

Tuesday, May 1, 2012

Santa Fe, NM – Congressman Ben Ray Luján of New Mexico’s Third District announced on Saturday that Katarina Pittis of the New Mexico School for the Arts is this year’s winner of the Congressional Art Competition.

“Congratulations to Katarina for winning the prestigious honor of having her work of art displayed in our nation’s Capitol for visitors from across the country to view. I look forward to welcoming her to Washington, D.C. as we honor all of the national winners,” Congressman Luján said. “In addition, the other top pieces will hang in my district offices across Northern New Mexico for all our neighbors, friends, and family to see. This year we received a record number of entries from a talented group of students with so much potential. I want to thank all the contestants for participating and showcasing their artistic ability for the community, and I hope they will continue to hone their skills and carry on New Mexico’s rich artistic tradition.”

Pittis, an 11th grader at the New Mexico School for the Arts, won with her entry “Invisible.” Her piece is a black and white photograph of a girl lying in an arroyo. Pittis’ sister, Anastasia Pittis, placed second in the competition.

The top 10 pieces of artwork were recognized out of a field of 60 entries. The winning entry from each Congressional district will be displayed as part of an exhibit in the United States Capitol for one year. Those works of art placing second through tenth will be displayed in one of Luján’s six district offices across Northern New Mexico.

1. Katarina Pittis of the New Mexico School for the Arts – “Invisible”
2. Anastasia Pittis of the New Mexico School for the Arts – “Free”
3. Amanda Mast of Rio Rancho High School – “Elephants”
4. Christine Chung of Los Alamos High School – “Continuing Tradition”
5. Samuel Baca of Pojoaque Valley High School – “Celebration of the Animal Dance”
6. Dominick Sherwood of the Santa Fe Indian School – “Northern Wildflower that Blooms After the Storm”
7. Peter Priedhorsky of Los Alamos High School – “New Mexican Day in the Life”
8. Bo LeMieux of the New Mexico School for the Arts – “Bandalier Tranquility”
9. Kara Griffin of Los Alamos High School – “For Grandpa”

10. Malachai Davidson of Los Alamos High School – “Holding Back the Wrath”



**Rep. Ben Ray Luján congratulates Katarina Pittis on winning this year’s Congressional Art Competition.**

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