TEXAS HIGH SCHOOL COMMERCIAL PHOTOGRAPHY STUDENTS EARN NATIONAL PHOTO CONTEST AWARDS

Texarkana, TX – For the second year in a row, Texas High School students have been named top high school photographers in the 2010 Photo Contest, co-sponsored by Jostens and Wolfe’s Camera. This nationally acclaimed, annual competition recognizes the outstanding accomplishments of student photographers.

The four selected students are among 103 winners selected from more than 8,000 contest entries submitted by high school, junior high and middle school students, nationwide. Photo contest submissions were judged on composition, artistic merit and technical qualities, as well as the ability to convey a compelling story.

Nine categories were featured in this year’s contest: Academics/Community Services, Illustration, Pictorial, Portrait: Color, Portrait: Black & White, School Spirit, Sports: Athletes in Action, Student Life and Junior High/Middle School.

Heather Ellis, THS Junior, was awarded Fourth Place in the Illustration category with her photo “Guitar Man.”
Honorable Mentions were awarded to:
Kayla Cigainero, THS Junior, in the Illustration category for “Glitter Magic.”
Marian Hill, THS Senior, in the Illustration category for “Surgery.”

“This photography competition is a great way to celebrate the student's school experiences and traditions and honors their great work and recognizes their unique talents,” said Gary Lundgren, Jostens’ Senior Program Manager/Education. “Our photo contest provides an outlet for students to express themselves and demonstrates that sophisticated, high quality photography is being created by students in schools all across the country. We hope this contest is a springboard for the next award winning photojournalist.

All students will have their images featured on the Jostens.com website and in the Jostens Photo Book for 2010 and in the 2011 issue of the Jostens Gotcha Covered Look Book, a popular resource for yearbook advisers and staff seeking creative ideas, trends and inspiration.

The Texas High School Commercial Photography program, under the direction of Clint Smith, was established in 2007 to not only teach students how to create photography, but to also expose them to multiple career paths through the photographic arts. Students enrolled in the program, receive training in photojournalism, portraiture, digital imaging and commercial photography.

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