

## **Baltimore Woods Nature Center Celebrates Student Art**

Article written by Karen Jean Smith, Art Gallery Coordinator

6<sup>th</sup> grader Hannah Brown of West Genesee Central School District was very happy to have her artwork selected for the 2026 Student Art Exhibit at Baltimore Woods Nature Center (BWNC). “It is cool to have my artwork displayed outside of school.” she stated.

Such was the sentiment of other young artists whose works are also on exhibit. Many of them, along with their families, gathered in the Program Room on the afternoon of May 2 to celebrate the students’ artistic accomplishments in one of the nature center’s most loved exhibits.

Fifteen schools in six different school districts participated, with students in the elementary through secondary levels represented. The display is a vibrant and enthusiastic collection of paintings, drawings, ceramics, prints and photographs featuring animals, plants, landscapes and other elements of nature.

The reception ceremony began with introductions by gallery coordinator Karen Jean Smith, who emphasized that it is an honor for each of the students to be representing their schools and school districts. “Art is a wonderful way of celebrating nature and we are so pleased that you <the students> can share this with us.” she stated.

Claire Dunn, a member of the BWNC Board of Directors, also expressed her enthusiasm for the nature-inspired artwork. In addition, she explained that the primary goal of BWNC is to connect people to nature and she shared upcoming activities that support the nature center.

The presentation of certificates and green ribbons to commemorate the students’ participation in the exhibit followed. Many photos were taken and refreshments were enjoyed.

The Student Art Exhibit is held annually during the month of May. It can be seen now through Friday May 29, Monday through Friday 9AM - 4PM and Saturday 10AM - 4PM. There is no entry or parking fee.

This exhibit would not be possible without the voluntary participation of art teachers. Baltimore Woods Nature Center wishes to thank all of the art teachers who took the extra time to organize and enter their students’ work.

## **Auburn Enlarged City School District**

### **Herman Ave. Elementary School**

*Art Educator: Joseph Kolceski*

Alexandria Cline

Gaia Towne  
James Wright

**Owasco Elementary School**

*Art Educator: Holly Festa*

Sophia Geary  
Gabrielle Walling

**Auburn Junior High**

*Art Educator: Kristy Flanigan*

Lucille Bennet  
Harmony Geer  
Onna Leigh Bun

**Auburn High School**

*Art Educator: Michael Villano*

Nevaeh Richardson  
Natalie Siracusa  
Mi'Lordess Moultrie

*Art Educator: Cari Parkman*

Ben Dunham  
Lyla Serrett  
Isabella Patane

**Marcellus Central School District**

**Driver Middle School**

*Art Educator: Cher Ferrara*

Kayla Attley  
Eli Heigle

**Marcellus Senior High School**

*Art Educator: Tara Charles*

Kendall LaManche  
Cole Spaulding  
Zach Redfield

*Art Educator: Daniel Bingham*

Adaline DeCapio  
Ava Caryl  
Daisy Stoughtenger

## **Moravia Central School District**

### **Moravia Junior High School**

*Art Educator: Barbara Dwyer*

Danica Lasher

Briella Anderson

Kaylin Swan

### **Moravia Jr/Sr High School**

*Art Educator: Casie Thompson*

Mya Adams

Cambree Bell

Karson Mackey

## **Onondaga Central School District**

### **Rockwell Elementary School**

*Art Educator: Melissa Ryan*

Eliza Moses

### **Wheeler Intermediate School**

*Art Educator: Melissa Ryan*

Kensley Kolwaite

Maeve Esposito

Archer Finlay

### **Onondaga Junior/Senior High School**

*Art Educator: Kimberly Beckeman*

Alize` Castellano-Nava

Zanai Wright

*Art Educator: Jackie Passetti*

Logan Dixie

Lyana Halsey

Carolyn Andino

## **Skaneateles Central School District**

### **State Street Elementary School**

*Art Educator: Chelsea Hamilton*

Nora Brown  
Beatrix Blodgett  
Lila James

**Waterman Elementary School**

*Art Educator: Chelsea Hamilton*

Benjamin Binga  
Lucy Batis  
Avery Campbell

**Skaneateles Senior High School**

*Art Educator: Tracy Hale*

Hazel Jirousek  
Rowan MacPherson  
Vivian Buhl

**West Genesee Central School District**

**West Genesee Intermediate School**

*Art Educator: William Haining*

Hannah Brown  
Lulu Roberts  
Victoria Sprague

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Baltimore Woods Nature Center

[www.baltimorewoods.org](http://www.baltimorewoods.org)

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*Connecting communities and nature in wisdom and wonder.*

*Baltimore Woods Nature Center is a leader in facilitating opportunities for people to build personal connections to nature. Through engaging experiences and place-based exploration, we envision communities united in stewardship and love of the natural world.*