

**CONNECTICUT ART EDUCATION ASSOCIATION
SCHOLASTIC ART AWARDS**

N E W S

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**FIFTEEN CONNECTICUT STUDENTS SELECTED FOR THE 85TH
NATIONAL SCHOLASTIC ART AWARDS**

**Honors include a ceremony at Carnegie Hall in New York City on June 5
and exhibitions at Manhattan galleries**

New York, NY – The cream of Connecticut’s talented young artists who recently won Gold and Silver awards in the 19th Regional Scholastic Art Awards, have been selected for the prestigious 85th National Scholastic Art Awards. The fifteen students, who are among the more than 1,000 student winners nation-wide, will be honored at a special ceremony at Carnegie Hall, New York City, on June 5.

Their portfolios and other selected work will be showcased at three Manhattan galleries: White Columns (May 29-June 7), Reeves Contemporary (June 4-7) and NY Arts Gallery (June 2-13).

“This represents such an extraordinary achievement for our talented students, and for their art teachers,” noted Chip Zellner, Connecticut Scholastic Awards Project. “And it represents an increase over last year, when 10 Connecticut junior and senior high school students were selected for the 84th Nationals.”

Gold Medal award winners are chosen at the national Scholastics level from regional winners in all media and demonstrate the most outstanding achievement in technique, originality and personal vision. The National Gold medallists include:

Gus Ruchman, video/film, Brunswick School, Greenwich, Andrew Hall, teacher

Mercedes Wallace, ceramics, Coventry HS, Erin Holub, teacher

Katherine Cirullo, photography, Farmington HS, Marguerite French, teacher

Stephanie Hansum, printmaking, Ridgefield HS, Jessica St. Jean/Elizabeth Smolinski, teachers

Emma Sweet, painting, Roger Ludlowe MS, Fairfield, Jackie Reilly, teacher

Emily Morris, digital imagery, Stamford HS, Paul Cusano, teacher

Amelia Fox, photography, Westover School, Middlebury, Michael Gallagher, teacher
Teagan Rosendahl, digital imagery, Woodstock Academy, Gloria Hanczar, teacher

Silver medallists:

Elizabeth Soucy, printmaking, Farmington HS, William Wright, teacher

Katie Gaines, digital imagery, Greenwich HS, Laraine Pirie, teacher

Erin Reilly, digital imagery, Kent School, Jenna Lynch, teacher

Cody Hughes, sculpture, Simsbury HS, Shannon Gagne, teacher

Molly Fonseca, painting, Wilton HS, Rusty Hurd, teacher

Silver Portfolio: **Maritza Barcelona**, photography, Miss Porter's School, Farmington,
Chris Altman, Teacher

American Visions Gold Award: **Emily Kearney**, ceramics, Old Lyme HS, Jacqueline
Sullivan/William Allick, teachers

The Connecticut Art Education Association organizes the statewide competition which has become the largest student visual arts event in the state. For more information, visit www.caea.net. The program is part of the National Scholastic Art Awards which was created in New York in 1927 to recognize and encourage young artists. It is now the oldest and largest student arts competition in the country. For more information on the national program visit www.artandwriting.org.

Co-sponsor and host of the Connecticut Scholastics event, the Hartford Art School, University of Hartford, also awarded 14 scholarships of nearly \$750,000 this year. Support also is provided in part by the Connecticut Commission on Culture and Tourism.