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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## The Art Effect Congratulates Our 2020 Congressional Art Award Winners

**POUGHKEEPSIE, NY -** Two students at The Art Effect, Anneke Chan and Alyssa Palermo, received competitive grand prizes from their Congressional district at this year's Congressional Art Competition.

The <u>Congressional Art Competition</u>, sponsored by the Congressional Institute, invites high school students to submit their work for recognition and encouragement of artistic talent in our nation. Winners are selected and recognized in their district as well as at an annual awards ceremony in Washington, D.C where their works will be displayed in the U.S. Capitol Building for one year. Since 1982, more than 650,000 students have participated in this prestigious award competition.

The Art Effect is proud to have two of this year's young artist winners studying under the instruction of our talented teaching artist staff. Good artists are often mentored by great art teachers, and The Art Effect is proud to work with many of them to help students reach their creative potential.

Anneke Chan is the salutatorian at Haldane High School in Cold Spring, NY, who plans to pursue a dual degree in studio art and anthropology at Tufts University in the fall. Her winning piece, "Pool Party," can be seen below. Anneke often draws influence from the art of Edward Hopper and Jenny Saville, the writings of Sylvia Plath, and her own family's history. Anneke joined The Art Effect last summer at the <u>Summer Art Institute</u> Program after hearing about the school at the <u>Scholastic Art Award show at SUNY New</u>

<u>Paltz</u> in January 2019. Anneke recently exhibited her artwork at The Trolley Barn Gallery as part of her Senior Project Course with The Art Effect.

lyssa Palermo is a student at F.D. Roosevelt High School in Hyde Park, NY. Her piece, "Adolescent Sunsets," is a "beautiful tribute to childhood and shows an advanced understanding of painting at a young age," says Rep. Delgado in his announcement on June 9th. Alyssa began her journey with The Art Effect back in 2009, attending Dutchess Arts Camp for 8 years before moving into the Junior Art Institute and finally the advanced-level Art Institute. She has grown up with Mill Street Loft and The Art Effect, developing her artistic ability every step of the way.

Please join us in celebrating these two exemplary young artists from the Hudson Valley and the national recognition they have been awarded. The Art Effect is so proud of Anneke and Alyssa's accomplishments. We look forward to seeing what they to create going forward.

About The Art Effect: The Art Effect empowers youth to develop their creative voice to shape their futures and bring about positive social change. The organization facilitates educational programming for youth in the Hudson Valley to explore, experience and excel in the arts. Programs provide introductions to visual arts and media, giving participants the opportunity to develop real skills in these fields and guiding them towards achieving their academic and career goals. The Art Effect is anchored by the belief that the arts have the power to create a more vibrant, caring and sustainable world led by a generation of youth who value creative thinking, diverse voices and stronger connections between all people.

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