

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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30 National Medals Awarded to Regional Teens

*Regional students awarded in the 101st annual class of
Scholastic Art & Writing Awards National Medal Ceremony*

June 20, 2024 (Fort Wayne, IN) – The Fort Wayne Museum of Art is thrilled to announce 22 Northeast Indiana/Northwest Ohio students have won national recognition for 30 pieces of their art and writing in the 2024 Scholastic Art & Writing Awards. After competing at the regional level, these remarkable students were awarded Gold or Silver Medals by the Alliance for Young Artists & Writers, a national organization.

The following students were awarded:

- Shee Baby, Northrop High School
- Karen Chen, Maumee Vly Country Day School
- Michelle Chupp, Carroll High School
- Layne Denton, Northfield High School
- Anna Ealing, Carroll High School
- Lauren Finley, Carroll High School
- Adele Freistroffer, Maple Creek Middle School
- Aaliyah Geschwind, Canterbury High School
- Marybeth Hall, Carroll High School
- Margaux Hannewyk, St Joseph's High School
- Mia Hastreiter, Carroll High School
- AJ Johnston, Carroll High School
- Sydney Kooistra, Concord Junior High School
- Addison Krouse, Carroll High School
- Merritt Lloyd, Canterbury Middle School
- Emma Napier, Northfield High School
- Julianne Ounsombath, Carroll High School
- Emma Parsons, Mishawaka High School
- Addison Reed, Churubusco Jr Senior High School
- Lily Thieszen, Fairfield Jr Senior High School
- Stella VandeWater, Canterbury High School
- Caleb White, Carroll High School

These Gold Medal and Silver Medal Award recipients will be honored during a virtual celebration on June 26. Gold Medal artwork will be exhibited at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York in the fall.

FWMoA's Education Department provides specialized programming for PreK-12 groups, bilingual content, and opportunities for older adults among the diverse, world-class exhibitions that reflect the values of our region. In 2022, 43,714 participants were served through various education activities including:

- Pk-12 School Tours
- Gallery on Wheels - outreach program brings a selection of carefully curated art into classrooms
- Meet Me at FWMoA tours for people in early stages of Alzheimer's
- Family-friendly tours with interpretation in American Sign Language provided by DeafLink
- Virtual content through the Articulate Blog
- John S. and James L. Knight Learning Center - a fun, interactive and hands-on environment

Presented by the nonprofit organization the **Alliance for Young Artists & Writers**, the 101st 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, more than 100,000 teens from U.S. territories, Canada, and every state in the nation participated in this year's Awards, submitting over 300,000 works of art and writing. Works by more than 40,000 teens received regional recognition, and nearly 2,000 works earned national awards.

The Fort Wayne Museum of Art is grateful for the generous support of Toni Murray 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 is now the third largest art museum in Indiana. Regularly exhibiting regional and nationally acclaimed artists, the FWMoA also boasts a collection of 7,700 objects of American and international art from the 18th century to today. 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 made possible, in part, with support from the Indiana Arts Commission and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency. For more information, visit www.fwmoa.org.

Image Credits:

1. Michelle Chupp, *The Bee's Escape*, Photography, 40" x 40", Gold Medal, American Visions Medal
2. Layne Denton, *Metal-onna with Child*, Sculpture, 36" x 15", Silver Medal
3. Lauren Finley, *Scrapped Memories*, Fashion, 70" x 30", Gold Medal
4. Marybeth Hall, *Not My Tights*, Photography, 8.5" x 11", Gold Medal

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