

ART AWARDS: Student artists are life-long creatives

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Scholastic Awards have recognized the vision, ingenuity, and talent of our nation's youth, and provided opportunities for creative teens to be celebrated.

Submissions were judged by a panel of artists, educators and creative professionals. Artwork is judged based on originality, personal vision and technical skills.

Students can enter many categories including painting, digital art, sculpture, photography, jewelry, ceramics and fashion.

This year Sisters High School art students had 53 awards, and six receiving awards from Sisters Middle School.

Bethany Gunnarson, visual arts teacher at Sisters High School (SHS), said, "This is the 14th year for SHS students entering into The Scholastic Art Awards. This gives students an opportunity to have an outlet and get honored for their hard work. I'm really proud of the work they do, and every year it's a wonderful surprise to see all the pieces that get entered. These students get judged blindly in Portland, digitally."

Mitchell Griffin, a senior at SHS, was awarded two Gold Keys: one for photography and one for his portfolio. He was also awarded a Silver Key for his photography.

Griffin grew up in Sisters and has always enjoyed taking photos around Central Oregon.

Griffin noted, "My biggest inspiration is nature and the amazing scenery we have in the area. I really started getting serious about photography during 8th grade. My favorite subjects to photograph are those found in nature, so anything from wildlife to landscapes. I plan on

studying both photography and engineering next year in college."

Senior art student Hailey Mosca won five awards; three honorable mentions and two Silver Keys in the category of ceramics.

Mosca told *The Nugget*, "When I was a little girl I was always crafting or doing some sort of little art project. Art has always been a creative outlet for me. It wasn't until high school that I started working with ceramics. For the last four years I've taken some form of ceramics class every semester along with a few drawing and painting classes.

"I have entered my work in Scholastic Art Awards since freshman year. It's fun to get to show others my artwork that I'm proud of, and I'm able to see so much artwork from other talented artists. It's a win win!"

Maddison Anderson, also a senior, grew up in Sisters and has taken art classes for the past four years, exploring many different media.

"I really mixed it up with different fields for my portfolio," Anderson said, "I now primarily focus on watercolors, and I've also been doing mixed media with wire work as well. I used a lot of my work that I hadn't entered from last year. I worked on ceramics in previous years and entered pieces on the wheel like jars and lids and other sculptures, but it was my watercolors that got the awards."

Anderson was awarded two Silver Keys and five honorable mentions.

She added, "Art has really become an outlet for me, and I like spending time in the classroom using my creativity to bring something to life."

The art pieces from Central Oregon students will remain on display at the Pence Pinckney Art Gallery at COCC through March 1. The eight Gold Key recipients will have their art sent to national judging, with results released in March.



PHOTO BY JODI SCHNEIDER

The Pinckney Gallery is awash in students' award-winning art.

Sisters Scholastic Arts honorees

Sisters High School Gold Key winners are Alexandra Miller, Josie Aylor, George Chladek, Arden Crosier, Mitchell Griffin, Sahara Lucas, Anna Mensing and Colin Palmer.

Sisters High School Silver Key awards went to: Alexandra Miller, Sidney Sillers, Ka Ki Leung, Maddison Anderson, Josie Aylor, McKenna Brinkman, Hailey Mosca, Mitchell Griffin, Dan Schmidt, Grace Skalda and Katie Springer.

Honorable-mention high school award-winners are: Ka Ki Leung, Maddison Anderson, Josie Aylor, Brianna Bachmeier, George Chladek, Chloe Gold, Josh Liddell,

Sahara Lucas, Anna Mensing, Hailey Mosca, Charmayne Owens, Tanner Pease, Grace Skalda and Katie Springer, Sisters Middle School Gold Key award went to: Araiya Grummer.

Silver Key middle school award-winners are: Daisy Draper and Haley Griffith.

Honorable mention for middle school went to: Ava Riehle, Daisy Draper, and Makyla Wyatt.

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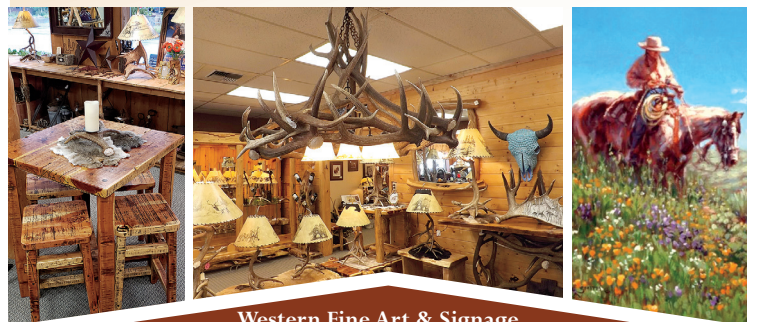
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