



# MEDIA RELEASE

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## **Student Artists Shine in Scholastic Art Awards**

*Bend-La Pine Schools students earned 302 awards, including one American Vision Award*

From photography to drawing and digital art to film, Bend-La Pine Schools students earned hundreds of awards for their artistic creations during the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Central Oregon Scholastic Art Awards. The award-winning work will be on display to the public at the Pinckney Auditorium at Central Oregon Community College, starting with a special awards ceremony Saturday, Feb. 9 from 1 to 2 p.m.

“Art is a powerful way for students to share their voices and perspectives with us and every year we are impressed with the talent and creativity our students exhibit,” said Superintendent Shay Mikalson. “We value art in our schools and it’s a pleasure to see so many of our students, including these Scholastic Art winners, pursuing their talents at a high level.”

Dakota Callicott, a Bend Senior High School student, earned an American Vision Award, one of just five students in Oregon to earn this honor. He earned this top national distinction for his short film “A Lesser You” in the film and animation category.

Callicott, as well as dozens of students who earned Golden Key awards, will have their work judged at the national level and may be invited to attend a special awards reception at Carnegie Hall in New York City.

### **More about Art in Bend-La Pine Schools**

This year, Bend-La Pine Schools is offering more than 230 sections of art and related courses in middle and high schools — with offerings including ceramics, sculpture, drawing, animation, Advanced Placement Art Studio, digital photography, graphic arts and more. Many elementary schools also offer art instruction and Elk Meadow Elementary School is an art focus school.

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