



NEWS RELEASE

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BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF IRC CONTACT: Shirley Reul, Director of Marketing & Events, (772) 299-7449, shirleyreul@bgcirc.org

Boys & Girls Clubs of IRC Has Online National Fine Arts Contest for Club Artists

VERO BEACH: Every year the Boys & Girls Clubs of Indian River County hold an art exhibit at the Club for the Boys & Girls Clubs of America's program *National Fine Arts*. Typically, local artists come to the Club and serve as judges; however, this year due to the pandemic, the contest was online where anyone could vote for their favorites. There were eight categories with ages ranging from 6 to 18 years old. The artwork that generated the most votes in a specific category and age group won. These winning pieces of art will be submitted to the Boys & Girls Clubs of America (BGCA) and compete in the regional competition and possibly nationals. To view all winning pieces visit the Club's Facebook page @BGCIRC and look for the photo album entitled, *National Fine Arts 2021 Winners*.

About National Fine Arts:

Boys & Girls Clubs of America (BGCA) seeks to provide innovative and high-quality arts programming for all youth that stimulates learning and academic success; inspires creativity; explores future careers; and engages in self-expression, critical thinking and problem solving. BGCA believes arts programming and activities are not a means to an end, but rather an essential human experience.

National Fine Arts Exhibit provides youth the opportunity to express themselves creatively, build confidence, learn new skills in the visual arts, and display their artwork in the community. The National Fine Arts Exhibit has several categories that represent different art mediums and techniques and is based on the idea that every Club can run a visual arts program that gives every member the chance to be an artist.



Melanie, a senior in high school is a member at the Vero Club. Her 2 pieces of art (multi-color and watercolor) had the most votes overall. Melanie plans to seek a degree in computer animation when she heads to college in the fall.

About Boys & Girls Clubs of Indian River County

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Indian River County improves the lives of young people by providing exceptional facilities, caring mentors, and educational programs after school and during the summer. The organization serves 1,300 children ages 6-18 annually, and 83% qualify for free or reduced lunches in school. The Clubs operate three facilities, one each in Vero Beach, Sebastian and Fellsmere. In 2019, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Indian River County received the highest possible ranking from Charity Navigator for the sixth consecutive year, putting it in the top 11% of charities across the nation. For more information, visit www.bgcirc.org, www.facebook.com/bgcirc, or call 772-299-7449.