

[Meadowdale student earns National Art Award](#)



Monday, 13 April 2009 10:44

A Meadowdale student is among four students from Snohomish County to received a prestigious National Award for their outstanding artwork through The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards, the 86 year-old national program that recognizes outstanding creative teenagers and offers scholarship opportunities for graduating high school seniors.

This year's Award recipients from Snohomish County are:

- Sara Portesan, 18, Meadowdale HS, Gold Medal
- Katie Brandley, 16, Cascade HS, Gold Medal
- Sarah Donley, 16, Cascade HS, Silver Medal
- Margarita Seroshtan, 15, Henry M. Jackson HS, American Visions Medal

The Alliance for Young Artists & Writers, the national nonprofit organization that presents The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards, will honor these students on June 4, 2009, at a gala celebration at Carnegie Hall in New York City. Selected award recipients and high school seniors recognized with top honors for portfolios will have their art/writing exhibited in Manhattan at the World Monuments Fund Gallery. Recipients' artwork chosen for national exhibition from the Snohomish County Region include: Katie Brandley, Computer Art, Threads of Fate; Sara Portesan, Painting, Lianne; Margarita Seroshtan, Computer Art, Nadia.

These students join the ranks of some of our country's most revered artists and writers who have received Scholastic Art & Writing Awards in the past, including Robert Redford, Andy Warhol, Truman Capote, John Lithgow, Bernard Malamud, Joyce Carol Oates, Tom Otterness, Philip Pearlstein, Zac Posen, Sylvia Plath, Richard Avedon, and Robert Indiana.

The first level of recognition for these students' outstanding work took place through the Arts Council of Snohomish County, one of 81 affiliate organizations nationwide that, in partnership with the Alliance, conduct The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards in Snohomish County.

In January, 466 entries were submitted locally and of those, 110 received Gold Key Awards. Gold and Silver Key Award Recipients were honored on February 17 at the Historic Everett Theatre. That same evening, the exhibit opening which showcased all pieces submitted was just one block away at the Historic Monte Cristo Gallery. Over 700 students, teachers, and families attended the awards ceremony and nearly 2,000 people visited the gallery over the 8 day exhibition.

After receiving awards locally, the work of these students was evaluated by an esteemed panel of jurors in New York City, alongside thousands of entries from other regional affiliate programs across the country.

Notable past and current jurors include Robert Frost, Chuck Paluhniak, Gary Panter, Elizabeth Bishop, Frank McCourt, Billy Collins, Judy Blume, William Saroyan, KiKi Smith, Faith Ringgold and Andy Rooney.

Local sponsors that support The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards include: the Arts Council of Snohomish County; Everett Cultural Commission; Melby, Cameron & Anderson as well as American Vision Gift Certificates provided by Everett Artist's Supply and Framing.

For more information, please visit www.artscouncilofsnoco.org and www.artandwriting.org.