2018 Young Tennessee Artists
Selections from Advanced Studio Art Programs

October 20, 2018–March 17, 2019
Conte Community Arts Gallery

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The Frist Art Museum’s seventh biennial Young Tennessee Artists exhibition showcases some of the finest two-dimensional artwork by high school students across the state. Students in Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB) studio art programs during the 2017–18 academic year were invited to submit their work to this exhibition. After reviewing more than eight hundred entries from students in home-school programs as well as private and public schools, the jurors selected works by twenty-seven students.

Upper-level studio art courses make it possible for highly motivated students to build and refine their portfolios through ongoing investigation, practice, and reflection. The dedicated teachers in AP and IB programs challenge their students’ artistic perceptions and encourage them to develop aesthetic methods, both conceptually and in execution. At the end of the school year, each student’s portfolio is reviewed by AP or IB examiners. Students may subsequently receive college course credit or other recognition of their accomplishments.

This exhibition illuminates the students’ skillful synthesis of form, technique, and content. The array and quality of work demonstrate the growing sophistication and diversity of experiences within the AP and IB studio art programs across Tennessee.

We would like to acknowledge and thank the selection committee:
Rosemary Brunton, educator for community engagement, Frist Art Museum
Lester Merriweather, artist, Memphis
Mark Scala, chief curator, Frist Art Museum
Donna Woodley, artist, Nashville
Koichi Yamamoto, assistant professor, University of Tennessee, Knoxville

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Anne Blackburn

*Untitled (Uganda)* 2018
Film and watercolor on paper
Harpeth Hall School, Nashville
Teachers: Carmen Noel and Peter Goodwin
Marie-Pia Bonnot

*Split 2017*

Mixed media on paper  
Lausanne Collegiate School, Memphis  
Teacher: Kathryn Manzo

“For this piece, I was extremely inspired by Ernesto Artillo, a photographer and art director based in Madrid who creates pieces that mix fashion and design in minimalist yet mesmerizing and complex collage. It was fascinating to me how this artist could create an almost ‘spontaneous’ and/or ‘chaotic’ yet harmonized and balanced piece. I decided to do a collage using a picture of Audrey Hepburn, whose life and career is really inspiring to me.”
Jared Boston

Rugrats 2018
Digital print
Hume-Fogg Academic High School, Nashville
Teacher: Shayna Snider

“This piece seeks to cultivate a dreamlike distorted reality inspired by dated technology and childhood memories. Inspired by my own experiences with the technology I was repurposing, I wanted to create installations using the collective memory of a generation of now adults. Much like a jpeg loses its information and resolution so do humans as they age. Memories become distorted or idealized and . . . distorting the information displayed on the screens and the situation in which it’s viewed creates a surrealistic experience. Lighting adds a vibrancy representative of the vibrancy with which we remember our past memories, yet the emptiness adds a hollowness to the time gone.”

Camille Campbell

Icicles 2017
Photograph
Overton High School, Memphis
Teacher: Amy Shamblin

“The medium that I used for this piece was photography. I was inspired by how lines can be seen within objects. To create this piece, I used Photoshop. I made the image black and white and I played with the brightness of the image as well.”
Jessica Cardona

**Glimmer of Gold** 2017
Archival pigment print
Nashville School of the Arts
Teacher: Martha Profitt-Streuli

“This is a photo of a candy wrapper floating in a pond. The gold shimmer of the wrapper caught my eye, due to the fact that everything else in the pond looked muddy and muted.”
Savanna Cucchiara

*Under Construction* 2017

Oil on paper
Central Magnet School, Murfreesboro
Teacher: Dennis Greenwell

“This piece is a landscape oil painting inspired by the work of Rackstraw Downes and his panoramic approach to depicting the environment around him. At the time of this painting much of my neighborhood was under construction so I wanted to capture the flatness and almost nudity of the area around me, something very different from the original marshes and woods that once dominated. While I usually work on more figurative pieces and portraits, this landscape painting was very exploratory as I stepped out of my comfort zone.”
Everett Delaney

**Puffer Fish** 2018
Ink on paper
Father Ryan High School, Nashville
Teacher: John Durand

This piece “depicts an underwater seascape, but if you look at its entirety one can see a puffer fish. (Small puffer fish is the eye, 2 small circling fish are the lips, the seaweed and tail of one of the big fish are the fins.)”

Natalie Eslami

**Seascape II** 2017
Watercolor on paper
Lausanne Collegiate School, Memphis
Teacher: Kathryn Manzo

“This is the second seascape I’ve created, with the last one in acrylic. This was my first real watercolor painting, during the process of which I learned how to properly layer the paint, instead of jumping into the process too quickly and losing control of the colors. This piece was an experimentation in technique. I splattered the paper with rubber cement, then painted the blue water over it, and then removed the cement at the end. The result was a randomized seaspray texture over the rocks.”
Lizzy Gaviria

No Trespassing 2018

Digital print
Hume-Fogg Academic High School, Nashville
Teacher: Shayna Snider

“Inspired by the constant battle between natural and human forces, this piece shows a slice of irony found in everyday life.”

Nancy Henin

Add MORE 2018

Chalk pastel on paper
Hume-Fogg Academic High School, Nashville
Teacher: Shayna Snider

“The central idea of this piece is to show how markets intend to place unhealthy snacks near the cashier so people would ‘add’ more purchased items.”
Arely Herrera

**Flame** 2017
Acrylic on canvas
Overton High School, Memphis
Teacher: Michael Mosby

“My boyfriend and I often keep to ourselves and are seen as a ‘dark’ and ‘secluded’ couple. This piece reveals the excitement and radiance from our relationship.”

Webb Hunt

**Pressure Gauge** 2018
Watercolor on paper
Montgomery Bell Academy, Nashville
Teacher: Kati Swieca-Brockman

“This work is a part of ten-piece collection that focuses on the study of mechanical close-ups with attention to form, shape, and color.”
Mary Johnson

*Untitled* 2018
Pen and ink on paper
Harpeth Hall School, Nashville
Teachers: Carmen Noel and Peter Goodwin

Olivia Lewis

*Squashed Face* 2018
Graphite on paper
Morristown-Hamblen High School East, Morristown
Teacher: Jennifer Stoneking-Stewart

“Face squashed into Xerox copy redrawn to larger scale in graphite.”
Diamond Liggins

*Jordan and Kehlani  2018*

Colored pencil on paper  
Power Center Academy High School, Memphis  
Teacher: Andrew Williams

“I used Prismacolor coloring pencils to show the vibrance they make when applied to toned tan sketchbook paper. Every piece I create depicts the emotional sense behind every model. Details are the key to success.”
Zoe McDaniel

*Transition Pt. 1 2018*

Graphite, charcoal, and pen on paper
Morristown-Hamblen High School East, Morristown
Teacher: Jennifer Stoneking-Stewart

“As part of my concentration, I was interested in showing a vague process of a transgender person going through a physical transition from one sex to the other.”

Hannah Middleton

*Everything You Know 2017*

Mixed media and encaustic on board
Central Magnet School, Murfreesboro
Teacher: Dennis Greenwell

“This encaustic piece was very experimental for me, as someone who tends to stick to gouache and graphite. However, the carved oil pastel flowers on top of the collaged images underneath the wax put me back in my comfort zone. This image represents the importance of nature and how everything man has ever made originated from what nature created, so we should really respect it more.”
Birdie Pearse

*Confusion* 2017
Acrylic on canvas  
Centennial High School, Franklin  
Teacher: Nichole Guerrini

“Do you see the world in black and white? or do you see it in shades of gray? This self-portrait using just white paint illustrates how two colors (like opposing opinions), starkly different in the universe, come together to create an image that’s soft but with great detail.”

Jenny Rogers

#MeToo 2017
Colored pencil on paper  
Lausanne Collegiate School, Memphis  
Teacher: Kathryn Manzo

“I drew inspiration for my piece from the overwhelming and growing issue of sexual assault within our country. I wanted to shine light upon the victims of sexual abuse and assault by evoking a strong reaction through my art. I chose my good friend, Lucy, to model for me. The photoshoot consisted of images that depicted Lucy clenching bedsheets against her chest, expressing the state of vulnerability one feels once going through such trauma. I then drew the chosen image with colored pencil on paper, using fleshy tones, like pink, red, and purples. I, overall, wanted to draw attention to a topic that is often discussed, but not resolved. I felt that my piece fell in line with the #MeToo movement, in which victims of sexual assault have come forward to share their stories. Hence, my title: #MeToo.”
Zoe Spain

**Indira Gandhi** 2018

Acrylic on canvas
Hillsboro High School, Nashville
Teacher: Briena Harmening

“I decided to paint Indira Gandhi because of how much she inspires me! She is a strong and brave female leader; still holding the title of the first and only woman to be a prime minister of India! I used acrylic on canvas, and decided to place synthetic flowers to frame her face. Creating this piece was super exciting because it was my first time doing a portrait of someone, and it seemed like a challenge at first. I found that creating skin tones and mixing colors comes really easy to me, so I am glad that I was pushed to do this project!”

Nate Steward

**Me** 2017

Graphite on paper
Morristown-Hamblen High School East, Morristown
Teacher: Jennifer Stoneking-Stewart

“The piece is me with 5 pairs of sunglasses on. I used a grid to get the proportions correct and used a mechanical pencil.”
Katie Taylor

*Caviar & Bananas* 2018
Watercolor and ink on paper
Hume-Fogg Academic High School, Nashville
Teacher: Shayna Snider

“This is a watercolor and ink illustration of a local coffee shop that was created on location over the course of three days.”

Cristobal Tellez-Sosa

*Self-Portrait* 2018
Graphite on paper
Morristown-Hamblen High School East, Morristown
Teacher: Jennifer Stoneking-Stewart

“This is a large-scale self-portrait done in graphite. I did it to compare to my self-portrait from last year, and the year before, in order to gauge my progression.”
Dayton Upchurch

*Untitled (Subway Scene)* 2017

Digital print
Montgomery Bell Academy, Nashville
Teacher: Kati Swieca-Brockman

“The photograph was snapped in Chicago. It is so beautiful to me to have a snapshot of time that nobody else will ever have.”

Heidi Viall

*Transparency* 2018

Acrylic on canvas
Hume-Fogg Academic High School, Nashville
Teacher: Shayna Snider

“This painting was made for my mother, specifically for Mother’s Day of 2018. The painting is inspired by a picture I took of the lake by my house. The humid and foggy autumn morning seemed perfect for picture taking. Due to my mother’s love of nature this picture seems to have the right balance of color and grey as our personalities.”
Madison Weathers

*Never Too Old* 2017
Digital print
Hume-Fogg Academic High School, Nashville
Teacher: Shayna Snider

“I wanted to capture a candid picture of the strength of my great-grandmother even at a young age.”

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Solbok Yi

*Jurassic Alien Crab* 2017
Digital design print
Lausanne Collegiate School, Memphis
Teacher: Kathryn Manzo

“Drawn with graphite on paper, transferred and painted with Adobe Photoshop CC 2018. My own creature design inspired by a video game, StarCraft II.”
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This exhibition was organized by the Frist Art Museum.

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The Frist Art Museum is supported in part by