

For Immediate Release

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COLORADO STUDENTS WIN NATIONAL ARTS & WRITING AWARDS

Denver, CO -- Who are the most talented young writers and artists in America? [The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards](#), a national program that identifies and develops creative teenagers, has announced the 2008 recipients of the prestigious Scholastics Awards & Scholarships.

Before being evaluated on a national level, student work is considered on a state level. This year, the Colorado Scholastics competition received more than 3,000 submissions and one hundred thirty-five were forwarded to the Alliance for scholarship consideration.

The Alliance reviewed these one hundred thirty-five pieces against thousands of works of art and writing, submitted through regional affiliate programs across the nation for consideration in 25 categories of art and writing. The submissions are evaluated locally and nationally by a panel of jurors comprised of renowned artists, authors, educators and arts professionals.

Those selected as national winners include:

Jihye Kim, Smoky Hill High School, multiple award winner
[Jihye received three awards at the national level: the prestigious "American Visions" award for her computer art entitled *Looking for Answers*, a gold award for her sculpture titled self-portrait and a silver award for her portfolio of work as a whole.]

Lauren Youngsmith, Colorado Academy, gold award, *Zhixiang*, painting and Gold for Drama Script "Fifteen After"

Dylan Pierpont, Arapahoe High School, gold award, *Ghosted City*, computer art

Cornelia Peterson, Conifer High School, gold award, *The Barrio*, photography

Huan Manton, Denver School of the Arts, gold award, *The Nanjing Massacre*, video & film

Jaime Gastelle, Fossil Ridge High School, gold award, *Self Portrait*, drawing

Ashley Colcord, Montezuma Cortez High School, gold award, *Orphans*, drawing

Sophia Sweeney, Boulder High School, silver award, *A Chill*, painting

Larry Fox, Dakota Ridge High School, silver award, *Next Time We See His Face It'll Be on a Milk Carton*, graphic design

Eric Jordan, Kinard Junior High School, silver award, *Alaskan Fjord*, painting

Jera Dobroth, Rocky Mountain High School, silver award, art portfolio

Annihka Murray, Rocky Mountain High School, silver award, art portfolio

Geoffrey Sauer, Roosevelt High School, silver award, art portfolio

Kaylen Lytle, The Colorado Springs School, silver award, *Front Gate*, photography

Kristin Stenerson, Thornton High School, silver award, *Sound Series*, jewelry

Maria Miller, ThunderRidge High School, silver award, *Mystic Sea*, jewelry

Megan Callahan, Arapahoe High School, gold, poetry *Water Terrorists and Happiness*

Cassandra Stroud, Colorado Academy, silver, general writing portfolio

Sam Watson, Dakota Ridge High School, gold, short story *There is a House, There is a House*

Brenna Watry, Liberty High School, silver, science fiction writing

On June 5, these award recipients will be honored at a special ceremony at Carnegie Hall in New York City. To celebrate the Awards' 85th year anniversary, portfolios and other selected work will be showcased at exhibitions in three highly respected Manhattan galleries: White Columns (May 29-June 7), Reeves Contemporary (June 4-7) and NYArts Gallery (June 2-13).

Distinguished past recipients of Scholastics awards include Andy Warhol, Robert Redford, Sue Miller, Richard Avedon, Zac Posen, Joyce Carol Oates, Tom Otterness, Sylvia Plath, John Lithgow, Joyce Maynard, David Salle and Francine Prose, who received recognition when they were in high school.

To learn more about the Scholastics program or to see the art work go to www.scholastics.rmcad.edu For more information, please contact Pam Starck, Scholastics Colorado Program Director, at 303.225.8571 or scholastics@rmcad.edu