

EDUCATION » DISTRICT 99

7 students earn National Scholastic Art awards

Gold medals awarded to 2 D. 99 students

Seven students from Downers Grove North and South high schools have received national medals in the 2016 Scholastic Art & Writing Awards competition.

Of the 320,000 works of art and writing submitted, 2,400 were awarded medals at the national level, 100 of which went to Illinois students.

From Downers Grove South High School, Claire Pikul and Alessandra Lane received national medals.

Pikul earned two gold medals, both in the digital art category, while Lane received a silver medal in the photography category.

"Earning a national award from the Scholastic Art and Writing Awards is the pinnacle of success



SUBMITTED PHOTO
'Struck' by
Claire Pikul.

for a high school artist," said fine arts department chairman Glenn Williams. "We are extremely proud of Claire and Alessandra and their mentor teacher, Michelle Lynn, for earning this recognition at a national level."

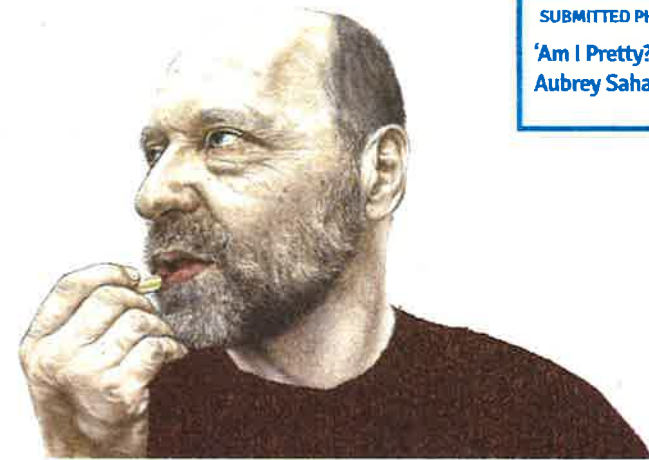
Their teacher agreed, saying that both girls are extremely talented and work extremely hard every day.

"These pieces were selected from a national pool of student work

and are deserving of these awards," Lynn said.

From Downers Grove North High School, five students received national medals in the 2016 Scholastic Art & Writing Awards.

Aubrey Saha received a gold medal in the drawing and illustration category; Jessica Novotny earned a silver medal in the photography category; Emma Wilson earned a silver medal in the poetry category;



SUBMITTED PHOTO
'Am I Pretty?' by
Aubrey Saha.

and Olivia Wojciak and Angela Wong both earned a silver medal in the ceramics and glass category.

The students were taught by Megan Kelly, Marty Voelker, John Waite and Leslie Miller.

"We are extremely proud of Jessica, Aubrey, Olivia and Angela. This national recognition is a significant affirmation of their dedication to the arts, and their creative talents," fine arts department chairperson

Brayer Teague said. Receiving a national medal from the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards places student artists within the top 1 percent of all submissions from a national pool of artwork. Student work will be in exhibition at Carnegie Hall in New York this summer.

For more information on the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards, visit www.artandwriting.org.