

**For Immediate Release:**

**MASSACHUSETTS STUDENTS RECEIVE NATIONAL ART & WRITING  
AWARDS  
AND WILL BE CELEBRATED AT CARNEGIE HALL IN NEW YORK CITY**

**The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards of 2011  
Honor the Nation's Most Talented Young Artists and Writers**

[BOSTON,MA] April 25, 2011 – Seventy students from Massachusetts have received 73 prestigious national Awards for their outstanding art work and writing through The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards, the 88 year-old national program that recognizes outstanding creative teenagers and offers scholarship opportunities for graduating high school seniors.

The nonprofit Alliance for Young Artists & Writers, which administers the Awards, will honor national winners at a special ceremony at the world-famous Carnegie Hall in New York City on May 31. Select award-winning art and writing will be exhibited at the World Financial Center Courtyard Gallery in Lower Manhattan from June 1 – 19. Mayor Bloomberg has declared May 31<sup>st</sup> the official Scholastic Art & Writing Awards Day and the top of the Empire State Building will be lit gold in honor of the students' achievements.

This year's Award recipients from Massachusetts are:

Michele Abercrombie, Photography Portfolio, Newton South High School, Newton, Silver Award;

Nicole Amidon, Art, Monument Mount Regional High School, Great Barrington, Silver Award;

Bryanna Angus, Art, Landmark School, Prides Crossing, Silver Award;

Mica Baevsky, Art, Longmeadow High School, Longmeadow, Silver Award;

Noah Baker, Art, Needham High School, Needham, Gold Award;

Laura Barajas, Art, Walpole High School, Walpole, Silver Award; Art Portfolio, Silver Award;

Laura Barajas, Art Portfolio, Walpole High School, Walpole, Silver Award;

Isaac Bass, Art, Amherst Regional High School, Amherst, Silver Award;

Katie Besanko, Art, Longmeadow High School, Longmeadow, Silver Award;

Christopher Bolivar, Art, Brockton High School, Brockton, Silver Award;

Leah Breen, Writing, The Waring School, Beverly, Gold Award;

Brannan Chen, Art, Weston High School, Weston, Silver Award;

Jonathan Chen, Writing, Wayland High School, Wayland, Silver Medal;

Josh Chen, Art, Sarah W Gibbons Middle School, Westborough, Gold Award;

Haeyeon Cho, Writing, Milton Academy, Milton, Gold Award;

Lindsey Chou, Art ,Bishop Feehan High School, Attleboro, Silver Award;

Brian Chow, Art, Marblehead High School, Marblehead, Silver Award;

Sarah Conklin, Art, Brimmer and May School, Chestnut Hill, Silver Award;

Hannah Connolly, Art, Nipmuc Regional High School, Upton, Gold Award;

Sarah Costello, Writing, Milton Academy, Milton, Gold Award;

Eli Dagostino, Art, Martha's Vineyard Regional High School, Oak Bluffs, Silver Award;

Christine Delay, Art, Horace Mann School, Franklin, Gold Award;

Sara DeLong, Art, Concord Carlisle High School, Concord, Silver Award;

Trevor Denman, Photography Portfolio, Ipswich High School, Ipswich, Silver Award;

Vivian Ewing, Photography Portfolio, Martha's Vineyard Regional High School, Oak Bluffs, Silver Award;

Frances Freedman, Writing, Walsh Middle School, Framingham, Silver Medal;

James Gallagher, Art, Milton High School, Milton, Silver Award;

Hannah Grace, Writing, Milton Academy, Milton, Silver Medal;

Mark Grande, Art, Concord Carlisle High School, Concord, Gold Award;

Elsie Guevara, Art, Berkshire School, Sheffield, Gold Award;

Nicolas Guevara, Photography Portfolio, Cambridge Rindge and Latin, Cambridge, Silver Award;

Viviana Hanley, Writing Portfolio General, Bishop Feehan High School, Attleboro, Silver Medal;

William Hannum, Art Portfolio, Northampton High School, Northampton, Silver Award;

Anna Hasseltine, Art Portfolio, Braintree High School, Braintree, Silver Award;

Stephanie Hayner, Photography Portfolio, Stoughton High School, Stoughton, Silver Award;

Kevin Hong, Writing Portfolio General, Walnut Hill School, Natick, Gold Award;

Apsara Iyer, Writing, Phillips Academy, Andover, Silver Medal;

Lily Jackson, Art, Hingham High School, Hingham, Silver Award;

Yujun Jiang, Art, Acton-Boxborough High School, Acton, Gold Medal; Creativity & Citizenship Scholarship;

Troy Kane, Writing, Minnechaug Regional High School, Wilbraham, Gold Award;

Allison Kelliher, Art, Wellesley Middle School, Wellesley, Silver Award;

Megan Leal Causton, Art Portfolio, Northampton High School, Northampton, Gold Award;

Jee Eun Lee, Writing, Phillips Academy, Andover, Gold Award;

Josephina Lin, Writing, Wellesley Middle School, Wellesley, Silver Medal;

Yi-Wen Liu, Art, The Cambridge School of Weston, Weston, Gold Award;

Rebekah Lizotte, Art, Hudson High School, Hudson, Gold Award;

Caroline Lu, Writing, Wood Hill Middle School, Andover, 2 Silver Medals;

Samuel McKeown, Art Portfolio, Longmeadow High School, Longmeadow, Silver Award;

Henry Mros, III, Art, Taunton High School, Taunton, Gold Award;

David Myers, Writing, Phillips Academy, Andover, Gold Award;

Tarika Narain, Writing, Buckingham Browne & Nichols School, Cambridge, Gold Award;

Jennifer Nguyen, Art, Peabody Veterans Memorial High School, Peabody, Silver Award;

Sarah Ocasio, Photography Portfolio, Stoughton High School, Stoughton, Silver Award;

Meghan O'Donnell, Writing Portfolio Nonfiction, Buckingham Browne & Nichols School, Cambridge, Silver Medal;

Aaron Orbey, Writing, Buckingham Browne & Nichols School, Cambridge, Gold Award;

Adam Ouellet, Writing, Quabbin Regional High School, Barre, Silver Medal;

Cullen Paradise, Art, Falmouth High School, Falmouth, Gold Award;

Edward Pioli, Art, Concord Carlisle High School, Concord, Gold Award;

Shelly Pires, Writing, Walnut Hill School, Natick, Silver Medal;

Martin Quirk, Writing Portfolio Nonfiction, Buckingham Browne & Nichols School, Cambridge, Silver Medal;

Jenna Recco, Art, Littleton High School, Littleton, Silver Award;

Daniel Rider, Writing Portfolio General, Hingham High School, Hingham, Silver Medal;

Evan Ringgard, Art, Quabbin Regional High School, Barre, Silver Award;

Sara Rosenburg, Art, Cambridge Rindge and Latin, Cambridge, Silver Award;

Ashley Sansoucie, Art, Narragansett Regional High School, Baldwinville, Silver Award;

Michaela Savell, Writing, Hudson High School, Hudson, Silver Medal;

Kirin Schmit, Art, The Cambridge School of Weston, Weston, Silver Award;

Alicia Tatone, Art, Bishop Fenwick High School, Peabody, Silver Award;

Unyimeabasi Udoh, Art, Berkshire School, Sheffield, Silver Award;

Mark Yoshizumi, Art Portfolio, Stoneham High School, Stoneham, Silver Award;

Josh Zucker, Art Portfolio, Needham High School, Needham, Gold Award.

The first level of recognition for these students' outstanding work took place through The Boston Globe Scholastic Art & Writing Awards which is administered by the New England Art Education Conference, one of 107 affiliate organizations nationwide that, in partnership with the Alliance, conduct The

Scholastic Art & Writing Awards in Massachusetts. This is the 61st year that The Boston Globe has supported the program in the Commonwealth. Over 7,000 Massachusetts secondary students represented their 412 schools in this year's program. On March 6, over 4,000 students were awarded Gold and Silver Keys at ceremonies in John Hancock Hall in Boston. There is currently an exhibit of this award winning art work at the Massachusetts State Transportation Building which is also located in Boston. The program also recognized almost 2,000 students with Honorable Mention awards. Dr. John Michael Gray, one of the Program Directors, said "This has been a great year for the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards program in Massachusetts. We have had the highest level of participation ever and we have given more awards to more deserving students. To have so many Massachusetts' students win national recognition is thrilling for all of us!"

These students join the ranks of some of our country's most revered artists and writers who have received Scholastic Art & Writing Awards when they were high school, including Robert Redford, Andy Warhol, Truman Capote, John Lithgow, Joyce Carol Oates, John Baldesarri, Philip Pearlstein, Zac Posen, Sylvia Plath, Richard Avedon, Robert Indiana and Abdi Farah (winner of the Bravo reality show *Work of Art: The Next Great Artist*).

The annual Awards competition begins locally as students in grades 7-12 submit works of art and writing to their local affiliates, which are evaluated by a panel of jurors comprised of artists, authors, educators and other arts professionals. Works are judged on originality, technical skill and the emergence of a personal vision or voice and those receiving top honors are then submitted for national adjudication. Notable past and current national jurors include Robert Frost, Chuck Paluhniak, Gary Panter, Frank McCourt, Judy Blume, Billy Collins, Peggy Noonan, William Saroyan, KiKi Smith and Lesley Stahl.

Since 1923, the Awards have recognized more than 13 million students and made available over \$25 million in scholarships. They continue to be the longest-running, most prestigious recognition program for creative teens and the largest source of scholarships for young artists and writers. The program is generously supported by Scholastic Inc., Maurice R. Robinson Foundation, Jack Kent Cooke Foundation, Command Web Offset, AMD Foundation, The New York Times, Dick Blick Co., Ovation, and New York Life Foundation.

For more information about The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards, please visit [artandwriting.org](http://artandwriting.org).

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