



GOOSE CREEK

CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Bowie students among top artists in state contest

This year's Treasures of the Texas Coast Children's Art Contest received 5,104 entries from schools across the state. Judges whittled the entries down to 40 finalists, including the artwork from two James Bowie Elementary School students.

Briana Garza, a second-grader at Bowie, is one of 10 winners in the category of grades kindergarten through second, and Andrea Valencia, a fifth-grader at Bowie, is one of 10 winners in the fifth grade category.

Helping spread the message that, "Trashing Texas Beaches Isn't Cool," the Bowie students' artwork will be on exhibit at the Texas Capitol. Their works of art will also appear together with other winners in a calendar that will be distributed throughout the state.

Briana's guardian is Mary Mitchell. Her entry included the slogan on a beach with a palm tree and a trash can. Andrea is the daughter of Maricela Valencia. Her entry had a banner with the slogan "Trashing Texas Beaches Isn't Cool" on a beach with fish jumping in the waves at sunset.

"Wow! What an honor for these students to represent Goose Creek CISD in a statewide competition," said Bowie art teacher Annette Brownfield.

In Bowie Elementary School's first year to participate in the Texas Coast Children's Art Contest, more than 100 James Bowie Elementary School students participated.

The Bowie Elementary art students enjoyed creating colored pencil artwork for the Adopt a Beach contest, Brownfield said.

"They appreciated the opportunity to send a message that our Texas beaches are important and keeping them clean will benefit everyone, especially after Hurricane Ike."

The annual art competition encourages Texas schoolchildren to learn more about the Texas coast, create original artwork, and offer a different perspective on beach pollution to others.

The 40 finalists, including Briana and Andrea, will receive a ticket to the Texas State Aquarium in Corpus Christi, two all-day passes to Schlitterbahn Waterparks, prizes and a certificate of recognition from Jerry Patterson, Commissioner of the Texas General Land Office, and a calendar featuring the winning artwork.

The artwork of all 40 finalists will be on display at the State Capitol from May 16 to May 21. The display will be in the Capitol Extension, Central Gallery, level two.

The artwork of both Bowie students and all the finalists can be seen at the Web site www.texasadoptabeach.org.

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