

**Denton Independent School District
Board of Trustees
Certificates of Recognition
Tuesday, April 10, 2007**

PTA

Students place in PTA reflections competition at state level

One student from Denton Independent School District has had his poem advance to national competition in the Texas and National PTA Reflections contest.

The poem of Theodore “Teddy” Yan, a junior at Denton High, has advanced to the National PTA competition as the top Overall Award of Excellence for Literature in Texas.

His poem, titled *Piano*, will now compete with top young writers in the nation:

Piano

A note in the silence,
Crystal clear and just as delicate,
Ready and expecting a clang, a crash,
Something to crush it underfoot.

A second note climbs atop the first.
Finding strength in the unison.
The sluice ticks open a chord,
A vibrant, bitter cacophony
Rises uncertainly from within.

The fingers doubtfully float,
Picking at the keys slowly,
Softly avoiding the sorrow,
Knowing the confrontation is due,
But refusing to face it yet.

The notes fade away, afraid,
Aware of the cliff upon which they stand.
They hear their echoes across the room,
Take a deep breath,
And fall.

The dam opens, waters unleashed,
All the dark blood pounding on ivory,
Each sound resounding in the room,
Echoing anger, sorrow, frustration,
The very air thickening,
Drowning in unrepentant emotion.

Every scream of strings,
Injured hammer strike,
Dying echo of sound,
Melds and flows together,

A melodic river emerging from the keys,
Flowing over the broken heart,
Washing off the cuts and bruises,
Soothing the blackened waters of hurt,
Calming the vengeful tempest.

I rise from the keys and find solace within my mind. In this sedate river of serenity do I find peace, Safe from the ills and troubles until I stand on the shore, Ready to face life once more.

The following students also received awards at the state PTA Reflections competition:

Dance Choreography: **Katie Chaney-Jensen**, Sam Houston Elementary, and **Anna Marie-Bobo**, Pecan Creek Elementary, received Honorable Mention.

Photography: **Marshall Mordecai**, Providence Elementary, received an Award of Merit, and **Andrew Brase**, Guyer High, received Honorable mention. Both photos were chosen for the summer exhibit in Austin.

Music: **Emily Hu**, Sam Houston Elementary, received Honorable Mention.

Visual Arts: **Blake Ellsworth**, Hodge Elementary, and **Shelby Payne**, Guyer High, received Honorable Mention. Shelby's work was picked for the summer exhibit in Austin. **Sarah Vettters**, Pecan Creek Elementary, won an Award of Merit and was selected for the Austin exhibit.

LAGRONE ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY COMPLEX

CTE students win top awards in Texas Skills USA competition

The students from the LaGrone Advanced Technology Complex's brought home top awards from the Texas Skills USA Championship competition recently conducted in Corpus Christi.

Cosmetology

The following cosmetology students won top state awards:

Jimena Barrera, Denton High, won first place in Cosmetology Photo Panel and first place in Nail Art. She created a flower garden of nails. The garden included a white fence, river with nails, and flowers made of nails in the garden. She even included a little boy and a dog out of nails looking through the fence.

Lizzy Badiru, Guyer High, won third place in Fantasy Hairstyling.

Bailey Carrigan, Aubrey High, won first place and Runner-up in Best of Show in Salon Innovative. She created and built a salon that was three feet tall.

Emily Anderson, Argyle High, was first place in photo panel.

The sponsoring teachers are Brenda Buster and Linda Dalton.

Advertising Design

The following Advertising Design students competed and brought home eight top awards. Out of the 14 projects that the students entered, eight were awarded first place state awards, three received second place and three received third place.

The students who received state awards include:

Nathan Whitmore, Denton High, bronze medal in Advertising Design Skills Competition and first place in Advertising Design Projects

Alexandria Albini, Ryan High, first place in Advertising Design Projects and Best of Show.

James Hoger, Denton High, first place in Advertising Design Projects
Claire Morales, Denton High, first place state award in Advertising Design Projects.

Bess Whitby, Denton High, first place, in Advertising Design Projects.

Summer Light, Denton High, first place in Advertising Design Projects.

Derek Deiterman, Denton High, first place in Advertising Design Projects.

Teresa Rodriguez, Denton High, second place in Advertising Design Projects.

Francesca Frammer, Denton High, third place in Advertising Design Projects.

Addy McCauley, Ryan High, first place in Advertising Design Projects.

Chris Enoch, Ryan High, second place in Advertising Design Projects.

Kristina Salas, Ryan High, third place in Advertising Design Projects.

Ezra Aragon, Guyer High, second place in Advertising Design Projects.

Chris Jessup, Fred Moore High, third place in Advertising Design Projects.

The sponsoring teacher is Dena Moss.

Automotive Technology

In Automotive Technology, a student and a team won top state awards:

Phillip Graham, Ryan High, won the state pin design competition. His design will be reproduced and used as the official Skills USA pin for 2008. He was number one out of several hundred designs from across the state.

The class project placed second in state competition. Team members include:

Javier Chavarria, Guyer High; **Mannie Hihato**, Denton High; **Blake Freytag**, Ryan High; **Phillip Graham**, Ryan High; **Charlie Rosendahl**, Ryan High; **Chris McMurray**, Krum High; **Michael Painter**, Krum High, and **Kasey Kruger**, Pilot Point High.

The sponsoring teachers are **Mir Alikhan** and **Russ Keith**.

Electronics

In Electronics, two students and top state awards:

Ryan Donnelly, Ryan High, received a State Superior Award and a blue ribbon for Electronics Applications.

Kristle Reyes, Ryan High, received a State Superior Award and a blue ribbon for Electronics Technology.

The sponsoring teacher is **Richard Vaughn**.

“Best 100 Communities”

Denton ISD honored for its outstanding music education programs

For the eighth year in a row, a survey conducted by a partnership of leading music and educational organizations has identified the “Best 100 Communities for Music Education in America.” The 2007 list includes Denton Independent School District for its commitment to school-based music programs.

The National Association of Music Merchants Foundation and its American Music Conference division, which both work to promote the benefits of active participation in music and music education, sponsored the survey.

According to the results of the survey, recipients of this distinction cite increased enrollment in and funding for school music programs.

Thousands of teachers, administrators, school board members, parents and community leaders participated in the Web-based survey. The 2007 roster includes school districts from 31 states that are committed to quality music education programs and providing access to music education. The districts were measured across a variety of program support, curricular and programmatic criteria.