24th Annual
Student
Art Contest

Smither Park
May 1, 2022
About Performing Arts Houston

Performing Arts Houston is the largest nonprofit presenting organization of its kind in the entire southwest United States. Performing Arts Houston connects audiences with exceptional artists through diverse performances and learning experiences. We ignite and cultivate passion for the performing arts and together we explore the vast landscape of artistic expression to discover new understanding about ourselves, create community, inspire dialogue, and enrich our world.
In addition to main stage programming, Performing Arts Houston Education and Community Programs leverage the individual talents of the remarkable artists we present on stage to curate programs for schools and our community to Access, Discover, and Create in the performing arts.
Programs for children, youth and college students include master classes, extended artist residencies, lectures and demonstrations, an annual art contest, ticket discounts, student matinees and performance opportunities prior to each main stage presentation. Adult learners, including K-12 educators, can participate in pre-show arts lectures, arts conferences, professional development workshops and special events. Over 100 unique events are held each season in the theater and in schools and throughout our city. Join us in amplifying the arts!
The 24th Annual Student Art Contest
Schedule of Events

1:45 PM | Presentation of Awards

2:15 PM | Meet the Artists

2:30 PM | Artwork Viewing and Reception

Theme: Tapestry of Houston

For years, using the magic of the stage, Performing Arts Houston has celebrated the diverse cultures and communities that make up the great city of Houston through the talents of our visiting artists. This season, that tradition continues with three shows that highlight diverse cultures from around the world that are also strongly represented in Houston: Nella, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, and Yotam Ottolenghi. The 24th Annual Student Art Contest encourages students to explore their own cultural heritage and celebrate the diversity and community found throughout our city. Through their submissions, students are challenged to answer the questions: What communities do you belong to? How can we both honor our heritage and celebrate the future?
First Place
Kynah McCanna
*Festival Under the Moon*
T.H. Rogers, Houston ISD

Second Place
Imani Frelow
*Ailey Dancers*
Jones Primary, Aldine ISD
Teacher: Ernest Davis

Third Place
Isabella Buentello
*Sunny Houston Skies*
Carter Academy, Aldine ISD
Teacher: Yvonne Lopez-Taylor

Honorable Mention
Ava Spears
*What Shapes Us*
Don Jeter Elementary School, Alvin ISD
Teacher: Ciara Shay

Honorable Mention
Damari Rivers
*All of Me*
Don Jeter Elementary School, Alvin ISD
Teacher: Ciara Shay

Honorable Mention
Aaviya Ray
*Aaviya Likes Tacos*
West University Elementary School, Houston ISD
First Place
Emma Lopez
Connected Through Arts
Carter Academy, Aldine ISD
Teacher: Yvonne Lopez-Taylor

Second Place
Jiale Lu
Joy for the New Year
Frostwood Elementary School, Spring Branch ISD
Teacher: Aimee Bray

Third Place
Alyssa Rae Beaver
Food Festival
Savannah Lakes Elementary School, Alvin ISD
Teacher: Llasmin Interiano Colay

Honorable Mention
Christopher Rodriguez Sanchez
Happy New Year
Carter Academy, Aldine ISD
Teacher: Yvonne Lopez-Taylor

Honorable Mention
Dillin Rodriguez
Thoughts in My Head
Carter Academy, Aldine ISD
Teacher: Yvonne Lopez-Taylor
Division C Awards

First Place
Madeline Nguyen
*Fusion*
Hamilton Middle School, Cypress
Fairbanks ISD
Teacher: Kim Lloyd

Second Place
Audrey Nguyen
*The Passage to Freedom*
Hamilton Middle School, Cypress
Fairbanks ISD
Teacher: Kim Lloyd

Third Place
Isabel Rillo
*Beyond the Stage*
St. John Paul II Catholic School
Teacher: Ronda Stieber

Honorable Mention
Paola Duran
*La Bailarina Monocromatica*
Aldine Young Women’s Leadership Academy, Aldine ISD
Teacher: L. Herrera

Honorable Mention
Samantha Gamez
*Bonds of Loyalty*
Hamilton Middle School, Houston ISD
Teacher: Amy Hanks

Honorable Mention
Katherin Benitez
*All About Her*
Stovall Middle School, Aldine ISD
Teacher: Cherri Collins
Division D Awards

First Place
Grace Sowon Park
Unity
Elkins High School, Fort Bend ISD
Teacher: Ryan Morales

Second Place
Giana Helin
Metropolitan Voyages
DeBakey High School for Health Professions, Houston ISD
Teacher: Neda Khan

Third Place
Lanxi Xu
My Revisitation
DeBakey High School for Health Professions, Houston ISD
Teacher: Neda Khan
Division D Awards

Honorable Mention
Itzel Fernandez
*In the Moment*
Carver Magnet High School, Aldine ISD
Teacher: Laura Luna

Honorable Mention
Juniper Boehler
*A People Disregarded*
Carver Magnet High School, Aldine ISD
Teacher: Laura Luna

Honorable Mention
Alianna Valero
*HOME*
Nimitz Senior High School, Aldine ISD
Teacher: Jorge Vazquez

Honorable Mention
Joy Hyewon Park
*Sunlit Lemons*
Elkins High School, Fort Bend ISD
Teacher: Ryan Morales

Honorable Mention
Gayatri Thatte
*A Feast of the World*
DeBakey High School for Health Professions, Houston ISD
Teacher: Neda Khan

Honorable Mention
Anna Karnilow
*Diversity*
Shadow Creek High School, Alvin ISD
Teacher: Jason Moodie
Special Selection Awards

Board Selection
Hannah Cadavid
*Together*
The HUB Houston
Teacher: Susan Pittman

Staff Selection
Jacob Heredia
*Mural Metropolis*
The HUB Houston
Teacher: Susan Pittman

Staff Selection
Christian Abrajan
*Singing Bandit*
Shotwell Academy, Aldine ISD
Teacher: Paige Cullingford

Education Selection
Dar Mawi
*Alter Ego*
DeBakey High School for Health Professions, Houston ISD
Teacher: Neda Khan
Best in Show

The Best in Show award is conferred upon a student in 12th grade who demonstrates a high level of skill and thoughtfulness in execution of this year’s Art Contest theme, TAPESTRY OF HOUSTON.

Best in Show
Elizabeth Jung
Generations
Cypress Ridge High School, Cypress Fairbanks ISD
Performing Arts Houston is grateful to the following individuals who dedicated their time and expertise to make the 24th Annual Student Art Contest happen.

Andrea Allen  
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Emily Slaughter

Additionally, Performing Arts Houston thanks these organizations for their support of the 24th Annual Student Art Contest:

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- Houston Museum of Natural Science  
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- Texas Art Supply

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