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**Another record-setting year for 2014 Scholastic Art and Writing Students
51 National Awards given to regional students, placing this region fourth in the nation**

March 18, 2014 (Fort Wayne, IN) – The Fort Wayne Museum of Art and the many dedicated art and writing teachers from 52 Counties around Northern Ohio and Northwest Ohio have done it again.

The Fort Wayne Museum of Art's Award Winning Scholastic Art and Writing Program has been awarded a record-setting 51 National Medals a year after FWMoA was recognized on stage at Carnegie Hall with the Gold Key for Excellence in the Field in 2013. The 51 prestigious awards ranks the Museum as the fourth most decorated Scholastic region out of 115 nationwide. The only regions to best Fort Wayne this year were the City of New York, the entire state of Massachusetts, and northern Oregon including Portland.

Last night, the Museum announced the winners at the annual Formal/Funky event where students dress in formal or funky attire to express their creativity and celebrate their success. Formal/Funky has become so successful, the National Scholastic office has created a similar event in New York City for the National Ceremonies.

This is the seventh consecutive year FWMoA has been ranked in the top-10 for national awards given to its regional Scholastic participants. This success comes from dedicated staff and administration, a supportive Board, financial support from the Fort Wayne Art League and other sponsors, and a region of committed teachers and talented students. Since 2003, The Fort Wayne Museum of Art has been focused on providing opportunities for our area students by providing outreach services and enrichment opportunities through an afterschool Art Club, and Award Ceremony with over 2100 in attendance annually.

“The number one reason our students and museum are so successful with this program is the sweat equity we and the participating teachers have put into this competition. Despite an unprecedented amount of snow, cancelled school, a only 3 solid days to upload nearly 4300 pieces of art and writing for judging, we broke through last year's record. We're all so very proud of that,” said Max Meyer, FWMoA's director of children's education.

Additional Statistics:

- Over \$1 Million in College Scholarships have been offered to our students each of the past 7 years.
- Over 250,000 entries were received nationwide in 2014. 20,000-30,000 are sent to the -National Scholastic office in NYC for National Adjudication.
- This year FWMoA sent 294 entries in Art and 265 in Writing to Nationals, which garnered 27 National Art Medals and 24 National Writing Medals.

About the Fort Wayne Museum of Art: Beginning with art classes in 1888 given by J. Ottis Adams and later William Forsyth, the Fort Wayne Museum of Art has evolved into a center for the visual arts community in Northern Indiana. Regularly exhibiting nationally acclaimed artists, the FWMoA also boasts an extensive permanent collection of American and related art. FWMoA is committed to the collection, preservation, presentation and interpretation of American and related art to engage broad and diverse audiences throughout the community and region, and add value to their lives. The Fort Wayne Museum of Art is a funded partner of Arts United of Greater Fort Wayne. ###