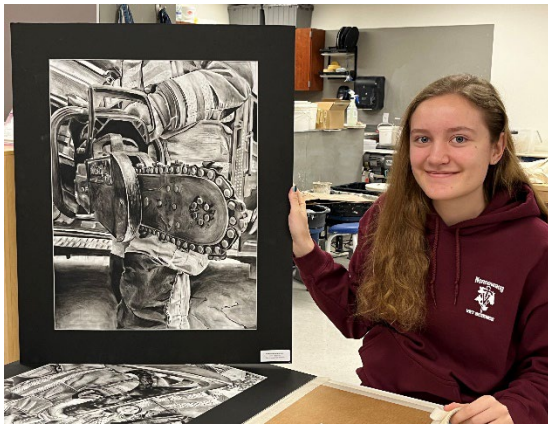


Region 14 Schools

Region 14 Students Earn Top Recognition in Scholastic Art Competition

January 24, 2023 – Region 14 had an incredible showing in the 2023 Scholastic Art Awards Competition with artwork from 17 students receiving a number of awards including prestigious Gold and Silver Key Portfolio Awards.

Nonnewaug High School art students received one Gold Key Portfolio, two Silver Key Portfolio awards, two Honorable Mention Portfolios, 15 Gold Key awards, five Silver Key awards, one best in drawing award, as well as several honorable mentions for their work in drawing, painting, mixed media, photography, and ceramics. Additionally, one Woodbury Middle School entry received an Honorable mention in the jewelry category.



The Gold Key Portfolio winner, senior Samantha Molzon was awarded one of only 10 Gold Keys in Connecticut and will have her art portfolio reviewed by a blue-ribbon panel of judges at the national level in March. The Scholastic Art and Writing Awards is the nation's longest-running, most prestigious recognition program for creative teens.

Madison Dannenhoffer, who received a Gold Key for her drawing, was also awarded the Connecticut Art Educator's Award for Best in Drawing.

The students' artwork is being shown at Slipe Gallery at the Hartford Art School from January 17 through February 3, 2023 in the 33rd annual Connecticut Regional Scholastic Art Awards. It is the largest juried student art exhibition in the state.

"I'm so proud and excited for all of the art students in Region 14," said Nonnewaug High School visual art teacher Leeza Desjardins. "They work so hard every day, and it pays off. The art room is a special and supportive space." Desjardins added that art students receive so much encouragement from their parents and teachers along with community organizations dedicated to the arts. "Our teachers and parents are so supportive of students in our program. I also want to give acknowledgement to ASAP! for working so closely with us and our students. The Visual Arts broaden and brighten our vision."



The students' awards are:

Honorable Mention Awards

Gabriella Berardis - Drawing – "Escape to Fantasy"

Gretchen Davis - Drawing – "Trepidation"

Eliana Groben - Painting – "After I Survive the Rain"

Samantha Molzon - Drawing – "Behind the Mask"

Madison Willis - Drawing – "Wild West"

Jiaqi Xie - Design – "Self Control"

Aeden Rivera (Woodbury Middle School) – Jewelry – "Butterfly in Blue"



Silver Key Awards

Helena de Castro - Drawing – "Talking to the Moon"

Kiera Jacobi - Mixed Media – "Conscious Separation"

Rubie Lombardi - Drawing – "The Next Best American Novel"

Emily Matozzo - Drawing – "Nonna's House"

Regan Moran - Drawing – "Feeling Blue"



Gold Key Awards

Mae Addeo - Mixed Media – "Five Slices"

Madison Dannenhoffer - Drawing – "Parked"

Madison Dannenhoffer - Drawing – "11:05 Romantics"

Gretchen Davis - Drawing – "My Life"

Helena de Castro - Painting – "Rising From the Ashes"

Eliana Groben - Drawing – "Boo Boo the Fool's Best Act"

Eliana Groben - Drawing – "Still Swimming"

Eliana Groben - Drawing – "Outburst"

Samantha Molzon - Drawing – "Sawing Time"

Samantha Molzon - Drawing – "Turnout Gear at Rest"

Regan Moran - Drawing – "Audience Member"

Ethan Moshier - Ceramics – "Shades of Jade"

Ella Quinn - Photography – "Unapologetically Herself"

Sarah Walsh - Drawing – "Caged In"

Madison Willis - Drawing – "Baby Face"



Portfolio Awards

Gold Portfolio - Samantha Molzon – "Always Ready"

Silver Portfolio - Gabriella Berardis – "Exorcism Required: Bipolar Disorder"

Eliana Groben – "Face It!"

Honorable Mention Portfolio - Madison Dannenhoffer – "After the Crash"

Gretchen Davis – "Scenic Expressions"

Special Award

Best In Drawing - Madison Dannenhoffer - Drawing – "Parked"