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## The Council for Art Education Announces 2015/2016 Youth Art Month Award Winners

At its recent meeting, The Council for Art Education Board of Directors voted to recognize the following individuals for contributions to their 2015/2016 Youth Art Month Programs:

<u>Claire Flanagan Memorial (Grand) Award:</u>	Wisconsin	Tiffany Beltz, Chairperson
<u>Award of Excellence:</u>	Texas:	Jen Holsinger-Raybourn, Chairperson
	New Jersey:	Jennifer Johnson-Tiongson, Karen Mannino, Carolyn Berry, Co-Chairs
	Virginia:	Jessica Beach, Chairperson
<u>Award of Merit:</u>	Illinois:	Greg Petecki, Chairperson
	New York:	Julia Lang-Shapiro, Donnaly Schuster, Heather McCutcheon, Co-Chairs
	Georgia:	Alexandrea Boyington and Kaitlynn Mockett, Co-Chairs
	Alabama:	April Jones, Chairperson
<u>Special Recognition:</u>	Ohio:	Kelly Burichin, Robin Klass, Dawn Norris, Co-Chairs
	Oklahoma:	Michelle Barnes and Sarah Carnes, Co-Chairs
	Kansas:	Lynn Felts, Chairperson; Megan Wendleton, Kate Miller, Johnna Smith
	New Mexico:	Vicki Breen and Sherri Smith, Co-Chairs, Lindsey Allen

To be eligible for recognition, state chairpersons submitted documentation of their Youth Art Month Programs. Documentation was evaluated across a variety of key categories, based on predetermined criteria.

Awards will be presented to the recipients at the 2017 National Art Education Association (NAEA) Convention, March 2-4 in New York.

Sponsored nationally by The Council for Art Education, Youth Art Month is an annual observance, typically in March, designed to emphasize the value of art education for all youth and to encourage support for quality school art programs. Youth Art Month provides a forum for acknowledging the imagination, innovation, and creative skills that a visual arts experience can nurture. Across the country, students, teachers and communities direct attention to the value of a visual arts education that develops divergent and critical thinking, multicultural awareness, and technical, communication, and expressive skills.

To find out more about Youth Art Month or to participate in Youth Art Month activities, contact your state chairperson, state art education association, or The Council for Art Education at [www.councilforarteducation.org](http://www.councilforarteducation.org).

The Council for Art Education (CFAE) is a non-profit 501(c)(3) association created in 1984 through [The Art & Creative Materials Institute, Inc. \(ACMI\)](http://www.acmi.org). ACMI seeks to promote safety in art and creative products through its certification program, and is a major sponsor of CFAE.

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