

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MONROE OUTSTANDING VISUAL ARTS STUDENTS

Recipients of the Monroe Outstanding Visual Art Student Awards were announced at Monroe's recent Third Annual Arts Fair held on April 30 – May 1 at Monroe Jr/Sr High School. Three students were selected for recognition: Janice Martin, Outstanding Senior Visual Arts student; Emily Reed, Outstanding Junior High visual arts student; and Kayla Alexander, Outstanding Elementary visual arts student.

High School recipients were selected by Monroe visual arts teachers Barb Leib, department chair, and Diana Mueller. Student selection was based on production of outstanding visual art work, demonstrated creativity and versatility, and overall contributions to the Monroe Visual Arts Program.

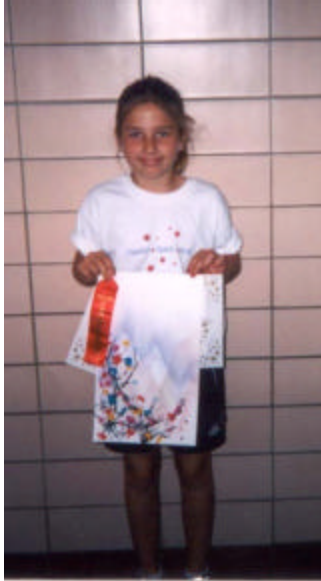
At each elementary grade level, votes were cast for student work by those attending the arts fair. Selected students were: Drew Dirksen, first grade; Kayla Alexander, second grade; Zach Duff, third grade; Lauren Weaver, fourth grade; Megan Christman, fifth grade; and Cory Minor, sixth grade. The outstanding elementary art student, Kayla Alexander, was selected from the grade level winners by district visual arts teachers. The elementary art teacher is Krista Larbes.

Janice Martin, daughter of Rick and Donna Martin, is the Outstanding Senior Visual Art student. Janice plans to enter Miami University, Middletown, this fall and major in the visual arts. Janice is an accomplished artist in pencil, pastel, ceramics, and sculptural arts. She was instrumental in the organization and support of the Empty Bowls fundraiser held in conjunction with the Monroe Arts Fair. Janice produced handmade ceramic bowls that could be bought for a donation either with or without homemade soup. The contributions from the fundraiser were donated to Louella Thompson's organization in Middletown. Janice is a member of the Art Club and Spirit Club. She is the organizer and leader of Monroe's Student Venture Group. Janice received a certificate, ribbon, and a \$50 cash award for her winning piece.

Emily Reed, daughter of Lisa Howes, is the Outstanding Junior High artist. Emily is an eighth grade student and is presently enrolled in junior high arts. Emily is an accomplished artist in crafts and produces high quality, decorative craft pieces. Her winning piece is a yarn painting featuring flowers and a butterfly. Emily received a certificate, ribbon, and a \$50 cash award.

Kayla Alexander, Outstanding Elementary Visual Arts student, is a second grader. Kayla is a hard-working student and makes art class enjoyable. She puts a lot of thought and effort into her artwork. Kayla is the daughter of Missy and Kevin Alexander. Kayla received a certificate, ribbon, and a \$50 cash award.

All students' artwork has been donated to the Monroe Local School District. The art work will be professional framed by the district and added to the Monroe Art Collection which is hung in the district's school buildings.



Kayla Alexander 2nd grade winner



Elementary Winners



Mr. Arnol Elam, Superintendent

Janice Martin, Sr. Art Student winner

Barb Leib, High School Art Teacher