

Brendan M. Scanlon Visual Arts Award - 2018
Madison East High School
Description

Award Criteria

The Brendan M. Scanlon (BMS) Visual Arts Award is given to East High School students studying and creating visual art. One or more artists may be chosen each year to receive the Award. The amount of the Award varies each year; in 2018 the value will be about \$850.

The BMS Award is given on the basis of the following criteria:

- Demonstrated talent and creativity in the visual arts.
- Commitment to creating visual art now and in the future.
- “Visual art” includes painting, drawing, ceramics, graphic design, book illustration, metalwork, wood and other types of sculpture, fiber or cloth art, jewelry design, screen printing, lithography, 3-D printing, photography, film, typography, and other visual arts. Anything goes—as long as it’s art and it’s visual!
- Applicants for the Award must be students in good standing at EHS although awardees are not selected on the basis of grade point average or test scores.
- All EHS students, including graduating seniors and those in the 9th, 10th, and 11th grades who meet the above criteria, may apply for the Award.

How the Award Will Be Used

A BMS Award will be used before the end of the 2018-2019 school year. The Award will be used to pursue the awardee’s interest and education in the visual arts. The Award will be used for one or more of the following purposes: To pay tuition or fees for classes in the visual arts at a two-year or four-year school or college, summer camp, studio program, or to work with (apart from requirements for EHS classes) one or more art teachers or other established artists. “Fees” may include costs of rental or purchase of required art equipment, art supplies, books, or the like, and payments for services of art teachers and other established artists.

How the Award Came to Be

Brendan’s family created the award in his memory after he died in 2008 at age 24. Brendan graduated from EHS in 2002. After his death, the family recognized that encouraging young artists at East was the best way to honor Brendan for who he was and the way he lived his life. Hundreds of family members, friends, co-workers and community members contributed money to a fund, established at the Foundation for Madison’s Public Schools, that provides the money for the BMS Award each year.

Brendan was intensely creative and always pushed established boundaries. He did not take school seriously and came close to dropping out, until he began in his junior year at East to take art classes and learn about and make art. He went on to earn his B.A. in visual communications at the Illinois Institute of

Art in Chicago. He used his degree to work in the Creative Department of a Chicago marketing firm. Starting before college he was active as a street artist, and when he died he was known by his street-art name “SOLVE” in the Chicago, Madison and online street art communities.

Brendan used his art to push other people to think “outside the box.” Skilled in ceramics, painting, screen printing and computer-based design, he believed in constantly pushing his own skills, techniques and creativity to new limits. He actively encouraged his co-workers and fellow street artists to do the same. Please see the attached list of websites to learn more about Brendan and his art.

Because of who Brendan was, the BMS Award is given to a student or students who have demonstrated that they are interested in being visual artists. Whether or not they have good grades is not a primary factor. *What is important is that a student thinks creatively and uses his/her artistic talent and skills to create visual art.*

How to Apply for the 2018 Brendan M. Scanlon Visual Arts Award

- Complete the Brendan M. Scanlon Visual Arts Award application form.
- Give the completed form to Student Services.
- The completed application must be submitted by the end of the school day on March 23.

Then What Happens?

You will hear in late April if you are a recipient of the 2018 BMS Award, what the approximate amount of money the Award will be, and how it will be dispersed to you.

It is your responsibility to make sure that (1) you are accepted into the school or college, summer camp, studio program, or work or study project with an art teacher or other established artist for which you will use the BMS Award and (2) you properly inform Student Services about how you will use the Award money. You will need to work with your art teachers and EHS Student Services to make sure these things happen on time. Note that BMS Award money that is not used before the end of the 2018-2019 school year will no longer be available to you.

Ideas about Where to Use the BMS Award

As indicated above, in addition to two-year and four-year colleges or universities, the BMS Award may also be used at “alternative” programs. Following are examples of pre-college schools, art camps and studio classes in or near Madison which you might consider:

- Bethel Horizons summer “clay camp”
- Fired Up Pottery (clay projects, glass fusing, canvas painting)
- Madison College traditional and summer programs
- Makerspaces such as Sector67, Teen Bubbler, and The Bodgery
- Midwest Clay Project
- Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design Pre-College Program
- School of the Art Institute of Chicago Early College Program *and* High School Program
- UW-Madison Traditional, Youth Options, or Course Options programs
- UW-Madison summer term art classes
- The Vinery Stained Glass Studio