

2024 Georgia River of Words



2024 Art: National Grand Prize Winner

Category II

Ashley Gao, grade 5, *FIN-Tastic Friends Making Waves*, SKA Academy of Art and Design, Duluth, Teacher: Leng Chang

2024 Art: Georgia National Finalists

Category I

Jayden Lam, grade 2, *A Scene of Greens So Serene*, SKA Academy Art and Design, Duluth, Teacher: Leng Chang

Jeeyu Lee, grade 2, *The Glee That Lies Under the Sun*, SKA Academy of Art and Design, Duluth, Teacher: Leng Chang

Teo Li, grade 2, *Wild and Free in the Sea*, SKA Academy of Art and Design, Duluth, Teacher: Leng Chang

Emma Lo, grade 2, *Waddlin' Into Cool Times*, SKA Academy of Art and Design, Duluth, Teacher: Leng Chang

Cadence Long, grade 2, *Big Snow Owl*, Casa Montessori, Marietta, Teacher: Theresa Dean

Raina Ma, grade 2, *A Sunset Which You Can't Forget*, SKA Academy of Art and Design, Duluth, Teacher: Leng Chang

Audrey Wang, kindergarten, *Dancing Orcas Under the Moon*, Alpharetta

Paris Wang, grade 2, *Be Aware: Beautiful Nature Lies Everywhere!*, SKA Academy of Art and Design, Duluth, Teacher: Leng Chang

Alvin Zhang, grade 2, *Sunset Shadow of Nature*, Shijun Art Studio, Lilburn, Teacher: Shijun Munns

Category II

Kahlan Atkinson, grade 4, *Friends of the Sea*, Maranatha Christian Academy, Oakwood, Teacher: Nicole Raden

Miles Drake, grade 4, *Nature in Costa Rica*, Pace Academy, Atlanta, Teacher: Kara Saiz

Toshi Iwamoto, grade 4, *The Polychromatic Splashing Oncorhynchus Mykiss*, Atlanta

Zhuoyuan Liu, grade 5, *This Stream is Such a Dream*, SKA Academy of Art and Design, Duluth, Teacher: Leng Chang

Richard Lu, grade 5, *Grow by Leaps and Bounds*, Shijun Art Studio, Lilburn, Teacher: Shijun Munns

Vanessa Sanchez, grade 5, *Dancing with Jellyfish*, Tara Elementary, Morrow, Teachers: Miranda Wilkerson and Michael Williams

Sarina Soni, grade 4, *Pigeon on the Podium*, Pace Academy, Atlanta, Teacher: Kara Saiz

Lana Tighe, grade 5, *Blue Summer*, Jesup

Grace Wang, grade 4, *Along the Shoals of the Watering Hole*, SKA Academy of Art and Design, Duluth, Teacher: Leng Chang

Kevin Wang, grade 4, *Mother of Nature*, Shijun Art Studio, Lilburn, Teacher: Shijun Munns

Hanna Williams, grade 5, *Rough Rafters*, Whigham School, Whigham, Teacher: Ashley Maxwell

Yuchelle Wong, grade 5, *Around the Waterfall*, Shijun Art Studio, Lilburn, Teacher: Shijun Munns

Xinyi Wu, grade 5, *Rushing Waters*, Shijun Art Studio, Lilburn, Teacher: Shijun Munns

Angela Zhao, grade 3, *Below the Whispering Cascades*, SKA Academy of Art and Design, Duluth, Teacher: Leng Chang

Category III

- Amyria Ansley**, grade 8, *Blooming Symphony*, Camp Creek Middle School, College Park, Teacher: Bryan Flowers
- Saanvi Bajaj**, grade 7, *Koi Serenity*, Alpharetta
- Saanvi Bajaj**, grade 7, *Caring for Water is Caring for US ALL!*, Alpharetta
- Saanvi Bajaj**, grade 7, *Underwater Universe*, Alpharetta
- Saanvi Bajaj**, grade 7, *Largemouth Bass*, Alpharetta
- Luke Bell**, grade 7, *A Dream Like No Otter*, Jesup
- Joy Chen**, grade 8, *Swan Lake*, SKA Academy of Art and Design, Duluth, Teacher: Leng Chang
- Minakshi Chilagani**, grade 7, *Preserve the Ecosystem*, River Trail Middle School, Johns Creek, Teacher: Ricci Justis
- Minakshi Chilagani**, grade 7, *Recycle - Preserve the Ecosystem*, River Trail Middle School, Johns Creek, Teacher: Ricci Justis
- Dan Lin**, grade 6, *Joys from the Pond of the Koi*, SKA Academy of Art and Design, Duluth, Teacher: Leng Chang
- Jason Lin**, grade 8, *Be the Solution to Ocean Pollution!*, SKA Academy of Art and Design, Duluth, Teacher: Leng Chang
- Cheyenne Moore**, grade 8, *Bottled Pollution*, General Ray Davis Middle School, Stockbridge, Teacher: Katy King
- Aashni Sridhar**, grade 8, *Misty Marshes Hold Much Mystery*, SKA Academy of Art and Design, Duluth, Teacher: Leng Chang
- Yiyao Sun**, grade 8, *The Fall Spring*, Buford
- Ryan Ton**, grade 6, *A Gift to Hue-MANATEE*, SKA Academy of Art and Design, Duluth, Teacher: Leng Chang
- Aaron Xie**, grade 8, *Submerged Majesty*, Shijun Art Studio, Lilburn, Teacher: Leng Chang
- Elaine Zhang**, grade 6, *Fair Flowers and the Flowing Fish*, SKA Academy of Art and Design, Duluth, Teacher: Leng Chang
- Ruojin Zhang**, grade 8, *The Beauty of the Great Smokies*, Johns Creek

Category IV

- Skye Chandler**, grade 12, *Peaceful Garden*, Rockdale County High School, Conyers, Teacher: Tara Thieleke
- Brendan Ching**, grade 10, *Perched on Wood of the Birch*, SKA Academy of Art and Design, Duluth, Teacher: Leng Chang
- Olivia DeFrancesco**, grade 12, *Timeless Harmony*, Rockdale County High School, Conyers, Teacher: Tara Thieleke
- Jose Funes**, grade 12, *Toucans Under the Summit*, Rockdale County High School, Conyers, Teacher: Tara Thieleke
- Camille Hall**, grade 12, *Life Cycle*, Rockdale County High School, Conyers, Teacher: Tara Thieleke
- Alexandra Huynh**, grade 9, *Painted Moon*, Atlanta
- Sophia Lin**, grade 9, *The Black Bears of Georgia*, Shijun Art Studio, Lilburn, Teacher: Shijun Munns
- Vicky Lin**, grade 11, *A Hoppy Environment*, Lawrenceville
- Dario Liu**, grade 10, *River of Heritage*, Alpharetta
- William Ma**, grade 9, *Light Greets Water*, Johns Creek
- Grace Manning**, grade 11, *Been Fallin' for the Foliage*, SKA Academy of Art and Design, Duluth, Teacher: Leng Chang
- Lawson Mansfield**, grade 10, *Bird of Prey (Red Tailed Hawk and Squirrel)*, Columbus
- Erika Tan**, grade 10, *Gliding Across the Mirrored Lake*, SKA Academy of Art and Design, Duluth, Teacher: Leng Chang
- Synia Williams**, grade 12, *Phosphorescent*, Waycross
- Erin Yoo**, grade 11, *Apparitions of Anthropogenic Drought*, Valdosta

Erin Yoo, grade 11, *Predatory Waltz on Melting Permafrost*, Valdosta

Erin Yoo, grade 11, *Sunken Legacy- The Cost of Climate Change*, Valdosta

2024 Art: Georgia State Winners

*Denotes a state winner who is also a national finalist

Category I

Ellie Jane Faircloth, kindergarten, *You Axolotl Questions*, Whigham School, Whigham, Teacher: Ashley Maxwell

Jeeyu Lee, grade 2, *Exploring the Wonders of the Colors*, SKA Academy of Art and Design, Duluth, Teacher: Leng Chang

***Cadence Long**, grade 2, *Big Snow Owl*, Casa Montessori School, Marietta, Teacher: Theresa Dean

Gabriela Robles, grade 2, *Worm's Eye View*, Mary Lin Elementary School, Atlanta, Teacher: Missy Snyder

Samarth Selvam, grade 2, *Water Food Chain*, Matt Elementary School, Cumming, Teacher: Felicia Barnick

***Audrey Wang**, kindergarten, *Dancing Orcas Under the Moon*, Alpharetta

Norah Wright, grade 1, *Pelican, Not Pelican't*, Whigham School, Whigham, Teacher: Ashley Maxwell

Sophia Yun Yu, grade 1, *Summer Creek*, Dolvin Elementary School, Alpharetta, Teacher: Kelly Keller

Category II

Amber Ben, grade 5, *Forest Cascade*, Liang's Art Studio, Johns Creek, Teacher: You Liang

Norah Kelly, grade 3, *The Curious Fox*, Cliff Valley School, Atlanta, Teachers: Kristi Petty, Jon-Erik Montgomery

Emma Love, grade 5, *Shark Encounter*, Thomas County Middle School, Thomasville, Teacher: Ashley Lanatta

Emerson Rados, grade 5, *Diving to the Depths*, Homeschool, Quitman, Teacher: Lindsay Walker

***Grace Wang**, grade 4, *Along the Shoals of the Watering Hole*, SKA Academy of Art and Design, Duluth, Teacher: Leng Chang

***Hanna Williams**, grade 5, *Rough Rafters*, Whigham School, Whigham, Teacher: Ashley Maxwell

Phoebe Xie, grade 3, *Lovely Heron Bird*, Shijun Art Studio, Lilburn, Teacher: Shijun Munns

***Angela Zhao**, grade 3, *Below the Whispering Cascades*, SKA Academy of Art and Design, Duluth, Teacher: Leng Chang

Category III

***Luke Bell**, grade 7, *A Dream Like No Otter*, Jesup

***Minakshi Chilagani**, grade 7, *Recycle - Preserve the Ecosystem*, River Trail Middle School, Johns Creek, Teacher: Ricci Justis

Destiny Donald, grade 7, *A Fishy Photograph*, General Ray Davis Middle School, Stockbridge, Teacher: Katy King

Mia Jackson, grade 8, *Humpback Melody*, Academies of Discovery at South Hall Middle School, Gainesville, Teacher: Lyndrid Patterson

***Jason Lin**, grade 8, *Be the Solution to Ocean Pollution!*, SKA Academy of Art and Design, Duluth, Teacher: Leng Chang

Maysen Logan, grade 7, *Aarluk*, Academies of Discovery at South Hall Middle School, Gainesville, Teacher: Lyndrid Patterson

***Elaine Zhang**, grade 6, *Fair Flowers and the Flowing Fish*, SKA Academy of Art and Design, Duluth, Teacher: Leng Chang

***Ruojin Zhang**, grade 8, *The Beauty of the Great Smokies*, Johns Creek

Category IV

Skylar Chandler, grade 12, *Graceful Glow*, Rockdale County High School, Conyers, Teacher: Tara Thieleke

***Camille Hall**, grade 12, *Life Cycle*, Rockdale County High School, Conyers, Teacher: Tara Thieleke

***Sophia Lin**, grade 9, *The Black Bears of Georgia*, Shijun Art Studio, Lilburn, Teacher: Shijun Munns

***William Ma**, grade 9, *Light Greet Water*, Johns Creek

***Grace Manning**, grade 11, *Been Fallin' for the Foliage*, SKA Academy of Art and Design, Duluth, Teacher: Leng Chang

***Lawson Mansfield**, grade 10, *Bird of Prey (Red Tailed Hawk and Squirrel)*, Columbus

***Erika Tan**, grade 10, *Gliding Across the Mirrored Lake*, SKA Academy of Art and Design, Duluth, Teacher: Leng Chang

Erin Yoo, grade 11, *Barren Witness – Earth's Cry for Rain*, Valdosta

2024 Georgia Dragonfly Art Award

***Richard Lu**, grade 5, *Grow by Leaps and Bounds*, Shijun Art Studio, Lilburn, Teacher: Shijun Munns

2024 Poetry: National Grand Prize Winners

Category II

Emerson Rados, grade 5, *My Heart Flows on the River*, Homeschool, Quitman, Teacher: Lindsay Walker

Category III

Kareem Ahmed, grade 7, *Deforestation Ends with Tion*, ILM Academy, Roswell, Teachers: Selma Abbad and Alayah Ansar

2024 Poetry: Georgia National Finalists

Category I

Omar Khalifa, grade 1, *Nature's Backyard*, Casa Montessori School, Marietta, Teacher: Alison Harris

Category II

Eva Dewitt, grade 4, *We Have To Do Something*, Avondale Estates

Aspen King, grade 4, *A Turtle's Tear*, Cheatham Hill Elementary, Marietta, Teachers: Ashley Costello and Jody Carothers

Emily Liu, grade 5, *Swimming Through the Majestic Fortress*, Newnan

Jewell-Bellamy McGhee, grade 4, *A Bear*, Warren T. Jackson Elementary School, Atlanta, Teachers: Carlene Cogshall and Laura Dostie

Jack Rados, grade 4, *The River of Wisdom: A Found Poem*, Homeschool, Quitman, Teacher: Lindsay Walker

Margot Schulz, grade 4, *Regrowth*, Sagamore Hills Elementary School, Atlanta, Teachers: Avis Jackson and Stephanie Spencer

Anna Stevens, grade 3, *Four Ducks on a Pond*, Vienna

Jordan West, grade 5, *This is Home*, Lakeview Academy, Gainesville

Category III

Ayan Bukhari, grade 7, *Georgia's Nature*, ILM Academy, Roswell, Teachers: Selma Abbad and Alayah Ansar

Aayan Khan, grade 7, *Grass*, Atlanta

Nora Iftikhar, grade 7, *The Missing Blanket*, ILM Academy, Roswell, Teachers: Selma Abbad and Alayah Ansar

Blake Owens, grade 7, *The Amazon*, Robert Toombs Christian Academy, Lyons, Teacher: Lisa Parker

Category IV

Ricardo Gonzalez Adame, grade 9, *Suppressing the Nature*

Benny Castillo, grade 9, *In the Watershed*

Addie Depue, grade 9, *Sunrise*, Columbus

Penny Mayfield, grade 9, *The Lone Cactus*, Brookestone School, Columbus, Teacher: Tessa Calhoun

Negash Negash, grade 9, *The 4 Seasons*, Roswell

Matthew Wang, grade 10, *What are You Waiting For?*, Lilburn

2024 Poetry: Georgia State Winners

*Denotes a state winner who is also a national winner/finalist

Category I

Boone Culpepper, grade 2, *Blood in the Water*, Homeschool, Quitman, Teacher: Lindsay Walker

***Omar Khalifa**, grade 1, *Nature's Backyard*, Casa Montessori School, Marietta, Teacher: Alison Harris

Reese Kisgen, grade 1, *Outside*, Warren T. Jackson Elementary, Atlanta, Teachers: Carlene Cogshall and Laura Dostie

Cimarron Lugo, grade 1, *Owl Story*, Casa Montessori School, Marietta, Teacher: Alison Harris

Arhaa Patkar, grade 2, *I Love Nature*, Casa Montessori School, Marietta, Teacher: Alison Harris

Category II

***Aspen King**, grade 4, *A Turtle's Tear*, Cheatham Hill Elementary, Marietta, Teachers: Ashley Costello and Jody Carothers

Emily Liu, grade 5, *Not Just in the Air, No Longer Rare*, Newnan

***Emerson Rados**, grade 5, *My Heart Flows on the River*, Homeschool, Quitman, Teacher: Lindsay Walker

***Margot Schulz**, grade 4, *Regrowth*, Sagamore Hills Elementary School, Atlanta, Teachers: Avis Jackson and Stephanie Spencer

Iris Wang, grade 4, *Rain*, Warren T. Jackson Elementary School, Atlanta, Teachers: Carlene Cogshall and Laura Dostie

Category III

Harper Griffin Turner, grade 7, *Water Fountain*, The Paideia School, Atlanta, Teacher: Tom Painting

Addie Lawrence, grade 7, *Clouds*, The Paideia School, Atlanta, Teacher: Tom Painting

Emmalee Milligan, grade 7, *The Blue Morpho*, Robert Toombs Christian Academy, Lyons, Teacher: Lisa Parker

Akif Ozdemir, grade 8, *Untitled*, Roswell

Karys Quarles, grade 7, *Rainstorm*, The Paideia School, Atlanta, Teacher: Tom Painting

Category IV

Jada Elias, grade 11, *Who Will?*, Girl Scouts of Greater Atlanta, Atlanta, Teacher: Deborah Johnson

Samuel Gonzalez Perez, grade 9, *Watershed Wonders*, Paul Duke STEM High School, Norcross

Alexandra Huynh, grade 9, *Fallen Soldier*, Paideia School, Atlanta, Teacher: Tally Johnson

Dario Liu, grade 10, *Fishing Tournament Day*, Alpharetta

***Penny Mayfield**, grade 9, *The Lone Cactus*, Brookstone School, Columbus, Teacher: Tessa Calhoun