Student artists show their stuff

By Carrie Netherton
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Talent, perseverance and creativity helped eight OU art students make it to the top in a campus art exhibition and contest.

The top works of art were selected out of 90 entries in the “80th Annual Art Student’s Exhibition” held in the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art.

Hayden Stanfield, Curator of Art at the Oklahoma City Art Museum, chose the winning pieces.

The T.G. Mays Purchase Award winners were Graham K. Morrison of Norman, and Juan Carlos Cano of Merida, Mexico.

Morrison won for his gelatin silver photograph entitled “Mexico 1993,” and Cano won for his untitled gelatin silver photograph.

The purchase awards were established in 1961 by Mary Mays. They are in memory of her husband, T.G. Mays, a Pauls Valley banker.

Each year the winning works are purchased by the museum and added to the T.G. Mays permanent collection.

In addition to the annual purchase awards, three works by students were recognized for outstanding achievements.

J. Wesley Bounds of Muskogee, Stewart Y. Kotake of Millianni, Hawaii, and Wook Sohn of Seoul, Korea, received cash awards for their work.

Bounds won for his mixed media work Sax de Lux, Kotake won for an oil on canvas painting titled Embrace and Sohn won for her ceramic work titled White American Male.

Two awards were presented by Norman groups.

Jodi Olson, Choclaw, was awarded a cash award by the Red Clay faction, a Norman art student group, for an untitled work. The Campus Art Supply Award went to Karen Kunze of Norman, Ohio, for her ceramic work titled Missy the Entrepreneurial Poodle.

Two new awards recognizing outstanding student work went to Rob Carter of Norman, for his acrylic on canvas Self Portrait, and Elizabeth Howard of Broken Arrow, for her untitled wood sculpture.

The awards were given by the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art Association.

Museum of Art Director Tom Toperzer and OU School of Art Director Andrew Phelan announced the winners on March 17 at the exhibition’s artists reception.