



Liam Borrero
Grade 1
Howard Drive Elementary School
Teacher: Rachel Klein

Student Name: Cjanelle Maschi
Grade: 2
School: Florida Christian School
Teacher: Alys Calabrese

Alex Davitt
Grade 4
Renaissance Elementary Charter School
Teacher: Elena Lopez

Yulio Lee
Grade 1
Renaissance Elementary Charter School
Teacher: Elena Lopez

Student Name: Isabella Espinoza
Grade: 2
School: Florida Christian School
Teacher: Alys Calabrese

Student Name: Isabella Espinoza
Grade: 2
School: Florida Christian School
Teacher: Alys Calabrese

Student Name: Diana Barber
Grade: 5
Media: mixed media
School: Riverside Lakes Elementary
Teacher: Ms. Kristi Johnson

PINECREST GARDENS STUDENT ART CONTEST

URBAN ART: SNEAKER STORIES





PINECREST GARDENS | 11000 Red Road Pinecrest, FL 33156 | 305-669-6990

Pinecrest Gardens Presents

12 Annual Environmental Art Contest

Urban Art: Sneaker Stories

CONTEST OVERVIEW:

The Pinecrest Gardens 12th annual environmental Art contest, *Urban Art: Sneaker Stories* **Monday, November 10th 2025, 12:00 a.m.** EST and **ends Monday, January 12th, 2026 4:00 p.m.** est. Judging occurs between, Tuesday January 13 through Thursday January 15, 2026. The top scored **75** pieces will be asked to exhibit in person at our gallery show during our Arts & Design Fair, January 24 & 25, 2026.

This is a visual arts contest that prompts students to create a piece of art that depicts the theme Urban Art: Sneaker Stories. The contest is open to students in grades 4-12 of Miami-Dade public and private schools. Cash prizes for select winners. The contest follows visual arts and science standards for grades 4-12. Standards outlined below in document.

CONTEST THEME: Urban Art: Sneaker Stories

Our 12th Annual Student Art Contest prompts students to Create a piece of artwork that celebrates graffiti art and urban culture. Your design should be created using graffiti-style techniques and must be applied to one of the following "canvases": a sneaker, a wall, or another urban setting. As part of our exhibition, *Sneaker Stories* in partnership with the Museum of Graffiti, this year we're highlighting urban art and graffiti artists.

Graffiti art is a powerful form of expression that transforms ordinary spaces into dynamic visual narratives. **For this contest, we challenge you to create a piece of artwork that brings this energy to life. Using bold lines, vibrant colors, and unique lettering of the graffiti style, apply your design to a sneaker, a wall, or a different urban backdrop within your 2d Design.** We're inviting students in grades 4-12 to Show us how you can turn the everyday into a work of art.

General Timeline: All entries must be submitted by the contest deadline, and late entries to the contest will not be accepted. Winners will be announced on Friday, January 16, 2026, at the end of the judging session via email. Gallery opening will take place in the Inspiration Center at Pinecrest Gardens on Saturday, January 24, 2026. All entrants to the contest are invited to attend the Art & Design Fair to see the show in our Inspiration Center Gallery. Attendance of the Pinecrest Gardens Art & Design Fair is free for student participants of the environmental arts contest. Art on display will remain in the Gallery through the Pinecrest Gardens Fine Arts Festival (1/24-1/25), and will be available for pick up any time between 1/27/2026 to 2/6/2026.

[Learn More about Sneaker Stories with Museum of Graffiti here](#)



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Important dates:

Contest opens: Monday, November 10, 2025

Contest closes: Monday, January 12, 2026

Contest Judging: Tuesday January 13 through Thursday January 15, 2026

Winners Announced: Friday, January 16, 2026

Artwork Drop off dates: January 16 - January 21

Gallery opening occurs during the Pinecrest Gardens Art & Design Fair in our Inspiration Center

Saturday, January 24, 2026. Artwork will remain on display through Sunday, January 25.

Artwork Pick up Window: 1/27/2026 to 2/6/2026

ELIGIBILITY:

1. The contest is open to students in Grades 4-12 from all Miami-Dade County Schools, public, private and homeschool.
2. The contest is not open to school faculty, staff or administration officials.
3. Students may only enter as an individual. **Multiple entries per student are not accepted. One entry per student only.** Each entry must have a teacher sponsor. Teachers are not to assist students in any way other than technical support.
4. Entrants must complete and submit the contest entry form via the entry portal. If accepted into the show, the entry form must be included with the physical art piece. Enter the contest [here](#)

CONTEST RULES:

Art should adhere to the given theme, *Urban Art: Sneaker Stories*. Each art entry must demonstrate a work of art inspired by the theme. Students will look to examples of urban art and graffiti artists for inspiration to create original pieces. Students are encouraged to be creative, and thought should be put into the message of their work.

ENTERING THE CONTEST:

All entries must be submitted via entry form online. If the art piece is accepted into the show, a printed copy of the entry form must be attached to the back with the following information:

- Student Name
- School Name
- Teacher or Adult Sponsor and Contact



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- Grade level
- Title of art
- Contact information for student: phone number and email or personal address
- A short statement about your contest entry. How does your piece address the theme?

- 1. Each entry into the contest requires fulfillment of an Entry Form via online portal.** Entry forms can be filled out and submitted [here](#). To access or submit an Entry Form and contest platform page please visit the Environmental Art Contest page on the Pinecrest Gardens Website: www.pinecrestgardens.org or enter at this [link](#). If asked to display your artwork in exhibition, **entry forms must be submitted electronically. The release form must be attached to your final piece if asked to exhibit in the gallery show.**
2. To learn more about entering contests, and using the CFAEFL system, please see the how-to guide [here](#)
- 3. Grade Categories:**
 - a. Grades 4-5
 - b. Grades 6-8
 - c. Grades 9-12

Students entering the contest must indicate their grade on the application form, so that they can be correctly placed in the corresponding grade category.

3. Invitation to exhibit: The top 75 pieces will be accepted to exhibit into a physical show at Pinecrest Gardens. The show will be on display during our Art & Design Fair, occurring January 24 & 25, 2026. In each grade category, the top 25 pieces will be on display. After the judging period ends, students of the top 75 entries will be contacted for exhibition. The students will have between January 16 and January 21 to deliver the pieces to Pinecrest Gardens.

4. Winning schools must use the prize money to implement an environmental or art project at their school. Winning schools will be required to submit photos that demonstrate that their prize money is used for environmental purposes. Winning schools have until the end of the school year, Thursday, June 4 2026 to submit photo confirmation of their use of winnings.

5. Contest entry step -by -step:

- 1. Students must submit their work to their art teachers**
- 2. Teachers must select a maximum of 10 pieces of student artwork to submit.**
- 3. Teachers must submit the selected works electronically by Monday, January 12, 2026**
- JPEG image (no larger than 3.32 MB)

All electronic submission guidelines are located on the Division of Academics, Visual & Performing Arts website - M-DCPS Authentic Assessment On-line Submission Platform - (<https://cfaefl.org/MD CPSArt/>)

- 4. At contest closing, all entries will be judged and scored.** Notification of finalists will be sent out at closing of judging Friday, January 16, 2026



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The top 25 entries from each grade category will be asked to showcase their physical pieces in the EA Contest show, and should turn in their works between 1/16/2026 and 1/21/2026

5. Teachers and students prepare the accepted entries and turn into Pinecrest Gardens for curation.

All work submitted must be ready to hand/ display. The release form generated from the electronic submission should be attached to the back of the work. All artwork labels must be TYPED and adhered to the front bottom right hand corner of the mat or frame.

6. Select entries are curated and a gallery opening occurs on 1/24/2026 during the Art & Design Fair at Pinecrest Gardens

7. Artwork is picked up by school members between 1/27/2025 to 2/6/2025

ART COMPOSITION AND ACCEPTANCE RULES:

GRADES 4-12:

- All pieces must be in 2-dimensional form. Any of the following techniques may be used:
 - Paint (Watercolor, tempera, poster, acrylic, oil, etc.)
 - Drawing Material (pencil, charcoal, colored chalk, pastels, markers, colored pencils, etc.)
 - Collage materials (cut & glued papers)
 - Prints (handmade stencils, gadget printing, collographs, block prints, etc.)
 - Photography (color, black & white, etc.)
 - Original Digital illustration
- All pieces must be no smaller than 8x8 and no larger than 18x24.
- **Finished artwork must be matted and labeled with Artist name, Artist Grade, &, School, Teacher and Title of Art.**
- **Printed release form must be attached to the back of your art piece when turned in**
- There is no limit on the number of colors used in the design.
- If accepted into the exhibition, all art pieces must physically turned in to Pinecrest Gardens by The students will have between January 16 and January 21 to deliver the pieces to Pinecrest Gardens.
- **Students can only submit one entry.** Space in the gallery is limited. We aim to display the top 75 pieces, from each grade category, however if necessary we may limit amount of entries per school. If there is room in the Gallery to display additional pieces, we will.
- All art works submitted must be free of any inappropriate language and images or illegal activity. Art should contain a positive message addressing the environmental theme. Blatant commercial advertising



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or product placement in art is not acceptable. The contest manager will review each piece of art, and if deemed inappropriate, they will be declared ineligible and will be removed from the contest.

FINALISTS & CRITERIA

All eligible entries must be submitted between **Monday, November 10th 2025, 12:00 a.m.** est and **Monday, January 12th, 2026 5:00 p.m.** Winners in each category will be reflected as 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners. Winners will be selected by a panel of judges based on adherence to contest criteria. Judging will occur on a virtual platform. The names of the students placing in the top 25 for each grade category will be shared with teachers who entered the contest. The top 75 pieces (top 25 in each grade category), will be asked to display their works in our gallery exhibition, space permitting. The exhibition takes place during our Art & Design Festival from Saturday, January 24 and Sunday, January 25, 2026, at Pinecrest Gardens in the Inspiration Center.

Entries submitted after the contest deadline will not be judged. All eligible entries received during the submission period will be considered for the final judging. Finalists will be contacted via the email they submitted on the online entry portal.

Finalists will be judged on the this [criteria Rubric](#)

WINNERS

Finalists are encouraged to be present at The Gallery Opening in order to receive recognition and participate in the gallery opening. All students who entered the contest are invited and encouraged to attend the Gallery opening. Teacher sponsors of the entrants are not required to attend the gallery opening, however participation is greatly encouraged.

FIRST PLACE PRIZES- Pending sponsorship

- The first-place winner of the contest will receive a check for their school in the amount of \$1000.00 to be used towards an environmental or art initiative at their school. A first-place winner will be selected in each grade category.

CONTEST CONTACT:

Lacey Bray, Contest Manager (Educational Program & Visitor Engagement Specialist), Pinecrest Gardens

lbray@pinecrestgardens.org

305-669-6990



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PUBLICATION

All art submitted, whether as a winning entry or not, may be used by the Village of Pinecrest or Pinecrest Gardens in whole or in part, royalty free, in any printed or electronic media and promotional materials, including recruitment and online publications.

ORIGINALITY

All entries must be original, unpublished and created solely by the submitting entrant(s) and not violate the intellectual property rights, copyright of property of any third party. Copyrighted materials will not be accepted unless specific permission of the use of such materials can be shown.

CONDUCT

The Village of Pinecrest and Pinecrest Gardens reserves the right, at its discretion, to disqualify anyone found:

- Tampering with the entry process or the operation of the contest, art or the website promoting the contest
- Acting in violation of the Rules and Regulations
- Acting in an unsportsmanlike or disruptive manner or with intent to annoy, abuse, threaten or harass any other person.

PRIVACY

Personal information provided by the entrant will be used by the Village of Pinecrest or Pinecrest Gardens to administer the contest, and to notify of future contests and will not be used for any other reason.

LIABILITY

The Village of Pinecrest and Pinecrest Gardens are not responsible for any pieces that are lost or damaged. By accepting the prizes, winners agree to hold the village of Pinecrest and Pinecrest Gardens and all Village of Pinecrest employees harmless against any and all claims and liability arising out of the use of such prizes. Winner assumes all liability for any injury or damage caused from participation in the contest or use/redemption of any prize.

STANDARDS ADDRESSED:

4th – 5th grade standards addressed VA.4.C.1.1, VA.4.C.1.2, VA.4.C.2.2, VA.4.C.3.3, VA.4.H.1.2, VA.4.H.1.3, VA.4.H.2.3, VA.4.O.1.1, VA.4.O.1.2, VA.4.O.2.1, VA.4.S.1.1, VA.4.S.1.3, VA.4.S.3.1, VA.4.S.3.2-5th, VA.5.C.1.1, VA.5.C.1.2, VA.5.C.1.3, VA.5.C.2.1, VA.5.C.2.2, VA.5.C.2.3, VA.5.H.1, VA.5.H.2, VA.5.H.3, VA.5.F.1, VA.5.F.2, VA.5.O.1, VA.5.O.2, VA.5.O.3, VA.5.S.1, VA.5.S.2, and VA.5.S.3



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6- 8th grade art standards addressed VA.68.C.1.1, VA.68.C.1.2, VA.68.C.1.3, VA.68.H1, VA.68.H.2, VA.68.H.3, VA.68.F.1, VA.68.O.1, VA.68.O.2, VA.68.O.3, VA.68.O3, VA.68.S.1, VA.68.S.2, VA.68.S.3,

9-12 grades art standards addressed VA.912.C.1, VA.98.C.2, VA.912.C.3, VA.912.H1, VA.912.H.2, VA.912.H.3, VA.912.F.1, VA.912.O.1, VA.912.O.2, VA.912.O.3, VA.912.S.1, VA.912.S.2, and VA.91



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