



South Texas Institute For The Arts

Art Museum of South Texas Antonio E. Garcia Arts Education Center

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LOCAL MUSEUMS, FLINT HILLS RESOURCES JOIN FORCES TO PROMOTE STUDENT SUCCESS THROUGH THE ARTS

(CORPUS CHRISTI) -- The South Texas Institute for the Arts and Flint Hills Resources, formerly Koch Petroleum Group, today announced creation of a student art competition that encourages young people to participate in art and provides an opportunity for them to be recognized for their efforts.

The Visionarios Youth Art Contest is a juried competition open to all students in grades 1 - 12. All entries will be exhibited at the Art Museum of South Texas or the Corpus Christi Museum of Science and History, and winners will receive cash awards and be honored at a reception. In addition, teachers of winning students will receive a \$50 cash award.

“The name ‘Visionarios’ was selected to celebrate youthful vision and creativity as expressed through art,” explains Dr. William G. Otton, director of the South Texas Institute for the Arts. “As students imagine, create, and reflect, they develop the verbal and nonverbal abilities necessary for success in school and beyond. At the same time, they develop problem-solving abilities and higher-order thinking skills.”

Research shows that students who study the arts perform better in the classroom and on standardized tests and are less likely to drop out of school. Arts education has also been proven to help students develop the self-discipline, cooperation, and self-motivation necessary for high achievement in school and throughout life.

“We hope Visionarios will encourage young people to envision a bright future for themselves, to set goals and to work toward those goals,” says Richard D. Tuttle, director of regional public affairs for Flint Hills Resources. “After all, today's students will be tomorrow's employees, professionals, and leaders. We are counting on them to create a bright future for all of us.”

Entries must be submitted by 5 p.m. Friday, May 17. Entries go on exhibit May 24, and winners will be honored at a reception June 9. Complete information about the competition is available online at stia.org/education.html.

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