The Council for Art Education Announces 2015/2016 Youth Art Month Award Winners

At its recent meeting, The Council for Art Education Board of Directors voted to recognize the following individuals for contributions to their 2015/2016 Youth Art Month Programs:

**Claire Flanagan Memorial (Grand) Award:** Wisconsin  
Tiffany Beltz, Chairperson

**Award of Excellence:**  
Texas: Jen Holsinger-Raybourn, Chairperson  
New Jersey: Jennifer Johnson-Tiongson, Karen Mannino, Carolyn Berry, Co-Chairs  
Virginia: Jessica Beach, Chairperson

**Award of Merit:**  
Illinois: Greg Petecki, Chairperson  
New York: Julia Lang-Shapiro, Donnalyn Schuster, Heather McCutcheon, Co-Chairs  
Georgia: Alexandrea Boyington and Kaitlynn Mockett, Co-Chairs  
Alabama: April Jones, Chairperson

**Special Recognition:**  
Ohio: Kelly Burichin, Robin Klass, Dawn Norris, Co-Chairs  
Oklahoma: Michelle Barnes and Sarah Carnes, Co-Chairs  
Kansas: Lynn Felts, Chairperson; Megan Wendleton, Kate Miller, Johnna Smith  
New Mexico: Vicki Breen and Sherri Smith, Co-Chairs, Lindsey Allen

To be eligible for recognition, state chairpersons submitted documentation of their Youth Art Month Programs. Documentation was evaluated across a variety of key categories, based on predetermined criteria.

Awards will be presented to the recipients at the 2017 National Art Education Association (NAEA) Convention, March 2-4 in New York.

Sponsored nationally by The Council for Art Education, Youth Art Month is an annual observance, typically in March, designed to emphasize the value of art education for all youth and to encourage support for quality school art programs. Youth Art Month provides a forum for acknowledging the imagination, innovation, and creative skills that a visual arts experience can nurture. Across the country, students, teachers and communities direct attention to the value of a visual arts education that develops divergent and critical thinking, multicultural awareness, and technical, communication, and expressive skills.

To find out more about Youth Art Month or to participate in Youth Art Month activities, contact your state chairperson, state art education association, or The Council for Art Education at www.councilforarteducation.org.

The Council for Art Education (CFAE) is a non-profit 501(c)(3) association created in 1984 through The Art & Creative Materials Institute, Inc. (ACMI). ACMI seeks to promote safety in art and creative products through its certification program, and is a major sponsor of CFAE.

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