

Press from:

The New Providence School District
356 Elkwood Avenue
New Providence, NJ 07974
Phone: (908) 464-9050
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Subject: New Providence School District Awards Certificates of Excellence in Art and Music

The New Providence School District is proud to recognize the recipients of the Certificate of Excellence in Art, Music and Writing for the 2019/2020 school year. These current and former students were honored at the Board of Education meeting on Thursday, March 25, 2021.

Students who excel in art and design routinely think “outside the box” to create new and exciting works. These skills in creativity and innovation are essential for success in college and in the workplace.

The Scholastic Art and Writing Awards, a national competition, awards gold keys to students who exhibit originality, technical skill, and emergence of a personal vision through their works. Gold key (first place) winners in the northern New Jersey region become finalists in the national competition. For the 2019/2020 school year, Rachael Mishkind earned a gold key for her work “Reflection.”

Twelve students from New Providence had works displayed at Liberty Hall Center for the Union County Youth Art Month Exhibit. One of these works was chosen for the state exhibit. Last year, Olivia Mangel had her “Pop Art Self-Portrait” shown in Trenton.

The Fresh Perspectives Juried Exhibition is a statewide open call for artwork from high school art students. In 2020, the Morris Museum selected 50 artworks including Emily Kapp’s Field of Friends, & Cleo Trumbull’s Road Trip, from 400 submissions from around the state for the exhibition.

Each spring, the United States House of Representatives sponsors a nation-wide high school art challenge. During the pandemic shut down, high school students responded to the challenge by submitting work from home in a digital format. Elizabeth Blank was recognized for her digital photo, Wind of Hues, and was a Third-Place winner in the 7th Congressional District.

Students who excel in music exhibit a high level of motivation and work ethic to develop their talents. Those who perform in ensembles become outstanding team members and masters at collaboration. New Providence takes pride in providing opportunities for young musicians to fully develop this musical potential within the school program, as well as in auditioned honors ensembles.

The New Jersey Music Educators Association divides the state into three regions. The central region, CJMEA, sponsors auditioned bands, orchestras, and choirs at the middle and high school levels every year. Hundreds of students throughout the region prepare and audition. Only the highest scoring applicants are accepted. Last year, Allyson Burkitt and Evelyn Voss were selected for the CJMEA High School Choir; Amelie Chan, Melody Xu and Samuel Zhang were selected for the CJMEA Intermediate Orchestra; and Sean Kruger, Lauren Venturella and Eric Yu were selected for the CJMEA Intermediate Band.

Along with regional ensembles, the New Jersey Music Educators Association (NJMEA) and New Jersey chapter of the American Choral Director's Association (NJACDA) sponsor auditioned all-state choirs at the elementary and junior high school levels every year. Hundreds of students throughout the entire state prepare and audition. Only the highest scoring applicants are accepted. Membership is hard-won and prestigious. Last year Kylie Freeman, Abdd Sharma, Simon Thornton and Emma Timpone were selected for the NJ Junior High Honor Choir; and twelve students were selected for the NJ Elementary All-State Honor Choir: they are Amisha Agarwal, Julia Halldorson, Brynn Hageman, Alex Krautheim, Samyukta Krishnan, Grace Krska, Saniya Malik, Grace Narciso, Nitya Raimugia, Natalia Smith, Rachel Zack and one former New Providence student.

Sahana Narayan earned special recognition in writing. She was awarded two scholastic writing awards. She won a silver key for her flash fiction story "Empty", and won a gold key for her short story "Just for One Night".

All of these students have earned special recognition for excellence in their artistic endeavors, music performance and writing. New Providence is very proud of their achievement and encourages them to continue with their arts and music education.



