

Board Recognition
May 14, 2024

Fifteen Denton ISD Students Receive All-State Honors at VASE Competition

Fifteen Denton ISD students received all-state honors in the Visual Arts Scholastic Event (VASE) – an annual competition with nearly 35,000 entries. Academically eligible high school students in grades 9-12 can participate in VASE.

Students create artwork, write about their creative processes and understanding of visual art, and articulate information about their artwork during an interview with a VASE juror, who evaluates their work using a standards-based rubric. To qualify for state, students must attend a regional event and have their original artwork with them at the event.

Jurors then interview students and evaluate the artwork using the aforementioned rubric. Artwork receiving an Exemplary Rating (IV) receives a medallion at the state VASE competition. The state jury panel will then select Gold Seal winners from artwork receiving an Exemplary Writing, and Gold Seal artworks receive a State Gold Seal medallion.

Denton ISD's 15 all-state VASE students include the following:

Braswell High School

Alazjah Tate – All-State, Gold Seal Medallion
Ms. Kiba Jacobson, Teacher

Arabella Graham – All-State
Ms. Angie Ford, Teacher

Samantha Melendez – All-State
Mr. Joshua Villegas, Teacher

Izabella Viola – All-State

Ms. Angie Ford, Teacher

Guyer High School

Jade Arnquist-forte – All-State
Mr. Christian Reid, Teacher

Angelo Gallizzi – All-State
Mr. Jeremy Saley, Teacher

Manya Kumari – All-State
Mr. Christian Reid, Teacher

Jillian Love – All-State
Mr. Christian Reid, Teacher

Jaden Mayville – All-State
Ms. Tiffany Fitzsimmons, Teacher

Kaylee Murray – All-State
Ms. Shaye Watson, Teacher

Lillian B. Rodgers – All-State
Mr. Jeremy Sale, Teacher

Mia Stolp – All-State
Mr. John Mooney, Teacher

Ryan High School

Paola Farinas – All-State, Gold Seal Medallion
Ms. Aimee Foutch, Teacher

Nova Bailey – All-State
Ms. Aimee Foutch, Teacher

Emily Stanley – All-State
Ms. Aimee Foutch, Teacher

Kailyn Head Wins Class 5A State Championship in 300-Meter Hurdles

Ryan High School's Kailyn Head won the Class 5A title in the 300-meter hurdles at the UIL State Track and Field championships.

The Ryan High junior finished the race in 41.2 seconds to claim the gold medal. She won the district, area and regional title in the event, as well.

Ryan High School track coach Janson Head will be in attendance with Kailyn to receive this recognition. The principal of Ryan High School is Vernon Reeves.

Michelle Duesman Receives James Madison Fellowship

Michelle Duesman, an eighth-grade history teacher at McMath Middle School, has received the James Madison Fellowship from Georgetown University worth up to \$25,000.

The fellowship will go towards graduate school for Ms. Duesman, where she will take classes in constitutional history. Ms. Duesman is just the second teacher in Denton ISD to receive this fellowship. In addition to receiving the James Madison Fellowship this year, Ms. Duesman was also named the Texas Council for the Social Studies Outstanding Middle School Teacher of the Year.

Ms. Duesman will be in attendance to receive this recognition. The principal of McMath Middle School is Brett Moore.

Board Spotlight

James Rosin, the inaugural winner of the Corky Stuckenbruck Impact Award, goes above and beyond for his students. Mr. Rosin has served as the art teacher at Denton High School since 2008, and he makes it his mission to create a safe and encouraging environment where every student feels valued and empowered to explore their creativity in the classroom.

Mr. Rosin extends his classroom hours by opening his door in the summer and on Saturdays, so students can have extra studio time. Many of Mr. Rosin's students have gone on to pursue careers in the arts, working at Disney, Pixar Animation and as art curators, professional artists and even as art educators.

Mr. Rosin will be in attendance to receive this recognition. The principal of Denton High School is Joel Hays.

Community Spotlight

Each year, the Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) honors businesses and organizations for their support and exceptional advocacy of public schools. This statewide honor, as part of "Stand Up for Texas Public Schools," recognizes local businesses, community organizations and individuals that partner with school districts, making a difference in the lives of public-school students.

Denton Noon Rotary has been a longtime supporter of Denton ISD. Earlier this year, Denton Noon Rotary generously donated over \$22,000 worth of books that were distributed to all incoming kindergarten students at the district's Kindergarten Roundup.

For the unique way Denton Noon Rotary has assisted our district, and for going above and beyond to assist our students and staff, we wish to thank them for their continued support.

Members of Denton Noon Rotary who will be in attendance to receive this recognition include Randi Skinner and Rebecca Jackson.