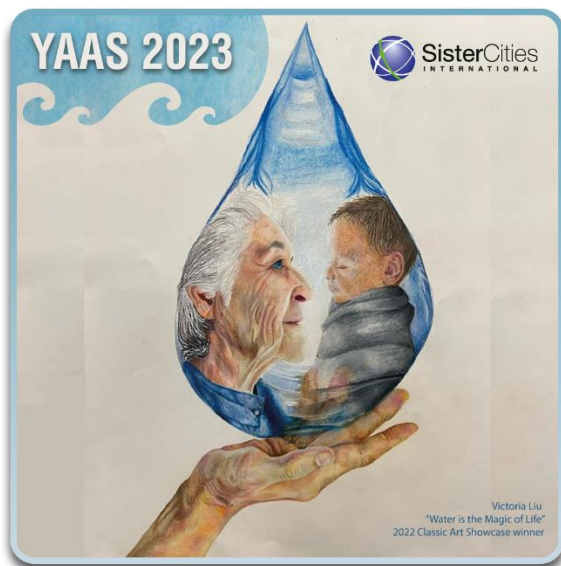


Muscatine Sister Cities: Young Artists and Authors Showcase

Peace by Piece: Food Security in my Community

On View at the Muscatine Art Center April 6 – May 14, 2023

- Sister Cities International holds an annual Young Artists and Authors Showcase (YAAS) that encourages youth worldwide to express the mission of Sister Cities International through original artwork, literature, photography, and music. Details can be found at the [Sister Cities International YAAS website](#).
- The Muscatine Art Center, Global Education program at the Stanley Center, and Muscatine Sister Cities are partnering to encourage Muscatine County students (ages 13 to 18) to participate in Sister Cities International's "Young Artists and Authors Showcase." Submissions must connect to the 2023 theme of 'Peace by Piece: Food Security in my Community' and will be on display at the Muscatine Art Center April 6 through May 14, 2023.
- Eligibility:
 - Artwork (classic and digital mediums), photography, poetry, creative writing, and music must be original (not traced) and current (created in the last 12 months).
 - Students must be between 13 and 18 years of age on April 1, 2023.
 - Students must reside in Muscatine County.
 - All information must be complete on the [Google submission form](#).
 - Artwork, photography, poetry, music, and creative writing submissions must be submitted digitally via the Google submission form by 5:00 PM, March 6, 2023.
- The work of up to three local students will be selected for a \$100 cash prize and submission to the Sister Cities International contest. To be awarded a local cash prize and/or entered in the International Competition students must complete an additional Sister Cities International online entry form by March 27, 2023. A member of Muscatine Sister Cities will assist with the online form.
- A public reception will be held on Sunday, April 23 from 1:30 to 3:00 PM. Muscatine Sister Cities, sponsor of the local competition, will announce winners of the local YAAS at 2:00 PM.
- Muscatine Art Center hours are Tuesday through Friday from 10 AM to 5 PM, Thursday until 7 PM, and Saturday and Sunday from 1 to 5 PM Admission to the Muscatine Art Center is **free of charge**.
- The Sister Cities International contest offers one Grand Prize of \$1,000, one second prize of \$250, and one third prize of \$100 per category. Submissions are judged based on originality, composition, and theme interpretation. Please review eligibility guidelines for each category at the [Sister Cities International Young Artists and Authors Showcase website](#).



Activity	Deadline
<p>Young Artists and Authors Showcase (YAAS) entries are due via this Google Form by 5 pm CST.</p> <p>Art (classic and digital) & Photography: Please ensure that submissions have a minimum of a 1350x1080 px and are saved in a .jpeg or .png file type.</p> <p>Poetry & Writing: Please attach either a .pdf or .doc format. Article submissions are not to exceed 500 words. Poetry submissions are not to exceed 200 words.</p> <p>Music: Please submit your music piece in MP3 format. Only audio submissions will be accepted, no videos. Submissions cannot exceed 4 minutes.</p>	<p>March 6, 2023</p>
<p>Members of Muscatine Sister Cities will judge the entries, awarding up to 3 cash prizes of \$100 each. Student winners will be notified by March 20, 2023, and awards will be given out at the public reception on April 23, 2023.</p>	<p>March 20, 2023</p>
<p>To receive the cash prize, selected student winners must submit an additional online entry form for the Sister Cities International contest. A member of Muscatine Sister Cities will assist with the process. The online entry form must be completed by March 27, 2023.</p>	<p>March 27, 2023</p>
<p>Muscatine Art Center staff will install all entries with the display being on view from April 6 through May 14.</p>	<p>On View: April 6 - May 14, 2023</p>
<p>A public reception will be held on Sunday, April 23 from 1:30 to 3:00 PM. Muscatine Sister Cities, sponsor of the local competition, will announce winners of the local YAAS at 2:00 PM. Three entries will be selected with the artist/author receiving \$100.</p>	<p>April 23, 2023</p>

THE 2023 YAAS THEME

PEACE BY PIECE: FOOD SECURITY IN MY COMMUNITY

Consistent with the United Nations' 2030 Agenda, Sister Cities International will continue to embrace climate change as the overarching theme for its 2023 Young Artists and Authors Showcase. For this competition, SCI is proud to invite youth from member communities to submit innovative, thoughtful, and impactful creations that emphasize various aspects of food security, including the impact of climate change on food production and food consumption, in their own communities.

As a leading nonprofit, citizen diplomacy organization, Sister Cities International has been promoting peace through mutual understanding since its origins in 1956. Food has been one of the core pillars of sister cities' cultural understanding – food is a universal language that unites us.

As food unites us, the unrelenting struggle of food security, or a lack thereof is an issue that all communities face. The ongoing environmental changes continue to impact locals and their access to nutrition. This makes the importance of raising awareness more essential every day and youth leadership is a necessary tool to help tackle these circumstances felt around the globe.

Please visit [the Sister Cities International YAAS website](#) for more information and resources on this year's theme.

