



Community Outreach

Student Awards for the Alameda County Fair



Doggy by Navika Duara, co-winner in the 11th/12th-grade category



Summerland Park by Hesper Dong, co-winner in the 6th/7th/8th-grade category



London by Kaya Singh, co-winner in the 11th/12th-grade category



La Hermana
by Caylee Patterson,
co-winner in the
6th/7th/8th-grade category

The CWA Student Awards were a bit different this year. In addition to the three grade categories, each category was divided into “Physical” and “Virtual.” This made jurying a challenge, plus, there was only one entry for the ninth/tenth graders. We settled this dilemma by not awarding the ninth/tenth graders. Then added \$50 to our budget and awarded a tie for two deserving sixth/seventh/eighth graders and two deserving eleventh/twelfth graders. (Hope you are following?) In addition, we will explain how all the student art teachers can enter their student’s paintings for the upcoming 2025 year so that future fairs have several entries to choose from in all categories.

We found the eleventh/twelfth graders exhibited good technique and an imaginatively broad palette in the *Doggy* painting. The palette in *London* is limited to black and red with a smidge of yellow. The perspective works and it looks like a wet, rainy day. All in all, well done!

We were blown away by the imaginative creation of *Summerland Park*, with larger and smaller features creating perspective. The scary personified sandcastle and the roller coaster winding throughout the painting were just part of this fantastic scene. Caylee Patterson’s *La Hermana* is shockingly expressive. Her technical drawing of a human heart contrasts with the loose drawing of the woman kneeling trying to mend it. The smattering of red throughout the background raises my blood pressure. The painting depicts a woman trying to heal a real human heart. Every viewer of this artwork will have their own interpretation, however mine overall is raw trauma.

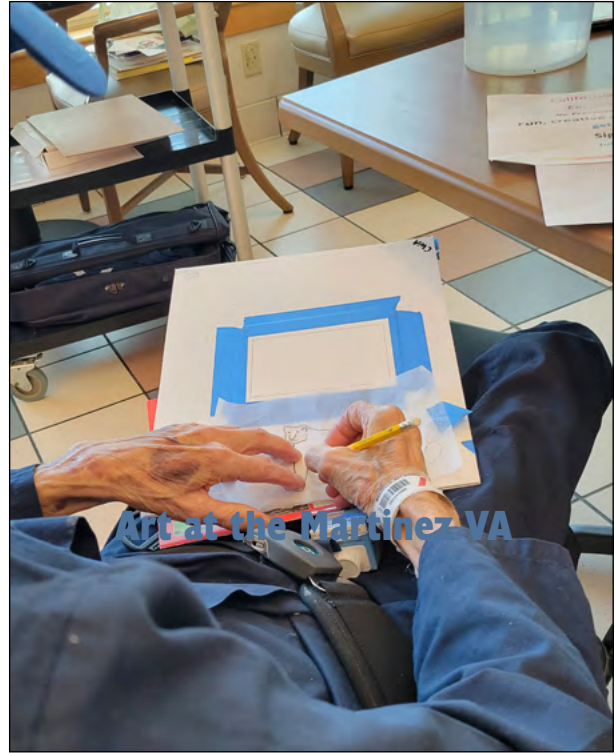
Sheila Cain

Co-Director, Community Outreach

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Art at the Martinez VA

After several painting sessions working on landscape techniques, we decided to try adding animals to the composition. We received a generous donation of varied supplies from Ruth Collin that included wildlife calendars. Preparing the demonstration, it became clear that animals would be easier if the basic shape was traced on the paper.

A new (to us) artist admitted that he preferred painting in the solitude of his studio. He came prepared with pencils and a

sketchbook and drew an antelope. Our 90-something regular got started but slipped out for some bingo. He returned to work on his sketch with a pocket full of prize "money." Another focused on a monochromatic composition. Our resident mentor dropped by for encouragement and company.

Dale Rutz & Maggie Metcalf
Community Outreach

attention

All student art teachers out there. Your students do not need to be living in Alameda County to enter the 2025 Alameda County Fair Student Watercolor competition. There is no entry fee and no entry limit. Encourage your students to get their paintings finished early. This year the teachers needed to have jpegs of their students on the Teacher Entry Spreadsheet by April 24, 2025, at 5:00 pm. Each exhibitor who submits an image for judging will receive an e-ticket (one per exhibitor regardless of the number of entries) good for one admission to the Alameda County Fair. For questions, please contact entries@alamedacountyfair.com

As a juror, I can report that the sixth/seventh/eighth-grade category has been the most competitive. Every year is a little different, but if you have students in the ninth/tenth-grade category or eleventh/twelfth-grade category, I'd encourage them to enter. It will look great on their resumes and they may win \$50!

If you wish to volunteer to be a juror, contact: Sheila Cain at sheilahillcain@gmail.com or Georganne Zaro at georgannezaro@gmail.com with CWA in the subject line.