



美洲同源總會

Chinese American Citizens Alliance

~ National ~

1044 Stockton Street, San Francisco, California 94108 • Telephone/Fax (415)829-9332

National Lodge
ESTABLISHED 1895

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U.S. Transcontinental Railroad Inspires Winning Creations in the 2019 C.A.C.A. National Art Contest

San Francisco, July 3, 2019 – This past May, the annual observance of the completion of the United States Transcontinental Railroad reached a major milestone with the 150th Anniversary when the Pacific and Atlantic coasts were finally bridged. The symbolic Golden Spike laid down at Promontory Summit in Utah territory signified the uniting of the country by rail, transforming the U.S. into an economic powerhouse.

The search for context in the legacy of this 19th-century engineering feat was the challenge for young writers and artists participating in the annual National Essay Contest and the biennial Arts Contest of the Chinese American Citizens Alliance (C.A.C.A.). Established in 2007, the National Art Contest also signifies a longstanding partnership between C.A.C.A. and the Chinese American Museum (CAM). Located in Los Angeles, CAM seeks to foster a deeper understanding and appreciation of America's diverse heritage by researching, preserving, and sharing the history, rich cultural legacy, and continuing contributions of Chinese Americans.

The juried art competition was promoted nationwide to students nationwide from kindergarten to grade 12 during the 2018-2019 school year. Entries were placed and judged in four divisions: Division 1: Grade K to Grade 3; Division 2: Grades 4 - 6; Division 3: Grades 7 - 9; and Division 4: Grades 10 - 12. First (\$300), second (\$200) and third (\$100) place winners were selected from each division. And two Grand Prize Awards of \$500 each were chosen from all entries. The 2019 C.A.C.A. Art Contest is organized by the National C.A.C.A. Education Committee headed Dr. Charles Mau, national vice president.

The theme of the contest challenged applicants to highlight the continuing contributions of Chinese Americans beginning as immigrants employed as railroad workers. Artists were encouraged to illustrate contemporary professions and occupations where they might see Chinese Americans in today's workforce.

The winning entries in the four divisions were announced in May and recognized in an awards ceremony held at C.A.C.A. Los Angeles on June 15, 2019.

“Third time's the charm” could aptly describe Coastline Christian School rising Fifth Grader Julianne Yang from Alameda, California, who earned the Grand Awardee Lower Division after earlier attempts in the art contest beginning with her first submission as a first grader in 2015 and again in 2017. Julianne



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credits a visit to the California State Railroad Museum in Sacramento as one the inspirations for her winning illustration, an hourglass encapsulating community role models including professional basketball star Jeremy Lin.

The Grand Awardee, Upper Division, was Alexander Gu, a rising sophomore attending Henry M. Gunn High School in Palo Alto, California. His winning submission reflects of past, present and future Chinese American achievements along a pictorial timeline represented by railroad tracks. "I acquired greater appreciation of Chinese contribution to the building of the country through my research," says Alexander who had completed three sketches for his final entry.

The 2019 C.A.C.A. Art Contest Division winners are:

Division 1 (Grades K-3): First Place: Sylvia Mar, Union City, CA; Second Place: Hannah Chan, Fremont, CA; and Third Place: Maggie Liu, Milpitas, CA

Division 2 (Grades 4-6): First Place: Cindy Lin, Saratoga, CA; Second Place: Jeffrey Fan, Palo Alto, CA; and Third Place: Yiling Wu, San Jose

Division 3 (Grades 7-9): First Place: Linda Zhu, San Jose; Second Place: Kayla Jang, Los Angeles; and Third Place: Kevin Yu, Palo Alto, CA

Division 4 (Grades 10-12): First Place: Jacqueline Li, San Jose; Second Place: Yifei Zhang, Palo Alto, CA; and Third Place: Grace Huang, Cupertino, CA

Winning Entries and some finalists will be exhibited in Los Angeles, San Francisco, and other regional locations where C.A.C.A. Lodges are located. Winning artwork also will be recognized at the 55th C.A.C.A. National Convention in Boston, which starts today and continues through Saturday, July 6.

To learn more about C.A.C.A.'s competitions and youth programs, visit www.cacanational.org.

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1044 Stockton St.
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Web: www.CACAnational.org
Chinese American Citizens Alliance

The Chinese American Citizens Alliance, established in 1895, is among the oldest civil rights organizations in the United States. Headquartered in San Francisco with chapter/lodges in Albuquerque (NM), Boston (MA), Chicago (IL), Greater San Gabriel Valley (CA), Greater New York (NY), Houston (TX), Las Vegas (NV), Los Angeles (CA), Mississippi, Oakland (CA), Peninsula (CA), Portland (OR), Phoenix (AZ), Salinas (CA), San Antonio (TX), San Francisco (CA), Seattle (WA) and Washington, D.C., the Alliance addresses issues regarding voter education, political participation, racial discrimination and hate crimes, and supports youth leadership training programs and equal employment opportunities for all Chinese Americans.