

Dear Scholastic Community,

I hope this message finds you in good health and high spirits. As we approach the conclusion of the Scholastic Program year, we want to express our gratitude for your unwavering commitment and hard work. This year presented its share of unique challenges, demanding adaptability, and resilience from us all.

We at the Harris County Department of Education deeply regret the difficulties encountered, particularly the inaccuracies in the Scholastic Art & Writing program results due to errors with the new Scholastic portal. Despite the challenges beyond our direct control, we acknowledge the distress this caused and are actively working at the national level to prevent such issues in the future.

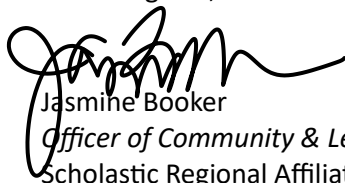
To address the logistical constraints imposed by the program extensions and the rescheduling of our ceremonies, we have made the difficult decision to limit in-person participation at this year's Regional Scholastic Art & Writing Ceremonies to Gold Key winners only. We understand the disappointment this may cause and are committed to making these events special for all awardees by:

1. **Live Streaming of Ceremonies:** Both ceremonies will be streamed live on the HCDE YouTube channel on May 7th and 8th (link will be available Monday, May 6th).
2. **Acknowledgment of Silver Key Winners:** Silver Key winners will be recognized during the ceremonies on their respective district nights.
3. **Printed Programs:** All Gold and Silver Key winners will receive printed programs detailing this year's honorees by May 31st.
4. **Exhibition Nights:**
 - For Middle School Gold & Silver Winners: May 1st, 5:30 – 7:30 PM at Texas Art Supply, Houston, TX.
 - For High School Gold & Silver Winners: May 2nd, 5:30 – 7:30 PM at University of Houston Student Center South.

As we strive to conclude this year's program smoothly, we are already preparing to better anticipate and address potential challenges for the next Scholastic year. Your continued patience and cooperation as we enhance the overall student experience are greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your dedication to fostering artistic and literary talent in Harris County. Let's work together to ensure a memorable and celebratory end to this challenging year.

Warm regards,



Jasmine Booker
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