

Winners of 2022 high school visual arts competition announced



Photo courtesy Lamorinda Arts Council



Photos Sora O'Doherty

Best of Show in the 2D category, Katie Lee "Controlling the Youth"

By Sora O'Doherty

From the hundreds of artworks submitted for the annual Lamorinda Arts Council high school visual arts competition, judges selected nearly two dozen winners, who received certificates of recognition at a reception at the Orinda Library gallery on the evening of March 10. The reception was well attended, as one of the first in-person live events since the COVID-19 pandemic and restrictions. While masks were not required, most attendees continued to wear masks in the

close environment. The Bentley School Jazz Band entertained on the Richard Heggie Plaza.

The exhibition will be on display at the Library gallery through the month of March. After that, it will remain on display on the Lamorinda Arts Council's website for a year.

The Best of Show award went to Katie Lee, a senior at Bentley for her piece entitled, "Controlling the Youth" in the 2D category. Her teacher is Kelsey Jones. Other awards in the 2D category included: 1st Place – "Pieces of Identity" by Natalie Mangani, Las Lomas,

First Place in the 3D category, Emma Ngo "Get Yourself Together"

10th Grade, Teacher: Jessica Jurgens; 2nd Place – "Distance" by Kallie Cheung, Las Lomas, 12th Grade, Teacher: Jessica Jurgens; 3rd Place – "I'm So Blue All the Time" by Ava von Behren, Bentley, 12th Grade, Teacher: Kelsey Jones. Honorable Mentions went to "Untitled" by Andrea Liu, Bentley, 11th Grade, Teacher: Kelsey Jones; "Gateshead" by Kaitlyn Yasumura, Carondelet, 10th Grade, Teacher: Darla Sur; and "Daucus" by Claudia Cruse, Campolindo, 12th Grade, Teacher: Heidi Cabra.

In the 3D category, awards went to 1st Place –

"Get Yourself Together" by Emma Ngo, Campolindo, 11th Grade, Artwork Created Independently; 2nd Place – "Owlberry" by Indie Lee, Miramonte, 10th Grade, Artwork Created Independently; and 3rd Place – "Summoning" by Holden Bennett, Bentley, 9th Grade, Teacher: Aram Muksian. Honorable Mentions were given to "Societal Confinement" by Emile Starkweather, Bentley, 12th Grade, Teacher: Michelle Cho; "Body Image to the Core" by Kate Lee, Bentley, 12th Grade, Teacher: Kelsey Jones; and Untitled (Hammer) by Walter Yip, Bentley, 11th Grade, Teacher: Aram Muksian.

Photography Awards included: 1st Place – "Ambiguity" by Emma Ngo, Campolindo, 11th Grade, Teacher: Collette Sweeney; 2nd Place – "Ataraxia" by Avery Sims, Bentley, 11th Grade, Teacher: Aram Muksian; and 3rd Place – "Self Portrait of a Pianist" by Sydney Zhang, Campolindo, 11th Grade, Teacher: Collette

Sweeney. Honorable Mentions were awarded to "Driving in the Rain" by Leonardo Siu, Bentley, 11th Grade, Artwork Created Independently; and "Untitled" by Leyla Nabipour, Campolindo, 11th Grade, Teacher: Collette Sweeney.

The Lamorinda Arts Alliance Digital Art Awards were as follows: 1st Place – "Different Perspective" by Jeanette Lavoie, Campolindo, 12th Grade, Artwork Created Independently; 2nd Place – "Explosion of Color" by Irene Yoon, College Prep, 11th Grade, Teacher: Yousun Kim; and 3rd Place – "Chronic" by Charles Platt, Miramonte, 11th Grade, Teacher: Stacey Churchill. Honorable Mentions in this category went to "Bending Dimensions" by Benjamin Randall, Bentley, 12th Grade, Teacher: Aram Muksian; and "Purple" by Vivian Tolajian, Campolindo, 9th Grade, Teacher: Collette Sweeney.



Photo John Brown

Park District lifeguards wanted for 2022 swim season

Submitted by Jennifer Vanya

The East Bay Regional Park District is actively seeking 50 new lifeguards for the 2022 swim season at its 10 East Bay swim facilities, which include lakes, lagoons, and pools. All new lifeguard positions are seasonal, full-time positions from May through September. Anyone 16 and over before April 23 are encouraged to apply. Starting pay is \$20.17 per hour.

There are four different testing dates scheduled on Saturdays and Sundays during the last two weekends in March. Participants will be asked to swim 550 yards in under 10 minutes, carry a rescue board 50 feet, retrieve three dive rings under 4-7 feet of water, tread water for two minutes using only their legs,

and retrieve a 10-pound brick from under water. There will also be a short informal interview after successful completion of the swim test on the same day.

Participants who pass the tests will be invited to the Park District's Lifeguard Academy beginning Saturday, April 23, where they will receive paid training and certification in open water lifeguarding. The Lifeguard Academy takes place over five consecutive weekends in April and May, with the swim season beginning in late May for most facilities.

"Promoting water safety

Testing Schedule

- Saturday March 19th, Mills College, Oakland
- Sunday March 20th, Mills College, Oakland
- Saturday March 26th, Granada High School, Livermore
- Sunday March 27th, Granada High School, Livermore

More Information and how to apply, visit: bit.ly/2022EBRPDLifeguard

and educating park visitors on how to safely recreate in, on, and around the water is paramount in what a lifeguard does," said East Bay Regional Parks District Aquatics Manager Pete DeQuincy. "Working as a lifeguard is one of the few ways a young adult can give back to their community and learn about public service."

Lifeguards can work at any of the Park District's swim facilities throughout cities in Alameda and Contra Costa counties, such as Antioch, Concord, Livermore, Hayward, Castro Valley, Oakland, Alameda, and Berkeley.

SMC gets permit to upgrade baseball stadium

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Enter COVID, which threw a wrench into donation momentum, so the college was willing to downsize from its initial plans.

Mendez's staff report states, "SMC desires to replace temporary bleachers with a more permanent structure to represent the Class A college sport facility needs. A permanent baseball facility will cement SMC as a Class A facility with the regional athletics program, attract potential donors and allow the college to be more competitive in recruitment. The existing SMC buildings

are mostly Spanish Colonial Revival, and the new baseball stadium will match the campus architecture."

The modified new stadium will consist of 662 seats as a prefabricated structure, a press box and open-air seating. It will be built on the existing baseball field which stands adjacent to the Joseph L. Alioto Recreation Center and will eventually become part of the 60,000-square-foot rec center's master plan. The new 18-foot Entry Plaza will be located along the southern end of the facility, and enhanced landscaping will be placed along the eastern and western sections. Addition-

ally, SMC has plans to install new netting and poles to a height of 65-feet for safety purposes to prevent foul balls from leaving the field area and striking anyone outside of the stadium. No additional parking will be required and there are no immediate plans to install lights for night games.

The staff report also assures that "the project design does not generate adverse conditions of noise, shade, shadow, light or glare that would be detrimental to the health, safety and welfare of the campus population or the broader Moraga community."

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