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**Northeast Indiana and Northwest Ohio Students Announced
as 2023 Scholastic Art & Writing Awards Regional Winners**

570 Young Artists and Writers Recognized by the Fort Wayne Museum of Art for their Original Works

February 2, 2023 (Fort Wayne, IN) – The Fort Wayne Museum of Art has announced the regional award winners of the 2023 [Scholastic Art & Writing Awards](#). Presented by the nonprofit organization the **Alliance for Young Artists & Writers**, the 100th Scholastic Art & Writing Awards are the country's longest-running and most prestigious scholarship and recognition program for creative students in grades 7–12. This year, nearly 100,000 teens from across the United States and Canada submitted their best art and writing. 570 creative teens from Northeast Indiana and Northwest Ohio received regional honors, including Gold Keys, Silver Keys, Honorable Mentions, and American Visions & Voices nominations, from local Scholastic Awards Affiliate the Fort Wayne Museum of Art.

The following ten students—five artists and five writers—received the top regional honor, the American Visions & Voices nomination, signifying their work as best-in-show.

Receiving a Gold Key and American Visions Nomination for their artwork:

- Autumn Elkins-Lepper, Grade 8, Center for Academic Success at Nebraska. Me, Drawing & Illustration.
- Aristotle Hackbush, Grade 12, North Side High School. Myriad Faciem, Ceramics & Glass.
- Dallas Storey, Grade 11, Carroll High School. Learning to Shave Peach Fuzz, Drawing & Illustration.
- Helen Yan, Grade 11, Maumee Valley Country Day School. Contemplation, Painting.
- Jillian Yoder, Grade 12, Carroll High School. The Way It Is Done In Metapan, Photography.

Receiving a Gold Key and American Voices Nomination for their writing:

- Joylynn Chung, Grade 9, Culver Academy. Me Before You, Personal Essay & Memoir.
- Sharon Deng, Grade 12, Maumee Valley Country Day School. Jane Austen's Pride and Prejudice: Social Issues and Characterization Through the Arts, Critical Essay.
- Elise Hoylman, Grade 12, Pettisville Jr Senior High School. And We Drew Shapes in the Carpet, Short Story.
- Alexa Morel, Grade 8, Stanley Clark School. Untitled, Flash Fiction.
- Yuqi Zheng, Grade 11, Culver Academy. Toe Tags, Poetry.

In celebration of this year's regional award winners, the Fort Wayne Museum of Art will host an **Open House Celebration** on **Sunday, February 19th from 12pm-5pm** with free admission. The Museum will also host a **Scholastic Centennial Celebration** as part of the FWMoA Second Thursdays. Enjoy free admission, cash bar, "mocktails" and light appetizers on **March 9, 2023, 5-8pm**. The evening will feature art and gallery activities led by Museum Staff.

The exhibition of awarded work will be on display at FWMoA from February 11 – April 8 in the Museum's galleries at 311 E. Main Street. General admission to see this exhibition at the museum is free for FWMoA members, \$10 adults, \$8 students and seniors 65+, and \$25 for families. General admission is free for everyone on Thursdays 5-8pm. Veterans, active military personnel, and their families receive free general admission. FWMoA gallery hours are Tuesday-Saturday 10-6pm, Thursdays 10-8pm, and Sundays 12-5pm.

Note: This exhibition will be closed to the public February 28-March 3.

Since the program's founding in 1923, the Awards have fostered the creativity and talent of millions of students and include a distinguished list of alumni such as **Tschabalala Self, Stephen King, Kay WalkingStick, Charles White, Joyce Carol Oates, and Andy Warhol**, all of whom received recognition in the Awards when they were teens.

For **Gold Key** works of art and writing in the Awards' 28 categories—including architecture, painting, flash fiction, poetry, printmaking, science fiction & fantasy, and more—the opportunities for recognition will continue when the works are considered for national honors, including a wealth of additional opportunities, such as scholarships, inclusion in the Scholastic Awards Traveling Exhibition, and in anthologies Best Teen Art and Best Teen Writing. Poets who win national awards are considered for the National Student Poets Program, the nation's highest honor for young poets presenting original work. National awards will be announced on March 22, 2023.

QUOTES:

“Over their long history, the Scholastic Awards have not only provided important opportunities, but proved an essential source of validation for so many creative teens. Whether or not the award recipients decide to pursue careers in the arts, their proven ability to innovate and express their unique perspectives in universal ways will carry them into their chosen fields. Each year, the museum staff, the jurors who select the awarded works, and our wider community are blown away by the creativity of our region's teens and the educators who help nurture it,” said Alyssa Dumire, director of education at the Fort Wayne Museum of Art.

NATIONAL SPONSORS:

The Alliance is grateful for its generous sponsors, who provide funds to support and produce the Scholastic Awards at the national level: Scholastic Inc., New York Life Foundation, The Maurice R. Robinson Fund, Bloomberg Philanthropies, Command Companies, The Herb Block Foundation, The Jay Pritzker Foundation, Quad and The Windhover Foundation, BLICK Art Materials, National Endowment for the Arts, The New York Times, Don't Hide It, Flaunt It, RBC Foundation USA, Morgan Stanley, AppleTV+, Lindenmeyr Book Publishing Papers, Garcia Family Foundation, New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, and numerous other individual, foundation, and corporate funders; and, for the National Student Poets Program, the Institute of Museum and Library Services, The Hearthland Foundation, Poetry Foundation, and Academy of American Poets.

LOCAL SPONSORS:

The Fort Wayne Museum of Art is grateful for the generous support of Toni Murray and The James Foundation for this program. Additional support is provided by the Indiana Arts Commission, the Foellinger Foundation, English, Bonter, Mitchell Foundation, and the Edward M. and Mary McCrea Wilson Foundation.

For more information about the Alliance for Young Artists & Writers and the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards, visit the Scholastic News Room: <http://mediaroom.scholastic.com/artandwriting>

About the Fort Wayne Museum of Art: Beginning with art classes in 1888 given by J. Ottis Adams and later William Forsyth, the Fort Wayne Museum of Art has evolved into the primary resource for the visual arts in Northeast Indiana. Regularly exhibiting regional and nationally acclaimed artists, the FWMoA also boasts an extensive permanent collection of American Art, including the Steven Sorman Archives and more than 350 pieces of glass sculpture. The Museum is committed to the collection, preservation, presentation and interpretation of American and related art to engage broad and diverse audiences throughout the community and region and add value to their lives. The Fort Wayne Museum of Art is accredited by the American Alliance of Museums. This activity is made possible, in part, with support from the Indiana Arts Commission and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.

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IMAGES: If you wish to publish images of student artwork, please contact Alyssa Dumire, Alyssa.dumire@fwmoa.org