



Public Schools of Plainfield New Jersey

Office of Community Engagement

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Holiday Card Winner Presented with Scholarship to study art at duCret School of Art in Plainfield

Plainfield, NJ – December 19, 2018 - Madison Berrios, a 10th grader at Plainfield Academy for the Arts and Advanced Studies (PAAAS) was presented today with a scholarship to study art for a semester at duCret School of Art after winning Plainfield Public Schools' holiday card art competition.

Timothy Priano, President of the Board of duCret School of Art, made the presentation to Berrios, in the company of her art instructor Ms. Paola Calderon and her principal Dr. Angela Bento.

Berrios entry was selected among 100 entries received by the selection committee. Her design of children smiling and playing in the snow was a factor in the selection.

"It feels great to win because I have achieved something I never thought I was going to be able to do," said Berrios.

She feels the scholarship will help her learn new things.

Berrios spoke about the inspiration for her drawing. She said art is her hobby, "It's a way to express myself." She added, "I wanted to keep it simple and I was trying to say that no matter where you are, it's always good to be with family, but no matter where you are, you should always try to smile to the world."

Berrios is interested in being a Psychiatrist in the future but she says this is a great opportunity to study art at duCret. "I will be able to learn drawing at a higher level, and I will be able to draw so that others know that drawing can be a way to express themselves when they are feeling sad or not feeling well."

Timothy Priano, Director of the Board at duCret said the scholarship is for eight weeks of instruction in the teen program. "As the oldest Art School in New Jersey, we want her to experience all that we have to offer at duCret," said Priano.

Berrios, 16, lives in Plainfield with her parents and three siblings.

For more information call 908-731-4333 or email gmontealegre@plainfield.k12.nj.us