

Board Recognition
May 12, 2026

Cheek Middle School National Concert Festival

Denton ISD is proud to recognize 48 outstanding Cheek Middle School musicians who participated in the National Concert Festival. These talented students performed at an exemplary level, representing Cheek Middle School and Denton ISD with excellence and distinction. Their dedication to musical achievement reflects the high standards of the music program and brings honor to our school community.

Participating Students

Andrew Martinez
Taylor Brown
Lucianna Torrealba
Kaitlynn Hebert
Nyla Rodriguez
Nathan Kana
Gabby Fuentes
Gavin Metrolis
Quiwu Yeke
Tito Barrios
Aiyanna Burgess
Raven George
Darsh Upadhyay
Jenson Holt
Malani Thomas

Sebastian Ferrer
Christian Piotrowski
Brylee Baldock
Tailen Guthrie
Hayato Sawyer
Cort Kellet
Jacein Matthews
Ed Conner
Jose Lamas
Zachary Rolfe
Drew Fuller
Ace Devlin
Mya Casey
Ryan Ruffle
Ava Wooley
Mason Augustine
Brettly Lowery
Nico Tirado Picornell
Dominic Rivera
Karin Aoki
Joey Priest
Nicholas Ramirez

Joselyn De La Rosa
Jaxson Catron
Deji Afolabi
Jacob Blake
Caleb Caesar
Eujae Comendador
CJ Gentry
Nathan Nimely
Elijah Webb
Vishwa Chintakrindi
Cadelaria Saydee

Junior VASE — Platinum Medal Recognition

Junior VASE is a TAEA-sponsored Visual Arts Scholastic Event recognizing exemplary student artwork from intermediate, middle school, and junior high students across Texas. During the 2026 season, over 15,000 works were adjudicated statewide, with only 1,072 receiving the prestigious Platinum medal rating. Denton ISD presented 128 entries for Junior VASE Region 11N, with 116 receiving the highest rating. We are proud to recognize 8 Denton ISD students whose exceptional artwork earned the distinguished Platinum medal.

Platinum Medal Winners

Student	Artwork Title	Teacher	School
Rowan Faglie	Glepglorphis IIIII	Julia Carol Lytle	Harpool Middle School

Precious Kalu	Family Ties	Julia Carol Lytle	Harpool Middle School
Olivia Sparks	Eyes of the Protector	Julia Carol Lytle	Harpool Middle School
Isabelle Stephenson	Garden Of Expression	Brett Moore	Harpool Middle School
Lily Anna Mills-Barron	Kie	Megan Trammell	Myers Middle School
Sybella Ortiz	Reflection	Joshua Ward	Myers Middle School
David Arellano	Stages of Life	Joshua Ward	Myers Middle School
Yovanni Ortiz	DYNASTA/Character Sheet	John Thompson	Strickland Middle School

State Visual Arts Scholastic Event (VASE) — April 25, 2026

The State VASE is the culminating event of a year of artistic achievement by Texas students. During the 2026 High School VASE season, 32,456 works were adjudicated statewide at the regional level, with only 2,152 qualifying for the state competition. Denton ISD presented 195 entries for High School VASE Region 11N, with 167 receiving a rating of 4. On April 25, 20 Denton ISD visual arts students' artworks were submitted for adjudication at the state level.

Rating IV — Exemplary (Highest Non-Gold Seal Rating)

Student	Artwork Title	Teacher	School
Kaylee Jones	Vibrant wilderness	David Villegas	Braswell High School
Brianna Guerrero	Down Below	Angelia Ford	Braswell High School
Hallie Hudson	Dissociative	Angelia Ford	Braswell High School

Favour Kalu	Boxed in: I want to be out	Christian Reid	Guyer High School
Lydia Soto	Behind The Lens	Tiffany Alfonzo	Guyer High School
Kaylee Jones	Heart of the Soul	David Villegas	Braswell High School
Kemari Shepard	Windowpain	Angelia Ford	Braswell High School
Alexa De La Cruz	A Sight for Sore Eyes	Tiffany Alfonzo	Guyer High School
Favour Kalu	Don't Get Too Attached	Tiffany Alfonzo	Guyer High School
Cricket Rickman	Under The Same Sun	Angelia Ford	Braswell High School
Pia Sexl	The Reef's Watcher	Kiba Jacobson	Braswell High School

Gold Seal Award — Highest Honor in VASE

Out of all state entries, only 150 artworks are selected as Gold Seal winners. Students selected as Gold Seal winners receive a prestigious Gold State Medallion, and their artwork will be exhibited in a variety of venues across the state, culminating with the Gold Seal Exhibition at the annual TAEA Fall Conference. Denton ISD is honored to recognize 4 students whose exceptional artworks received this highest honor.

Student	Artwork Title	Teacher	School
Remi Murphy	Handed Down	Angelia Ford	Braswell High School
Kaylee Murray	Industrial Diet	Jeremy Sale	Guyer High School
Pruthav Saralaya	Shackled	Christian Reid	Guyer High School
Teagan Franklin	Silence In Nature	Aimee Foutch	Ryan High School

CoServ Charitable Foundation Donation — Supporting Student Excellence and Teacher Innovation

Denton ISD is grateful for the generous donation of \$35,000 from the CoServ Charitable Foundation. This substantial gift demonstrates a commitment to student achievement and educational excellence in our district. The funds will be allocated as follows: \$1,000 scholarships to a graduating senior at each high school campus, and the remaining funds will support teacher grants for STEM-related projects and initiatives. These investments will enhance learning opportunities and support innovative teaching practices that prepare students for academic and career success.

Denton ISD thanks the CoServ Charitable Foundation for this meaningful contribution to our students and educators.