: Clara Lieu from Newton North High School, Andy MacLeod from Cambridge School of Weston, Sandy Miguel from Brockton High School, Heather Nash from Brockton High School and Alyssa Yurovitsky from Marblehead High School.

The Gold Key and Silver Key winning work is on exhibit at the State Transportation Building, 10 Park Plaza, Boston through March 4. The building is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays, and weekends from noon to 4 p.m.

The 1994 Globe Scholastic Art Awards Advisory Board members who contribute their time in preparing the exhibit and expertise in setting policy for the program are: Cochairmen John McPhee of Franklin High School and Walter Meinelt of Masconomet Regional High School, Topsfield; Shirley Bloom, Winthrop High School; Theresa Craddock, Boston Latin School; James Farrell, Marblehead High School; Joan Gitlow, Cambridge School of Weston; Sandra Gustin, Marlborough High School; Diana Hampe, Walpole High School; Lillian Kravitz, Amherst Regional High School; Frank McGrory, Lancaster Public Schools; Nancy Pipito, Watertown High School; Linda Poros, Fitchburg Art Museum; Kay Ransdell, Massachusetts College of Art; Donna Rosetti-Bailey, Rockland High School; Laurie Schmidt, McCall School, Winchester; Joy Seidler, Medway High School; Lorraine Sullivan, Burlington High School; Sister Nanine Tuller, Fontbonne Academy, Milton; and Charlene Wilcox, Wachusett Regional High School in Holden.

NEW YORK NEWSDAY

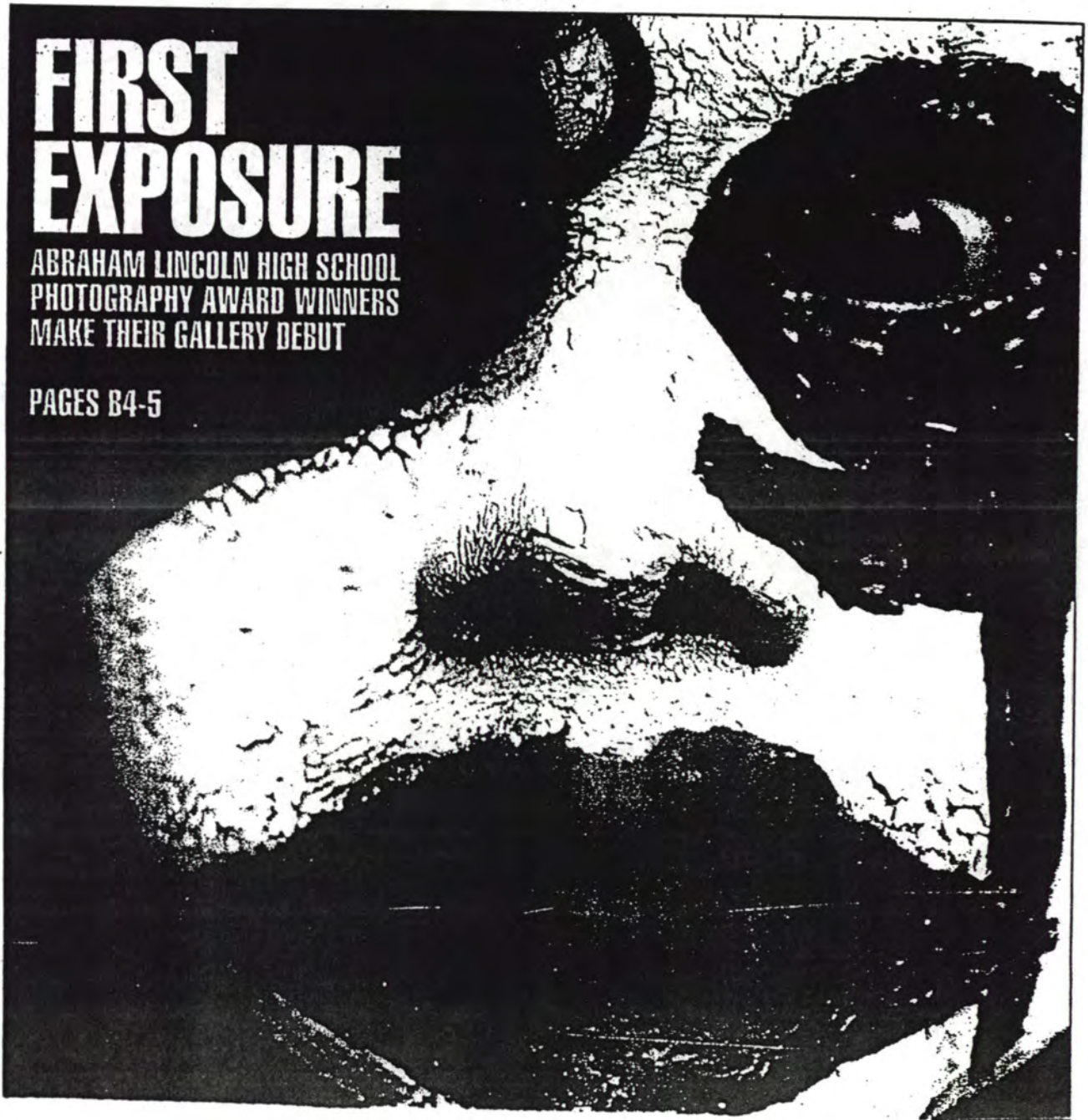
Long Island, NY
Daily - 491,807
May 26, 1994

SCHOLASTIC ART & WRITING AWARDS

FIRST EXPOSURE

ABRAHAM LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL
PHOTOGRAPHY AWARD WINNERS
MAKE THEIR GALLERY DEBUT

PAGES B4-5





Above, Abdo Sharhan's photograph of a brother and sister in Yemen, Sharhan's homeland. At left, Melissa Martinez' photograph of a Pentecostal prayer meeting.



THE LINCOLN PICTORIAL

FOR ANY HIGH SCHOOL to take a photography prize in the Scholastic Art and Writing Awards, a national contest that draws 300,000 entries, is a major accomplishment. Abraham Lincoln High School's achievements go way beyond what anyone could have expected. Since 1988, Howard Wallach's photography students at Lincoln, in the Brighton Beach section of Brooklyn, have won millions of dollars in prizes and scholarships through the contest, a project of the nonprofit New York Foundation for the Arts. Last year Wallach's class won 10 of the top 20 national prizes awarded to high-school photography students. This year it took home four of the top 10 prizes. In addition to a \$5,000 prize for the first-place winner, all finalists are assured of scholarships.

Every day Wallach, who also teaches English at Lincoln, retrieves scholarship offers from his mailbox. Offers that rival the kind of recruiting efforts usually reserved for big-time athletes. "Many, many of our kids have gone on to college," Wallach said. "Some have won important contests. But it is very much a win some, lose some situation."

With 135 students a semester attending his photo classes, the program appears to be a win-win proposition for students looking to gain a marketable skill, not just a college scholarship.

The photography students — past and present — can savor the recognition their work is receiving, first at an ongoing exhibition at the school, and in June at the Soho Photo Gallery (15 White St.). Their submissions for the Soho show were judged by a panel of noted commercial photographers and editors. We invite you to judge for yourself.

—Nathan Jackson



Standing from left, Howard Wallach and students Nathan Williams, John Cosenza, Michael Simms, Sami Hajar. Seated, Carlos Molina, Rashida Mentrie, Lori Salamon, Nicole Cascone, Abdo Sharhan. Not pictured, Melissa Martinez.

B5

PART 2 NY



At left, a self-portrait by Nicole Cascone, who won the top prize in the Scholastic Art and Writing Awards. Lori Salamon shot the legs and shoes of Jeanine Smith, an Abraham Lincoln alumna.



The Polar Bears celebrating their winter swim at Brighton Beach in a photograph by Sami Hajar. At left, is Rashida Mentré's photograph of Raymond Mazzola, a former photography winner.

ON THE COVER: Sami Hajar's "Darlene," a photograph of a fellow student.



HARTFORD COURANT

Hartford, CT
Daily -- 229,284
February 21, 1994

SCHOLASTIC ART & WRITING AWARDS

Judges prize teen's art

By MARYELLEN WAZORKO
Courant Correspondent

BRISTOL — Jeremy Rankin plans to be an accountant or a veterinarian, loves the color blue and spends most of his spare time playing basketball or hockey.

But his claim to fame these days is a piece of artwork that recently won two prizes in a state art competition.

His reproduction of an Indian "talking stick" was awarded a Gold Key Award of Excellence and the special Libby Budd Memorial Award in the Connecticut Regional Scholastic Awards program.

Jeremy, 13, the youngest entrant to receive the special recognition, said he planned his piece based on his two favorite colors, blue and black.

He decorated a 2-foot branch from a poplar tree with yarn, beads and a pair of deer antlers, resulting in a finished piece he says he knew had the potential to win.

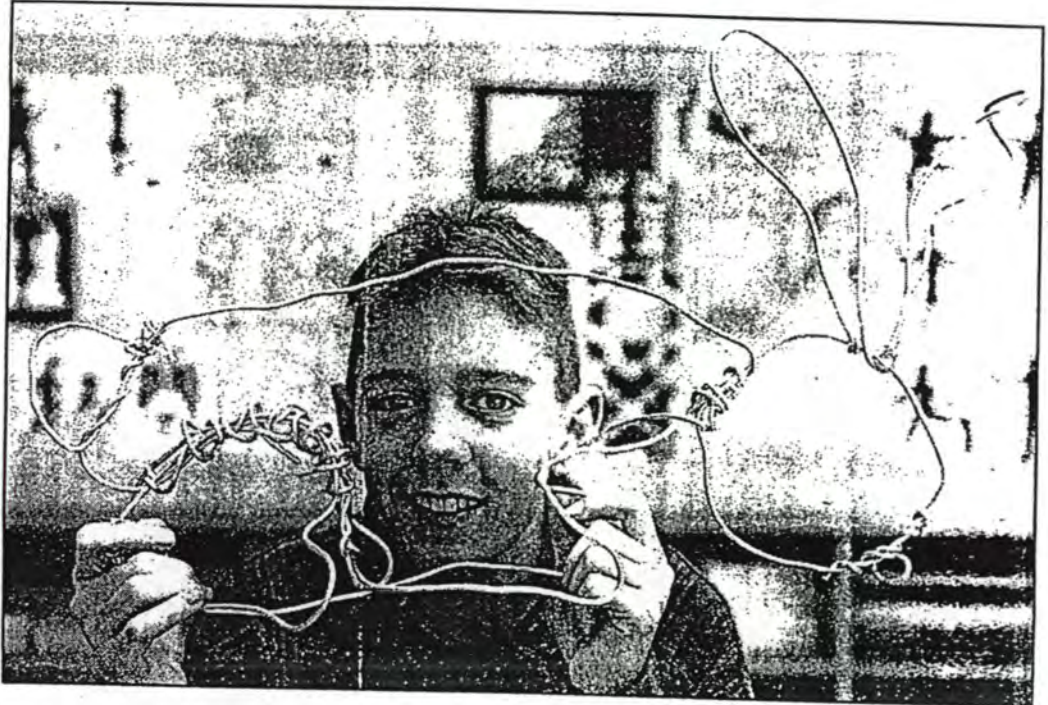
"I worked so hard on it," said Jeremy, who attends Chippins Hill Middle School. "I knew it was good."

The talking stick, now entered in a national competition, was part of a class project on Native American art, according to Jeremy's teacher, Joan LaRocca.

Such sticks were used at tribal meetings to determine who would speak next, she said.

"I knew there was something special about Jeremy's piece," said LaRocca, who is new to the Bristol school system this year. "His work is very personal."

The show, sponsored by the



Shana Sureck-Mei / The Hartford Courant

■ **Jeremy Rankin, 13, of Chippins Hill Middle School in Bristol, who is currently working on a metal rabbit sculpture, recently won two awards in the Connecticut Regional Scholastic Awards program for an Indian "talking stick" he made from a poplar branch.**

Connecticut Arts Administrators Association, the Hartford Art School, the Connecticut Commission on the Arts and the Connecticut Art Education Association, featured more than 1,000 works by 274 middle- and high school students.

Jeremy said he isn't concerned about awards or the next competition. He sometimes likes to hide in his room and just draw for fun, he said.

His recent prizes included \$50.

"I could buy paints or something, I guess," he said with a shrug. "But what I really need is a

pair of new jeans."

Other area students who won noteworthy prizes in the competition are Joseph Saucier, Kathleen Segretario, Benjamin Cutter and Craig Battisto from Bristol Central High School; Jamie Athorn and Jennifer Martin from Bristol Eastern High School; Kelly Miceli, Gabriel Roberge, Sabrina Hurezyn, Kevin Hill and Christa Wilson from Chippins Hill Middle School; Matthew Walsh from Memorial Boulevard School; and Robert Gatti from Northeast Middle School.

Also, Joey Barbera, New Britain High School; Dean Jolin, Cheri Nappi and Dawn Morris, Plainville High

School; and Erica Magrey, Lezi Sikorowicz and Michael Sheridan, Southington High School.



Bristol meetings

City Hall: 111 N. Main St., 584-7656.

• **Tuesday:** Board of finance, 6:30 p.m.; budget hearing, 7:30 p.m.

• **Wednesday:** Tunxis recycling commission, 9 a.m.; board of education office; welfare training, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; planning commission, 7 p.m.; commission on handicapped, 7:30 p.m.

• **Thursday:** Budget hearing, 6:30 p.m.

BOSTON SUNDAY GLOBE

Boston, MA
Sunday -- 812,021
February 27, 1994

SCHOLASTIC ART & WRITING AWARDS

Boost for students pursuing arts

By Ann Handley
SPECIAL TO THE GLOBE

Lexington High School senior and bass player Jason Davis says he doesn't think he has much talent as a musician. In spite of winning a top prize last month in a nationwide talent search. When he received the prize, he was praised for his interpretation of the music of Charlie Parker, Benny Golson and other jazz greats.

"I think it's been mostly hard work, rather than talent," said Davis, who won \$3,000 from the National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts, a Miami-based organization set up to encourage teen-age actors, writers, musicians and other artists.

"My parents made me take piano when I was five or six, and I hated it," Davis said in a telephone interview last week, prior to a trip to the campus of Canada's McGill University. "But then I started listening to a lot of rock, and like just about every teen-age male, I wanted to play the electric guitar," he said with a laugh.

When he traded his guitar for an electric bass and then an upright bass and started listening to jazz, his interest turned to his passion. While he loves the jazz of the 1950s and finds particular inspiration in the music of Miles Davis and Duke Ellington, "I find that all kinds of jazz appeals to me," Davis said.

"The whole idea of improvisation in music is really exciting to me," he added. "On a certain level, you're playing the way you feel at any given time. Jazz is from the heart instead of notes on a piece of paper."

Davis, 17, was one of 373 students nationwide, including three local artists, to share in \$210,500 in cash awards granted by the National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts.

Graham Lucks, a potter and a senior at Concord-Carlisle High School, won \$500, and poet Elizabeth Winslow, a senior at Tewksbury Memorial High School, received \$100. Both Davis and Lucks also won expense-paid trips to ARTS Week '94, a foundation-sponsored event held last month in Miami at which students glean tips about their craft and have their work critiqued.



Jason Davis of Lexington.



Graham Douglas Lucks of Concord.

'The whole idea of improvisation in music is really exciting to me.'

JASON DAVIS, Lexington High senior

Each year, the 12-year-old nonprofit National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts sends applications to its awards program to 28,000 private and public high schools throughout the country. This year, 6,500 young dancers, musicians, actors, visual artists and writers applied for a chance to win a cash award of anywhere from \$100 to \$3,000 and spend a week in Miami. Based on the excellence of their submitted audition audio or videotapes, slides or manuscripts, 264 young artists received a certificate of honorable mention and a \$100 prize, Winslow was among them. An additional 109 - including four Massachusetts students - received cash awards and were invited to Miami to attend seminars and workshops run by working artists and art educators, all expenses paid.

"Our mission is to provide the encouragement that young people need to go into the arts," foundation spokeswoman Suzette Prude said in a telephone interview from her Miami office. "We've identified two critical junctures in an artist's life: when they are leaving high school and deciding what to study in college, and when they are graduating college. This program is designed to provide encouragement at that first juncture," Prude said.

Lucks, who recently moved to Concord from Littleton, Col., took a course in pottery as a high school freshman and became "hooked," he said.

"I started taking lessons from a potter, making functional plates and bowls, and then went on to make vases, teapots" and other decorative kinds of vessels, the 17-year-old said in a telephone interview before leaving on a family ski vacation to Colorado last week.

Since then, his pieces have been recognized in several local student art competitions, including the 1992 Boston Globe Scholastic Art Awards.

His work, Lucks said, is now often more interpretive than functional. "My vases may tip a little to one side, and don't necessarily hold water," he said.

Practicing his craft, Lucks said, he doesn't often get a chance to meet with other potters. "So Miami was an opportunity to see other pieces, get some feedback on my own work and discuss ideas with professional sculptors," Lucks said. "It's unusual to have such a concentration of people who are interested in all forms of art in one place." In Miami, Lucks was granted a Level IV award, which carries a \$500 prize.

After graduation this June Lucks says he plans to attend Pennsylvania's Swarthmore College, majoring in art and mechanical engineering.

INDIANAPOLIS STAR

Indianapolis, IN
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February 22, 1994

SCHOLASTIC ART & WRITING AWARDS

ACHIEVEMENT

High school student a winner in artistic endeavors and in life

Scholastic Art Awards

Artists: 400 works by Central Indiana secondary school art students.

Location: Leah Ransburg Gallery at the University of Indianapolis.

When: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., today through Thursday.

By Sally Falk Nancrede
STAR STAFF WRITER

Art instead of sports has been a turning point for Emmerich Manual High School senior Billy Adams.

Like Olympic sking medalist Tommy Moe, Adams had a brush with drugs.

"I fell in with the wrong crowd and got expelled. I was into drugs and alcohol," he admits. But he got out of it.

"I saw the other side and decided I didn't want that to happen to me."

These days, he's focusing on art instead.

Adams, 19, is a regional art portfolio

winner in the Scholastic Art Awards of Central Indiana exhibit through Thursday at the University of Indianapolis. A portfolio of eight of his works, including drawings and pastels, will be sent to New York for national judging to compete for cash awards and art school scholarships.

He was February student of the month at Manual in honor of his achievement.

"It was great. I got a lot of publicity — it was a new feeling," says Adams, among thousands of Hoosier students who participate in the annual awards competition.

Of the more than 2,700 artworks submitted, only 175 individual works will be sent on for national judging. He is one of eight art portfolio winners from the region and the only one from Indianapolis Public Schools. Another art portfolio winner is Jenille Deveson, a senior at Park Tudor School.

Dressed in a black T-shirt and black jeans, Adams is the image of an art



AT SCHOOL: Billy Adams, 19, is a winner in the Scholastic Art Awards of Central Indiana. Eight of his works will travel to New York to compete for cash and scholarships.

Star Staff Photo
D. Todd Moore

student. A painted vest tops the T-shirt, a Spider Man pop-up wristwatch and black leather cuff decorate his arm. A pouch around his neck holds pebbles and pastel crayons.

His dark long hair curls down to his shoulders, emphasizing his Hispanic heritage.

His art teacher, Kay Clay, calls Adams "very serious" and "incredibly creative."

"He's very talented," she says.

Creative environment

Among his creative adventures is his studio.

Adams and fellow senior art majors at Manual were allowed to create their own studios earlier this year as part of senior privileges.

They were given permission to use an old supply room where they moved bookshelves away from the walls, turned tables on end, turned open space into doorways and walls and built their own studios.

Guests have to enter Adams' studio through a black curtain reminiscent of disco and the '70s.

"I like to go crazy with the hair," he says, showing off a self-portrait defined by darkly focused eyes and electric hair. He has done several self-portraits; it's almost like a signature.

His goal is to major in art in college.

"I'm hoping to go to Chicago Art Institute. I've already been accepted there and I'm putting my portfolio together for a scholarship," says Adams.

Another option is Herron School of Art at IUPUI.

Already he takes classes there Tuesdays and Thursdays for figure drawing.

"I drew before I could write," he remembers.