

# NEWS RELEASE

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## **Five Gwinnett student artists honored at Carnegie Hall**

Five Gwinnett County Public Schools (GCPS) students were invited to New York City this week to be honored for their artistic talents. The students from **Brookwood High, Mill Creek High, Peachtree Ridge High, and the Grayson High Technical Education Program** are part of an elite group of 1,400 students from across the nation who were recognized in the 2012 National Scholastic Art & Writing Awards program. The Gwinnett honorees and their teachers are:

### **2012 National Scholastic Art Award winners**

Award	Student	School	Title	Medium	Teacher
Gold Medal	<b>Emily Hudson</b>	<b>Brookwood High</b>	Singer	Printmaking	Marie Thomas
Gold Medal	<b>Isaac Kerns</b>	<b>Grayson High Technical Education Program</b> <i>(Isaac attends Grayson High and is enrolled in a photography class at Grayson High Technical Education Program)</i>	Liquesce	Photography	Carisa Griffin
Gold Medal	<b>Briana Achtman</b>	<b>Mill Creek High</b>	Day of the Dead Party	Drawing	Mike Lasseter
Gold Medal	<b>Nahyun Chung</b>	<b>Peachtree Ridge High</b>	Obsession	Drawing	Hope Steele
Silver Medal	<b>Victoria Lee</b>	<b>Brookwood High</b>	Liberarse	Design	Chris Vigaradt

Gold medals were presented to the creators of the most outstanding art pieces in this national competition. These five winning entries were among Gwinnett's 49 regional Gold Key winners that were selected to move on to New York City for national adjudication. National Award winners were invited to New York City to receive recognition on the country's most celebrated stage—Carnegie Hall— as part of the annual National Awards Ceremony. The ceremony also included special guest speakers and performers, as well as the presentation of achievement awards to prominent past winners of The Scholastic Awards.

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### **THE MISSION OF GWINNETT COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

*is to pursue excellence in academic knowledge, skills, and behavior for each student, resulting in measured improvement against local, national, and world-class standards.*

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It is the policy of Gwinnett County Public Schools not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, or disability in any employment practice, educational program, or any other program, activity, or service.

2010 Winner of



There are 30 categories in both the arts and writing sections of the competition. Each student's teacher is honored along with the student. As part of the honor, recognized students are eligible for scholarship opportunities.

The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards is administered by the Alliance for Young Artists & Writers, Inc. The nonprofit organization's awards bring a national audience to the outstanding visual art and writing created by middle and high school students (grades 7-12) by showcasing their work and encouraging their creative journey and career development.

1,400 students from across the nation received national awards, of which many are selected to be displayed during a national exhibition. The Alliance also holds ongoing exhibitions at the U.S. Department of Education and the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities.