

Averill Park Artists receive honors in the 2025-26 Scholastics Art and Writing Competition

The following Averill Park art students submitted artwork to the Scholastics Art and writing competition this year; Shea Eller, Sydney Farron, Rebecca Gallerani, Anastazia Valachovic and Lana Valachovic earned recognition for their tremendous work. Since 1923 the Scholastic Awards have recognized some of America's most celebrated artists including Amanda Gorman, Tschabalala Self, Stephen King, Kay WalkingStick, Charles White, Joyce Carol Oates, and Andy Warhol. Each work of art is blindly adjudicated locally through the more than 100 affiliates of the Alliance based on originality, technical skill, and emergence of personal vision or voice.

The central New York region submitted over 4,555 entries. A panel of professional artists, educators and photographers judged the pieces and selected nearly 1,300 works for Gold Keys, Silver Keys and Honorable Mentions.

Gold Keys:

Less than 7 percent of participating students are recognized as Gold Key winners. If students earn a "Gold Key" during the local adjudication, they then move on to be judged on a national level by panels of renowned artists, authors, educators and industry experts. This year, Lana Valachovic's piece, titled "Framed in Sorrow" has been selected to be reevaluated on the national level for a Gold Medal in late March. We will be sure to post an update should she move on to nationals-Good luck Lana!

Silver Keys:

8-10 % of participants earned "SilverKeys" This year, Shea Eller earned a Silver Key, for her Digital piece titled "Home Stretch".

Honorable Mentions:

Sydney Farron's mixed media piece titled "Pas de Deux", Rebecca Gallerani's piece titled "Burning Bright" and Anastazia Valachovic's drawing titled, "Under Pressure" all earned honorable mentions. Only approximately 11-15 % percent of participants receive these awards.

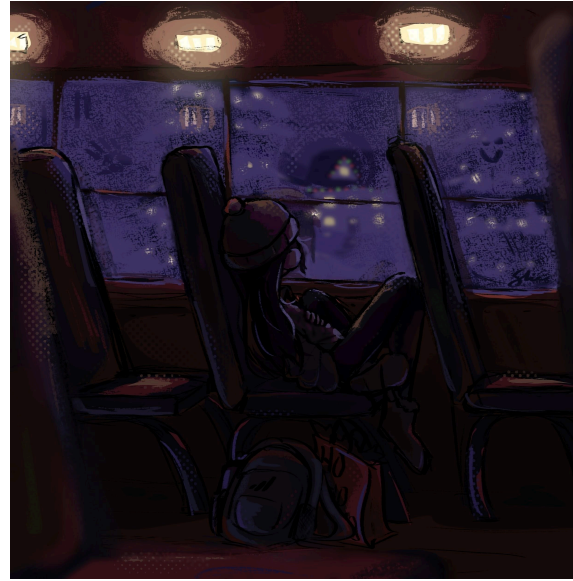


Lana Valachovic-Gold Key Recipient

Framed in Sorrow

Conte Crayon

Dimensions 25 x 19



Shea Eller-Silver Key Recipient

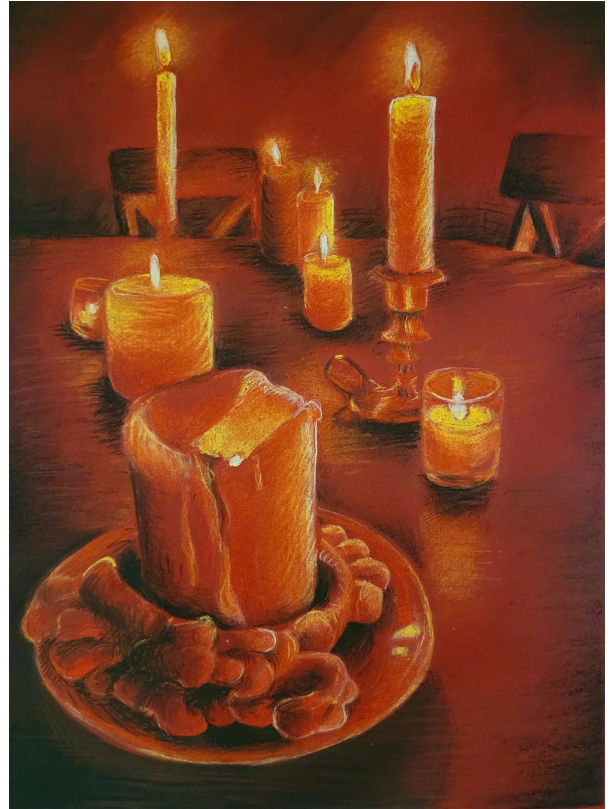
Home Stretch

Digital Painting, Drawing and Collage

8.5 x 8.25



**Sydney Farron Honorable Mention
Recipient**
Pas de Deux
Tempera and Chalk Pastel
16 x 15



**Rebecca Gallerani-Honorable Mention
Recipient**
Burning Bright
Chalk Pastel
Dimensions 22 x 17



Anastazia Valachovic-Honorable Mention

Recipient

Under Pressure

Chalk Pastel

Dimensions 29 x 16.5