

For Immediate Release June 1, 2021 Contact: Oona Gonzales (505) 435-1711

## New Mexico State Fair to Display Outstanding Student Art

Albuquerque, NM – New Mexico State Fair officials announced plans to display a series of outstanding art pieces created by New Mexico K-12 students on EXPO New Mexico's two large digital boards located at Lomas Boulevard, each at the corners of San Pedro and Louisiana in Albuquerque. The public display is part of a virtual student art exhibition. The Fair, in conjunction with the New Mexico Public Education Department (PED), gathered nearly 150 pieces of unique, student made art from 8 New Mexico counties to be displayed on the State Fair's website.

A small selection committee of educators chose 16 pieces that reflect the experience of being a New Mexico student during the pandemic, while also capturing the fundamentals of art and design. These pieces will be rotated on the Fair's digital billboards throughout the months of June and July.

The online gallery is broken up by county, and is live now on the State Fair's website under the "Participate" tab.

"There is so much incredible talent in New Mexico when it comes to the artistry and creativity among our students," said State Fair General Manager Dan Mourning. "The Fair is all about showcasing that talent and providing an avenue for the public to see it on display."

The Fair has a long history of exhibiting School Art, and hosts a dedicated School Art Showcase every year during the event in September.

"When everything went virtual last year, it gave us the chance to take the School Art Showcase online so that everyone's art could be on display, no matter where in the state it came from," said Mourning.

"This is a wonderful opportunity to showcase the incredible talent and creativity of New Mexico public school students," Public Education Secretary Ryan Stewart said. "We are grateful to our educators for inspiring our students and submitting this work and to our partners at the New Mexico State Fair for providing this venue to bring students the recognition they so deserve."

The next Virtual Student Art Showcase will take place during the 2021 Fair, September 9-19. Teachers and faculty are encouraged to keep an eye out for the 2021 School Art Rules and Guidelines, which will be available soon on the Fair's website.

For more information about the 2021 New Mexico State Fair, visit our website at statefair.exponm.com.