



PRESS RELEASE

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The Boston Globe Scholastic Art & Writing Awards, Presented by the School of Museum of Fine Arts, Boston Announces 2014 Winners

Boston City Hall to Host Art Exhibit, Free and Open to the Public

Boston, MA – March 6, 2014 - The Boston Globe Scholastic Art & Writing Awards, presented by the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston (SMFA), announced today that the names and schools of all Gold Key, Silver Key and Honorable Mention winners will be published in the Boston Sunday Globe on March 9th, and appear on Boston.com/scholasticsart starting on March 9th. More than 14,000 pieces of art and 1,800 pieces of writing were entered in this year's competition, which was open to all students, grades 7-12, in Massachusetts.

“We know the arts are central to a complete education for our children,” said Anita Walker, Executive Director of the Massachusetts Cultural Council. “Yet many schools struggle to provide creative learning opportunities for their students because of budget and time constraints. That is why institutional partners like The Boston Globe and the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston play a vital role in this effort. The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards shine a spotlight on why the arts matter so much to our students and our schools.”

The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards program is the country's longest-running and most prestigious national awards program that offers recognition of talent, exhibition opportunities and scholarships for creative teenagers in grades 7-12. While SMFA has offered scholarships to national Scholastic Awards-winning seniors for the past seven years, this year the School established a special scholarship program specifically for Massachusetts students receiving National Scholastic Awards. The new program will provide a \$70,000 award to be distributed equally over the course of a four-year undergraduate degree at SMFA. The recipient of the School's inaugural scholarship will be announced in late March 2014.

“SMFA is honored to support young, talented artists and writers in Massachusetts as the state's affiliate sponsor of the Scholastic Awards,” said Eric Thompson, Vice President of Enrollment and Dean of Admissions. “We are very pleased to be able to offer one Massachusetts student this scholarship opportunity to continue their creative education here at SMFA.”

Two winners of \$5,000 scholarships provided by The Boston Globe Foundation were also announced. The art scholarship went to Austin Ludwig of Wellesley High School. The writing scholarship went to Talin Tahajian of Belmont High School. "These young artists and writers pour their intellect, heart, and soul into this work. They all have something to say, and we're glad we can play a part in introducing them to a broader audience," said Ellen Clegg, President of The Boston Globe Foundation and Executive Director of Communications for the Globe.

In support of the young artists and writers, Boston City Hall will host an exhibition of over 800 pieces of artwork created by Gold Key winners, all of whose work will go on to national competition later this year. The exhibition, courtesy of the Mayor's Office of Arts, Tourism and Special Events, is free and open to the public from March 7-28, Monday-Friday from 9:00am to 5:00pm. To arrange a group tour, please contact Lisa Lamberti at Boston City Hall, 617-635-4101.

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About the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston

Founded in 1876 and accredited by the National Association of Schools of Art and Design, the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston (SMFA), is one of only two art schools in the country affiliated with a major museum—the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. Its mission is to provide an education in the fine arts—for undergraduate and graduate artists—that is interdisciplinary and self-directed. This education values cultural, artistic and intellectual diversity; it embraces a wide range of media; it stresses the development of individual vision and its relation to culture in general; it values equally the knowledge gained by thinking and doing; it is deeply engaged with the world as a whole. If the mission is constant, its practice is always transforming. For more information about the School's programs and partnerships, visit www.smfa.edu.

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