



NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release:

Oklahoma Student Art Exhibition Receives Art from Schools Across the Metro and State

Oklahoma City, OK – The Oklahoma Student Art Exhibition (OSAE) has been supporting youth, arts and education for more than 40 years. OSAE provides opportunities for Oklahoma student artists to display their work, funding for school art programs and scholarships to graduating seniors from participating schools. The Oklahoma Student Art Exhibition has seen huge growth in recent years, illustrated through the establishment of four new districts surrounding Oklahoma City as well as naming a new teacher of the year within the organization.

“In a time where the arts are struggling to keep a foothold in the educational process, OSAE provides support through funding and recognition. During the Oklahoma State Fair, more than 1,000 pieces of art are displayed in the galleries of the Oklahoma Contemporary Arts Center. The community gets a pre-Fair glimpse of the excellence of Oklahoma’s young artists in July as award winning pieces from the OSAE are on display at the Capitol Rotunda and the State Department of Education galleries,” said OSAE director, Nancy Nortz. “The OSAE provides \$6,500 in art supply funding to Oklahoma teachers with assistance from Hobby Lobby, Framed in the Village and Wade Shows.”

While the program has always been free to enter for all Oklahoma schools - public and private - many schools have not participated because of the time and expense incurred in making multiple trips to Oklahoma City. Because of this, four more districts around the state have been developed to increase entries and convenience for participants.

Amongst all districts, there were 1,507 entrants for the 2019 exhibition. For the Central District, which includes Oklahoma City, we received a record-breaking number of entrants, totaling at around 1,140. Within the Oklahoma City Maps4 domain, there were 370 entrants spanning across 26 schools.

The 2019 OSAE Teacher of the Year is Shannon Masterson, from Bethany Middle School and Earl Harris Elementary. Shannon Masterson has successfully worked at the two Bethany schools and had 40 entrants from both schools combined. The remaining top 10 teachers with the highest number of entrants follows.

School	# of entrants
2 Putnam City West High School	25
3 Ralph Downs Elementary School	25
4 Star Spencer High School	25
5 Western Oaks Middle School	23
6 Arbor Grove Elementary School	20
7 Belle Isle Enterprise School	20
8 Bethany High School	20
9 Kaiser Elementary School	19
10 John Ross Element.	18

The Oklahoma Student Art Exhibition will take place on September 15, 2019 at the Oklahoma History Museum. Students who receive awards will also receive complimentary outside gate admission tickets for themselves and their teachers. For more information, including OSAE rules and registration, visit <http://www.okstatefair.com/content/oklahoma-student-art-exhibition>.

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