

Board Recognition

Oct. 24, 2023

24 Denton ISD Art Students Honored for Work, Exhibited at TASA/TASB

The Texas Art Education Association (TAEA) advocates for art education throughout the state of Texas. This year at the Texas Association of School Administrators and Texas Association of School Boards (TASA/TASB) Conference, artwork from eight Denton ISD students was selected for a TAEA art exhibit featuring artwork from across the state.

Denton ISD was also invited to the TASA/TASB Conference as a student demonstration group, showing school leaders the importance of art education. Sixteen additional students created collaborative art pieces featuring various Denton ISD namesakes. These art pieces will be donated to the Denton Public School Foundation (DPSF) to auction for student scholarships at the annual DPSF Groundhog Gala.

The eight students whose art was selected for the exhibit include:

Ja'Mya Herrod, Ryan High School
The art educator at Ryan High School is Kerrie Shue.

Sydney Pulliam, Ryan High School
The art educator at Ryan High School is Jayden Johnson.

Chloe Pace, Guyer High School
The art educator at Guyer High School is Jeremy Sale.

Jordyn Woolfolk, Cross Oaks Elementary
The art educator at Cross Oaks Elementary is Stacy Bzdok.

Adriana Mendoza, Myers Middle School
The art educator at Myers Middle School is Megan Trammell.

Kennedy Scherpenisse, Harpool Middle School
The art educator at Harpool Middle School is Brett Moore.

Amelia El-Kurd, Adkins Elementary
The art educator at Adkins Elementary is Jamie McCormick.

Emma Thomas, Pecan Creek Elementary
The art educator at Pecan Creek Elementary is Jennifer Diaz.

The 16 students who created collaborative art pieces featuring Denton ISD namesakes include:

Xiwen Hou, Adkins Elementary
Blake Singleton, Adkins Elementary
Fernanda Serra Zullian, Adkins Elementary
Amelia El-Kurd, Adkins Elementary
Lang McCormick, Adkins Elementary

Jayden Martinez, Adkins Elementary
Abram Renteria, Adkins Elementary
Blake Peebles, Adkins Elementary
Gabriel Estrada, Borman Elementary
Jeremiah Berger, Borman Elementary
Cayden Hughes, Borman Elementary
Anthony Ramirez, Borman Elementary
Dalezya Gamez, Borman Elementary
Lacey Ortiz, Borman Elementary
Layla Phillips, Borman Elementary
Keyasia Marable, Borman Elementary

The art educator at Adkins Elementary is Jamie McCormick. The art educator at Borman Elementary is Casey Golden.

Board Spotlight – Mark Smith

Mark Smith is a globally renowned painter who attended Denton High School in the 1960s. Mr. Smith has over four decades of experience working as a professional artist, design consultant and professor of Art and Design, both at Texas Woman's University and Austin College.

While Mr. Smith has a passion for fine arts himself, he also is passionate about helping students who are interested in pursuing fine arts. That passion is what led Mr. Smith to donate \$1 million to the Denton Public School Foundation in order to start an endowment that will fund yearly scholarships and awards for fine arts students and educators.

Denton ISD wishes to thank Mr. Smith for his incredible generosity that will impact future generations of students and educators for years to come.

Mark Smith and his wife, Barbara, will be on hand to receive the recognition. Board members from the Denton Public Schools Foundation, including Jackie Jackson, director, will be present to receive this gift.