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Winners Named in 2026 Juried Exhibition of Student Art across Indiana and inaugural Ohio program

INDIANAPOLIS – The International Violin Competition of Indianapolis (IVCI) is pleased to announce the 30 Streeter Hadley Matthews Grand Award Winners, selected from 150 Regional Winners of the **2026 Juried Exhibition of Student Art (JESA)** in both Indiana and, for the first time, Ohio.

Now in its 12th quadrennial cycle, JESA has been a cornerstone of IVCI's educational programming in Indiana since 1986. In 2026, the program expands to Ohio for the first time, made possible through the generosity of the Cynthia P. Matthews Family Foundation. The exhibition is held in celebration of the 12th Quadrennial International Violin Competition of Indianapolis, taking place September 17–October 4, 2026.

“The IVCI has proudly produced the Juried Exhibition of Student Art for four decades in Indiana, and we are thrilled to expand the program into Ohio,” said IVCI Executive Director Glen Kwok. “Seeing the extraordinary creativity every four years is a true inspiration, and we are honored to help highlight the importance of both the visual and performing arts in our communities.”

The program is open to students in grades one through twelve and is designed to affirm the highest standards of visual arts, encourage artistic career paths, foster connections between visual and performing arts, and increase community support for the arts.

In 2026, more than 19,000 students participated across both states, including over 11,000 Indiana students representing 119 schools in 54 counties, and more than 8,000 students representing 121 schools in 52 counties across Ohio. Regional panels of judges selected 150 Regional Winners in each state, from which final round judges determined the 30 Grand Award Winners. To ensure fairness, judges did not evaluate submissions from their own regions.

Awards ceremonies will take place in each state: on Saturday, May 2 at 3:00 PM at the McCoy Center for the Performing Arts in New Albany, Ohio, and on Sunday, May 3 at 3:00 PM at the Indiana Landmarks Center in Indianapolis. More than \$18,000 in prizes will be awarded in each state to students and schools.

All participating students whose work advanced to regional judging will receive a Certificate of Recognition. Regional Winners will receive a Certificate of Merit and a \$25 cash prize. Grand Award Winners will receive a Certificate of Honor and cash prizes of \$100 (grades 1–4), \$200 (grades 5–8), and \$500 (grades 9–12). Their teachers will receive Certificates of Commendation, and each Grand Award Winner's school will receive a commemorative plaque featuring the student's artwork along with \$250 for art materials.

Grand Award-winning artwork will be exhibited during the International Violin Competition of Indianapolis this fall and will tour their respective states over the following three years.

The IVCI thanks the Cynthia P. Matthews Family Foundation for making the 2026 Juried Exhibition of Student Art in both Indiana and Ohio possible.

To learn more, visit www.violin.org/jesa

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The International Violin Competition of Indianapolis (IVCI) recognizes, rewards and promotes the world's finest young classical violinists and encourages understanding, appreciation and support of the violin repertoire by a large and diverse audience. The IVCI utilizes its world prominence to bring international attention to Indianapolis and maintains its efforts to be a visible and collaborative member of the arts communities in Indianapolis and Indiana.

For information about the IVCI, visit www.violin.org.
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