



## PRESS RELEASE

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### Weekend of Art

*Los Alamitos, CA* – The Los Alamitos Recreation and Community Services Department welcomed artists to the free, 7<sup>th</sup> annual Weekend of Art event which returned for March 2023 packed with new and seasoned artists of all ages while continuing to partner with the Los Alamitos Unified School District.

Weekend of Art, presented by the Los Alamitos Parks, Recreation & Cultural Arts Commission, took place on March 17 & 18, 2023 at the Los Alamitos Community Center. Recreation Coordinator Cassidy Figueroa spearheaded the two-day visual and performing arts exhibition that showcased 11 different mediums of art, and a variety of stage performances by the department's Lil Oak Preschool Program as well as various local dance groups. Sponsors for the event included Orange County First District Supervisor Andrew Do and Mr. Inkwells Tattoo shop. Generous donations were also received from Forest Lawn, Ganahl Lumber, and Art Supply Warehouse. Awards and certificates were given to 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place winners for the eight categories available; in addition, a select few were able to win special categories which included the Mayor's Award, Commissioner's Award, People's Choice Award, and Most Artistic School in Los Alamitos School District. The panel of judges was made up of Los Alamitos City Council Members and the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Commissioners. Award winners are listed below:

#### **DISTINGUISHED AWARDS:**

Mayor's Award: 1st place – Alexandra Stiller -Untitled

Commissioner's Award: 1st place – Carol Churchill – California Dreaming

People's Choice Award: 1st place – Matt Arroyo – A Letter Unread

Most Artistic School in Los Alamitos Unified School District – Los Alamitos High School

## **TWO DIMENSIONAL AWARDS:**

### **Elementary Division (Pre-K-5th grade) Awards: 1st-3rd place**

1st Place: Aisha Revagad – My Loving Family

2nd Place: Kora Walker – Crayon Me Jaxx

3rd Place: Kaveer Kamdar – The Unicorn

### **Middle School Division (6th-8th grade) Awards: 1st-3rd place**

1st Place: Sophia June – In Search of My Voice

2nd Place: SoHan Manur – Drowning Hands

3rd Place: Bodhi Mingus Tran – Gongni

### **High School Division (9th-12th grade) Awards: 1st-2nd place**

1st Place: Rachel Kim – Here We Are Again

2nd Place: Trista Candiotty – Rainy Car Ride

3rd Place: Rachel Kim – Never Ending Greed

### **Adult (High School Graduate+) Division Awards: 1st-3rd place**

1st Place: John Peterson - Viotti

2nd Place: Dolores Youseff – Coming Home

3rd Place: Tricia Alexander – Day Dreamer

## **THREE DIMENSIONAL AWARDS:**

### **Elementary Division (Pre-K-5th grade) Awards: 1st-3rd place**

1st Place: Stella Woods – Native American Basket

2nd Place: Annmarie Ewing – Ominon Coral Creatioin

3rd Place: Katelyn Ewing – Rainbow Opposite Box

### **Middle School Division (6th-8th grade) Awards: 1st-3rd place**

1st Place: Riley Kuhlendahl – Mushrooms

2nd Place: Skylar Wadleigh – Bear of All Seasons

3rd Place: No Winner

### **High School Division (9th-12th grade) Awards: 1st-3rd place**

1st Place: Parker Wilson – Tiki

2nd Place: Ellis Duff – Pottery

3rd Place: Kayla Candiotty – Sandy Wave

## **Adult (High School Graduate+) Division Awards: 1st-3rd place**

1st Place: Brian Tomasin – F-4 B Phantom

2nd Place: Michael Symmons – Leather Explorer Backpack

3rd Place: Kevin Boylan - Secrets

With approximately 800 visitors, Weekend of Art continued to offer a space for young, aspiring artists through the partnership with the Los Alamitos United School District's PTA Reflections Program. The Recreation and Community Services Department worked closely with local schools to highlight students' submissions. In total, the event received over 300 submissions with 100 being 3-dimensional pieces.

The event provided families and kids with opportunities to participate in a multitude of different ways. In addition to art installations and live stage performances, participants were provided face painting and caricature activities as well as art & craft activities catered for children. One additional highlight for many was the live portrait workshop class which was hosted by one of the department's contract instructors Ying Liu. Members of the community were invited to take part in a free portrait workshop class with a live model. The event is a wonderful showcase of the amazing talent in our community and continues to grow each year.

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