



**Scholastic
Art & Writing
Awards**

Alliance for
Young Artists
& Writers

March 19, 2018

THORNTON ACADEMY
438 MAIN ST
SACO, ME 04072

Dear Mr. Rene Menard,

The Alliance for Young Artists & Writers recently announced the 2018 Scholastic Art & Writing Awards National Medalists. We're proud to count student(s) from your school among the recipients. This recognition shines a light on your leadership, your faculty's efforts, and your school's dedication to education in the creative arts. A complete list of National Medalists from your school is enclosed. Students receiving top Awards and their educators will receive certificates commemorating their achievements.

National Medalists represent less than 1% of submissions to the 2018 Scholastic Awards. This year students submitted nearly 350,000 works of art and writing. Nearly 20,000 submissions received regional Gold Keys—the top honor at the regional level. Nearly 3,300 medals were awarded at the national level!

Since 1923, the Awards have recognized creative teenagers from across the country. By receiving a Scholastic Art & Writing Awards National Medal, these students join a legacy of celebrated authors and artists including Andy Warhol, Sylvia Plath, Truman Capote, Robert Redford, Joyce Carol Oates, and the renowned author and illustrator who will receive our Alumni Achievement Award this year, Marc Brown.

Students receiving top Awards and their educators are invited to attend our annual National Events in New York City, with a National Ceremony at Carnegie Hall on Thursday, June 7, and a series of student showcase events. Art and writing from Gold Medalists will also be featured in the National Exhibition at Parsons School of Design at The New School and Pratt Institute's Pratt Manhattan Gallery. The exhibition will be on display June 1–10.

We encourage you to let your school know about this tremendous achievement! We drafted a script you can use to congratulate your student(s) in your school's announcements, website, and newsletters:

We are pleased to announce that the following students have earned National Medals in the 2018 Scholastic Art & Writing Awards, presented by the Alliance for Young Artists & Writers. [Announce Student Names] Their work was selected by creative professionals as the most accomplished in the nation. This year, nearly 350,000 works of art and writing were submitted. Less than 1% were recognized at the national level. Students receiving top Awards have been invited to attend a ceremony at the world-famous Carnegie Hall on June 7 and to participate in

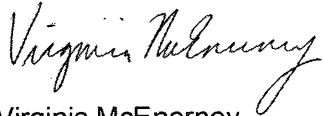
showcase events at Parsons School for Design at The New School and Pratt Institute's Pratt Manhattan Gallery in New York City. We're proud to have these students represent our school in this year's Scholastic Art & Writing Awards.

We are indebted to the educators who motivate their students and encourage them to achieve at the highest level. We are equally indebted to you for the clear message you provide in assuring that the development of creative skills is an important part of a well-rounded curriculum. To further share your school and educators' accomplishments, the Alliance has sent letters of congratulation to arts leaders, Governors, and Senators from your state.

Thank you again for your leadership in assuring that the creative talents of America's students are recognized and encouraged.

Please contact me at virginia@artandwriting.org or 212-343-7702 if you have any questions about the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards or about the students in your school who received them.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Virginia McEnerney". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Virginia McEnerney
Executive Director, Alliance for Young Artists & Writers



ANNOUNCING THE 2018 SCHOLASTIC ART & WRITING AWARDS NATIONAL MEDALISTS!

The Alliance for Young Artists & Writers congratulates the following students for receiving a National Medal in the 2018 Scholastic Art & Writing Awards.

First Name	Last Name	Grade	School	City	State	Title	Category	National Award
An	Ho	12	Thornton Academy	Saco	ME	The Burger Workshop	Design	Silver Medal