



SARASOTA COUNTY SCHOOLS

NEWS RELEASE

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Pine View graduate wins national Scholastic Art & Writing Award

SARASOTA COUNTY – A 2013 Pine View School graduate has received a national award for artwork she created in her senior year. Emily Gaubatz's "Misty Forest," a photograph printed in three layers of translucent paper, is a winner in the 2013 Scholastic Art & Writing Awards.

"Misty Forest" will be displayed along with 57 other works of art and writing in the lobby of the Lyndon Baines Johnson Department of Education Building in Washington, D.C. as part of a project called ART.WRITE.NOW.DC. A ribbon-cutting for the year-long exhibit will be held at 11 a.m., Friday, Sept. 13. Other events for winners will be held throughout the day, including a docent-led tour of the Hirshorn Museum of Art and a tour of artwork displayed at the offices of the President's Committee on the Arts and Humanities. Gaubatz, who is studying Business Administration/Marketing at the University of Florida, is unable to attend the ceremony in Washington due to college commitments.

Kat Hendrix, associate director of programs for the Alliance for Young Artists & Writers, which administers the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards, wrote in a congratulatory letter, "We are honored to present Emily Gaubatz's art as an example of the very best creative work by our nation's emerging young artists."

Gaubatz said she was inspired to take the photo while driving through the Great Smoky Mountains in North Carolina.

"It was a crisp morning in winter and the forest was so calming and peaceful," said Gaubatz. "I stopped and took pictures of the tops of the trees with the mist looming in the branches." But she found that it was a challenge "to create the depth and beauty of a forest on a two-dimensional scale. I enjoy finding new ways to present my pictures and make them more interesting, so I try different papers, print settings and materials."

She said her goal with "Misty Forest" was "to figure out a way I could make it more '3-D' so the person looking into my picture might get lost in the mystery of it like I did."

She came up with the idea of printing the photos in three different layers of a paper called organza. As a result of this effect, she said, "there is space in the picture so the viewer can linger in it longer."

Gaubatz was honored to receive the award. "It is really amazing to think of my art being displayed in Washington, D.C. It really boosted my confidence as a photographer."

Her former art teacher at Pine View, Retsy Lauer, describes Gaubatz as "a very independent creative young lady. Emily worked very hard to improve her photography skills while at Pine View. She was always trying new ideas and techniques. She was a lovely person to have in class."

(MORE)

Pine View graduate wins national Scholastic Art & Writing Award, cont'd.

Lauer urges interested Sarasota County students to submit artwork for the 2014 Scholastic Art & Writing Awards. The deadline for all entries is Friday, Jan. 17. Artwork will be judged Saturday, Jan. 18. The art awards and show are scheduled for Thursday, Jan. 30, at Ringling College of Art and Design. Interested students may contact Lauer for more information. She may be reached via email at Retsy.Lauer@SarasotaCountySchools.net or by calling Pine View at 941-486-2001.

About the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards

The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards were established in 1923. Over the years they have grown to become the longest-running recognition program for creative teens in the U.S., and the nation's largest source of scholarships for creative young artists and writers. A roster of past winners includes Andy Warhol, Sylvia Plath, Truman Capote, Richard Avedon, Robert Redford, Joyce Carol Oates, Stephen King, John Updike and many more.

Each year the Alliance for Young Artists & Writers, which administers the awards, partners with more than 100 visual and literary-arts organizations across the country to bring the awards to local communities. Teens in grades seven through 12 can apply in 28 categories of art and writing for the chance to earn scholarships and have their works exhibited or published. Submissions are juried by professionals in the visual and literary arts, some of whom are past award recipients. Panelists look for works that best exemplify originality, technical skill and the emergence of a personal voice or vision.

In the last five years alone, students submitted nearly 900,000 original works of art and writing. During that period, more than 60 top arts institutes and colleges have partnered with the Alliance to make \$40 million in scholarships and financial aid available to regional and national winners of the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards.

PHOTO CAPTIONS:

- Emily Gaubatz, a 2013 Pine View graduate, currently attends the University of Florida.
- "Misty Forest," a photograph by Emily Gaubatz, is a 2013 Scholastic Art & Writing Awards winner.