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Promising Young Artists to Be Recognized at Scholastic Art Awards Ceremony

WICHITA, Kan. — Wichita Center for the Arts, along with Elizabeth B. Koch and the K. T. Wiedemann Foundation, will honor promising student artists on Sunday, March 6 at the Eastern Kansas Scholastic Art Awards ceremony.

Ashley Arnold, a reporter with KSN-TV Channel 3, will be the master of ceremonies for the 4 p.m. ceremony at Wichita Center for the Arts, 9112 E. Central Ave.

The Scholastic Art Awards Exhibition showcases select artwork created by middle school and high school students from 70 Kansas counties. The Scholastic Art Awards are the largest and longest-running recognition program for young artists in the United States, identifying and rewarding students who demonstrate superior talent and achievement. Participants, supported by their visual arts teachers and other community mentors, create and submit their best works of art. Each work is reviewed by a panel of art professionals for originality, technical skill and the emergence of personal voice or vision.

This year, 2,386 entries were submitted, and 595 were selected for exhibition, either as Gold Key, Silver Key or Honorable Mention. Jurors selected 124 works for the Gold Key, which enters them into the national judging process. Five Gold Key recipients were nominated for the Eastern Kansas American Visions Medal, which will be selected later this year.

The 2016 American Visions nominees are:

- Josie Krout of Arkansas City High School
- Morgan Massey of Wichita Northwest High School
- Kylie Mitchell of The Independent School
- Emily Rozar of Maize South High School
- Zachary Zarling of Rose Hill High School

In 2015, educational institutions, businesses and individuals awarded \$2.3 million in scholarships and cash prizes to exhibiting students in the Eastern Kansas region. The Eastern Kansas Scholastic Art Awards Exhibition is generously underwritten by Elizabeth B. Koch and the K. T. Wiedemann Foundation. The exhibit opened Jan. 29 and closes March 6.

The mission of Wichita Center for the Arts is to be a vibrant arts hub in Wichita and the region by providing opportunities to appreciate, participate in and create art in an atmosphere of lifelong learning. Visit wcfta.com or call 316.634.2787. The gallery is open 1 to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday. Admission is free.

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