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Cathedral Arts Project hosts Northeast Florida Scholastic Art Awards Portfolio Winners

The Northeast Florida Art Educators Association will host the 8th annual Northeast Florida Scholastic Art Awards on Saturday, February 2, at 10 a.m. at the Florida Theatre. Following the awards ceremony, exhibitions of the winning students' work will open at the Cathedral Arts Project's Heather Moore Community Gallery and the Jacksonville Public Library.

This is the fifth year CAP will host the Gold and Silver Key portfolio winners in its community gallery. The opening reception will be held from 1 to 3 p.m. on Saturday, February 2, at 207 N. Laura Street, Suite 300. The event is free and open to the public.

This year, the exhibition will feature the work of 18 Gold Key and 10 Silver Key portfolio winners that were selected from more than 1,864 submissions by students in Clay, Duval, St. Johns and Volusia counties. The exhibition at CAP will run through March 6.

These students will not only be recognized for their accomplishments in the visual arts, but many will receive scholarships to partnering institutions like Savannah College of Art and Design, Jacksonville University, University of North Florida and New Hampshire Institute of Art.

In addition, the works of Gold Key winners will progress to national adjudication where their work may earn a place at the ceremony at Carnegie Hall where national medals, scholarships and inclusion in a national traveling exhibition will be awarded.

The Scholastic Art and Writing Awards annually recognize the vision, ingenuity and talent of our nation's youth and provide opportunities for creative teens to be celebrated. Since its founding, the Awards have established an amazing track record for identifying the early promise of our nation's most accomplished creative leaders, with alumni including Andy Warhol, Sylvia Plath, Robert Redford, Zac Posen, Ken Burns and countless others.

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The **Cathedral Arts Project** is the leading nonprofit provider of quality, comprehensive and ongoing instruction in the visual and performing arts for elementary and middle school students in Duval County. The driving force behind all CAP programs is the belief that the arts matter – they provide essential skills, like creative thinking, perseverance, teamwork and self-discipline, that benefit all people in all areas of their lives.

Too often, certain populations of students do not have access to an arts-rich education because of limited access and resources in their schools, communities or homes. Yet these are the students for which the arts can have the strongest and longest-lasting impacts. CAP needs your support to accomplish its vision for every child in Northeast Florida to have access to a well-rounded, arts-rich education that endows his or her spirit with the imagination, self-confidence and strength of character that inspires great leadership and a will to succeed. Learn more at capkids.org.

The **Northeast Florida Art Education Association (NeFAEA)** is a professional organization located in Jacksonville, Florida, comprised of both public and private school art educators. Members include elementary, middle and senior high school art educators, as well as those in higher education. NeFAEA acts as a forum to which art teachers may bring issues of concern to the front lines. These issues are further addressed at the administrative level in the school system, as well as at the state level through the Florida Art Education Association (FAEA). Many members of NeFAEA are practicing artists. The organization sponsors two shows per year: The Fall Show and the Spring Art Show, which are juried exhibitions. NeFAEA is the proud sponsor of the Northeast Florida Scholastic Art Award (NeFSAA).

Since 1923, the **Scholastic Art & Writing Awards** have recognized the vision, ingenuity and talent of our nation's youth, and provided opportunities for creative teens to be celebrated. Each year, increasing numbers of teens participate in the program and become a part of our community – young artists and writers, filmmakers and photographers, poets and sculptors, along with countless educators who support and encourage the creative process. Students across America submitted 255,000 original works during the 2014 program year. The Awards are presented by the Alliance for Young Artists & Writers as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, whose mission is to identify students with exceptional artistic and literary talent and present their remarkable work to the world through the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards. Students receive opportunities for recognition, exhibition, publication and scholarship.