HISD PRESS RELEASE

HISD unveils student winners of 2019 holiday greeting card competition

Nov. 8, 2019 – The Houston Independent School District on Friday announced the winners of the district's annual holiday greeting card competition, which features student artwork that highlights family holiday traditions.

The winning artists were selected from elementary, middle and high school categories. This year's top honors went to fifth-grader Edward Lopez of Neff Elementary School, eighth-grader Josiah Rajesh of Baylor College of Medicine Academy at Ryan, and 12th-grader Mariangela Rodriguez of Lamar High School. A total of 17 finalists were named. All received a boxed set of their holiday cards, which will be available for purchase online and at the HISD administration building.

"I want to thank all the students who participated for sharing and opening up your world to us," HISD Interim Superintendent Grenita Lathan said during the annual unveiling ceremony. "I hope you've enjoyed this experience, and I hope we will be able to provide you additional experiences throughout your school career."

Each year, the district sends the student-created holiday greeting cards to principals and board members, as well as community leaders and partners.

This year's competition, organized by the HISD Strategic Partnerships Department, received 107 submissions, the most ever.

The 17 finalists' submissions can be <u>viewed here</u>. The cards will be available online for purchase at <u>www.HoustonISD.org/HolidayCards</u>.

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The Houston Independent School District is the largest school district in Texas and the seventh-largest in the United States, with 280 schools and more than 209,772 students. The 333-square-mile district is one of the largest employers in the Houston metropolitan area, with more than 27,000 employees.

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