



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information, contact:

Andria Lisle
Memphis Brooks Museum of Art
901-544-6208
andria.lisle@brooksmuseum.org

Lauren Hannaford
Obsidian Public Relations
901-262-8651
lauren@obsidianpr.com

Brooks Museum Announces Winners, Awards Scholarships in 50th Annual Mid-South Scholastic Art Awards

Works by local students to be on display Jan. 31 to Mar. 1

Memphis, Tenn., Jan. 20, 2015— In culmination of the 50th year of the Mid-South Scholastic Art Awards, the Brooks Museum of Art will showcase more than 350 works of art from talented Mid-South area students in a special exhibition on display in the museum from Jan. 31 to Mar. 1. Additionally, the museum and various college partners will award more than \$260,000 in scholarships and prizes to top selections from the 2,000-plus submissions in a special awards ceremony on Saturday, Feb. 14.

This year, regional judges – Yancy Villa-Calvo, Cedar Lorca Nordbye and Frank D. Robinson Jr. – spent three days reviewing the 2,185 individual submissions and 80 senior portfolio entries ranging in category from digital, fashion and film to jewelry, glass and more. Of these submissions, the judges were pleased to present a variety of awards, including 121 Gold Keys for individual artworks and 20 Gold Keys for senior art portfolios, as well as 248 Silver Keys for individual artworks and 499 Honorable Mentions.

This year's exhibition represents student work from more than 120 schools in Tennessee, Arkansas and Mississippi, such as St. Mary's Episcopal School, Germantown High School, Briarcrest Christian School, Houston High School, Arlington High School and more.

More than \$260,000 in scholarships will be awarded, including \$12,000 from the Brooks Museum League and contributions from Arkansas State University, Christian Brothers University, the Memphis College of Art, the University of Memphis and the University of Mississippi.

-more-

Brooks Museum Announces Winners, Awards Scholarships in 50th Annual Mid-South Scholastic Art Awards
-add one-

Founded in 1923, the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards is the longest running, most prestigious recognition program for creative teens in the U.S. and is the nation's largest source of scholarships for creative young artists and writers. Some of the distinguished past recipients include Andy Warhol, Sylvia Plath, Robert Redford, Stephen King, Zac Posen and John Updike.

The Mid-South Scholastic Art Awards exhibition, which began at the Brooks Museum in 1965, also has a long history of recognizing artistic excellence and creativity of teens, encouraging participation by local youth in seventh to 12th grade from schools across the Mid-South.

"For the past five decades, this program has given countless Mid-South students the opportunity to pursue their passions and artistic dreams through a variety of various scholarships and prizes," said Brooks' Associate Director of Education Elesha Newberry. "We have even had a student from Overton High School represent the Mid-South at the national competition, where she won one of the top five art portfolios and a full scholarship, allowing her to attend the Maryland Institute College of Art."

Of this year's winning submissions, 121 artworks and 20 portfolios have been sent to compete nationally for nearly \$4 million in college scholarships at 60 schools and universities. The national Scholastic Art & Writing Awards culminate each spring with an awards ceremony at New York's Carnegie Hall.

Regional awards ceremonies in various divisions will be held on Saturday, Feb. 14 to publicly recognize the students' accomplishments. The Junior Division Awards will be held at 11 a.m. at the Brooks Museum; the Middle Division Awards will be held at 12:30 p.m. at the Brooks Museum; and the Senior Division Awards will be held at 2 p.m. at Memphis College of Art. Each ceremony is followed by a reception at the Brooks.

This important program has been made possible by the Brooks League's countless volunteer hours and generous financial support. To learn more about the Mid-South Scholastic Art Awards at the Brooks Museum, visit www.brooksmuseum.org or call 901-544-6200.

About the Memphis Brooks Museum of Art

Memphis Brooks Museum of Art, located at 1934 Poplar Ave. in historic Overton Park, is one of the leading art museums in the American South. More than 9,000 works make up the Brooks Museum's permanent collection including ancient works from Greece, Rome and the ancient Americas; Renaissance masterpieces from Italy; English portraiture; American painting and decorative arts; contemporary art; and a survey of African art. For more information about the Brooks and all other exhibitions and programs, call 901-544-6200 or visit www.brooksmuseum.org.

###